

■ **this week's news**

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## High attendance forecast at annual session

By Wm. Fletcher Allen, editor

The Tennessee Baptist Convention meets for its 118th annual session Nov. 17-18 in Gatlinburg, and several features about the meeting merit a closer look. Different faces, some new ideas, updated plans, and a slightly lower budget proposal will be in focus.

A previous overview of the proposed 1992-93 TBC budget was included in the special pre-convention edition of the *Baptist and Reflector* Oct. 14. The new budget will be presented to messengers for their vote during Tuesday morning's opening session. The \$27,159,322 recommended budget is \$1,131,678 less than the current budget of \$28,290,960, which fell considerably short.

Speculation varies about registration figures. The Gatlinburg location and the presence of several key issues that will be discussed probably portend a larger than usual attendance, possibly a record-breaker. Highest messenger registration was 2031 when the convention met at Central Bearden Church, Knoxville, in 1988. Registration could reach a total of 2300-2400 messengers.

Whatever the number (within reason), convention officials have been assured that the Convention Center's main floor seating of 2700 can be expanded somewhat without difficulty. Convention

Center personnel also have said that overflow seating can be arranged on Wednesday.

Chairman Archie King and his Committee on Arrangements said recently at a "walk through" session, that "every care has been taken to assure messengers of comfort, freedom, and an atmosphere of worship and inspiration" to go along with business and reporting sessions. King met with several TBC staff members, including Bill Wilson and James Porch of the executive office, and other committee leaders. Convention President Ron Phillips and Frank Ingraham, parliamentarian, also were present. Kenny Cooper, Committee on Arrangements chairman, was on hand.

President Phillips has developed some guidelines for convention procedures and messenger decorum. These are included elsewhere in this issue of the *Baptist and Reflector*. "I plan to be fair, firm, yet sensitive to all messengers who desire to speak to the convention," he said, "so some concise guidelines are helpful."

Phillips emphasized that "good manners" work well with Robert's Rules of Order, and

combine to make the flow of convention business more orderly and successful.

Marvin Cameron, pastor of First Church, Gatlinburg, and chairman of local arrangements, reminds messengers that though there is a shortage of parking space near the Convention Center, "no one should be inconvenienced." He said local trolley rides cost only 25 cents, make the town circuit frequently, and greatly facilitate travel from motels and restaurants to the meeting place. He also said free parking would be available at the Chamber of Commerce lot, behind the town library, and at the City Hall. In each case, trolleys pass the parking sites, and trolleys would help participants in reaching First Church for Woman's Missionary Union's 2 p. m. prayer session on Monday.

Two of the larger adjunct meetings take place Monday, Nov. 16, in the Conference Center. WMU meets in Mills Auditorium at 10:30 a. m. and 6:30 p. m. A brunch is scheduled (reserved tickets) at 9 a. m. The Tennessee Baptist Pastors' Conference has sessions at 9:30 a. m., and 1:25 and 6:15 p. m. Keith Parks, who recently retired as long-

time president of the Foreign Mission Board, is the evening WMU speaker, and Ed Young, Houston pastor and president of the Southern Baptist Convention, speaks at the Pastors' Conference at 8:25 p. m.

More than likely there will be discussion of the proposed 1992-93 budget by messengers



PARKS

YOUNG

when it is first presented to the convention on Tuesday morning. In the Executive Board's development of the proposed budget, the Program and Finance Committee had hearings with leaders of each TBC budgeted entity to determine Cooperative Program allocations. The finalized proposals were presented to the Executive Board and then published in the *Baptist and Reflector* so messengers can study the proposals prior to convention time.

- See High, page 3

## Time to 'move forward,' says FMB head

By Erich Bridges  
For Baptist Press

RICHMOND — In the wake of a year of turmoil at the

Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Don Kammerdiener moved quickly during his first work day as interim president to reassure mission-

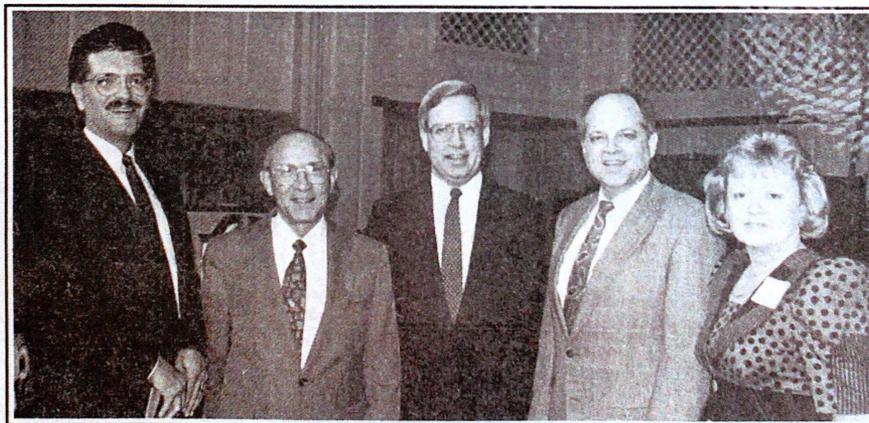
aries and board employees.

"Our calling is to live by our faith and not by our fears," he wrote an anxious mission force. "The time has come to move forward."

Kammerdiener met twice with board staff Nov. 2 and released a letter to 3900 missionaries around the world. He promised the board will continue to change as global developments demand, but will stick to its main evangelistic mission and listen carefully to the voices of missionaries and staff members without penalizing them for speaking out.

"Changes in major leadership positions at the Foreign Mission Board and news releases charging major deviations from our missionary heritage have caused many questions to be raised in the minds of our missionaries," Kammerdiener wrote in his letter.

- See Time, page 2



RED BANK CHURCH was the place for Hamilton County Association's annual meeting. Bill Mason, far left, pastor of Meadowview Church, gave the annual sermon. Others included, from left, Burl McMillan, moderator; Joe Evans, vice moderator; David Myers, director of missions; and Becky Witt, clerk.

■ Wm. Fletcher Allen — editor.

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# Time to 'move forward,' says FMB head

— Continued from page 1

"I regret more than I can say the distress many of you are feeling," he said. "No simple words of assurance will fully answer the questions."

Kammerdiener, a 30-year missions veteran, assumes the interim presidency with the daunting task of rebuilding public confidence in the board — and its confidence in itself.

In less than a year the board has weathered constant debate about its direction under current trustee control, a wave of resignations by unhappy missionaries, the early retirements of two vice presidents in protest of trustee policies and — perhaps most painful of all — the reluctant retirement Oct. 31 of its president, Keith Parks.

Parks closed out his tenure with a letter to missionaries insisting things indeed have changed for the worse at the board, despite protestations by trustees to the contrary.

Kammerdiener, 56, a former missionary in Latin America, has administered day-to-day operations as executive vice president since January 1990. He is among the candidates being considered by the trustee presidential search committee, according to unconfirmed reports about the committee's deliberations.

In the meantime, Kammerdiener will be "fully em-

powered" to act as president, FMB trustee chairman John Jackson told Baptist Press Nov. 2. That includes the go-ahead to recommend people for election to high-level vacancies at the board, Jackson said.

Not only the last year but the last decade "has been a time of turmoil as our president struggled to move us into major innovations and as trustees and constituents have struggled to participate," Kammerdiener wrote missionaries.

Good people "can and do differ greatly in their perspectives as to missionary meth-

ods," he added. Difficult decisions have been made in a context of open and frank interchange of ideas. I pledge to you that that same openness to diversity and minority opinions will continue unabated."

In a Nov. 2 morning chapel session with board staff members, Kammerdiener said he wants to "unleash" their creativity and give workers at every level an opportunity to say, "This is what I think."

"Vigorous debate isn't a sign of division; it's a sign of health," he stressed.

But he appealed for open communication through proper

channels, not whispers and rumors. "If you choose to live by rumors, you will also suffer by rumors," he said. "If you have questions, come and ask me."

The same rule should apply to board trustees, he stated. They should direct their inquiries and concerns to him or trustee committee chairmen and top board administrators, not buttonhole individual employees. "If trustees go around the system, let me know," he said. Nor should employees not in a liaison role to trustee committees go directly to trustees, he added. □

## FMB trustee chairman Jackson writes missionaries

For Baptist Press

**RICHMOND** — Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board trustee chairman John Jackson wrote 3900 Southern Baptist missionaries Nov. 3 expressing strong disagreement with a letter sent to them by R. Keith Parks before Parks retired Oct. 30 as Foreign Mission Board president.

Parks' letter sought to clarify his reasons for retiring three years earlier than planned. It listed ten changes he said have taken place at the FMB with which he disagrees philosophically.

Jackson, a California pastor, said his letter was not

meant to give a point-by-point refutation of Parks' letter but was written mainly to express support and appreciation for the missionaries and to defend trustees.

Jackson said he did not believe Parks' letter was meant to harm missions. "However, most, if not all, of the trustees view it as harmful to relationships between staff, missionaries, and trustees. They see it as pitting the trustees against the staff and missionaries. This distresses the trustees who have attempted over and over again to refute some of the allegations made in Dr. Parks' letter.

Jackson wrote that he does

not "believe the vast majority of trustees have become involved in administrative affairs at the board ... ." He noted "some trustees may have violated their role and requested or even demanded staff to do something. When this has been brought to my attention, I have reminded the trustees that this is not their responsibility."

"It is not my intent to say that trustees are not without blame," Jackson wrote. "We have made mistakes, and we will err in the future. These errors have been made by God-fearing men and women who are attempting to follow God's leadership." □

# Baptist leaders pledge to pray for new president

By Louis Moore  
For Baptist Press

**NASHVILLE** — While pledging to pray for the new administration in Washington and work with it in whatever ways possible, conservative

Southern Baptist leaders say they will not allow moral issues such as abortion and homosexual rights to become trampled in the honeymoon resulting from the election of Southern Baptists to the top two political jobs in the

United States.

These leaders and other Southern Baptist observers acknowledge the economy was the driving force behind Arkansas Gov. Bill Clinton's victory over President George Bush and independent challenger Ross Perot.

"Southern Baptists will be praying that God will give President-elect Clinton divine wisdom in leading this nation," said Morris Chapman, president of the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee. "I am trusting both men (Clinton and Vice President-elect Al Gore) will commit themselves to upholding in this nation high standards of morality and spirituality, and certainly I pray for that."

SBC President Ed Young said Southern Baptists "will support him (Clinton) in every way possible, but by the same token as Baptist people we would disagree on many moral issues, and we must take the position we believe to be in accordance with the Word of God."

Meanwhile, early tabulations indicate evangelicals,

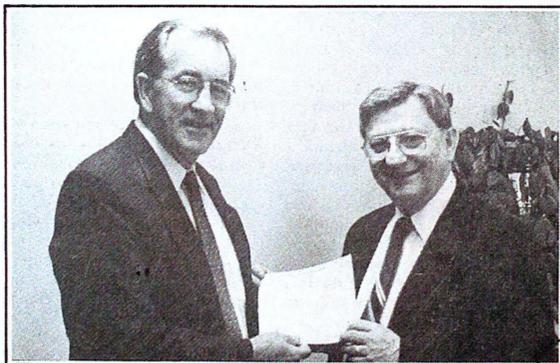
including Southern Baptists, drifted away from but did not totally abandon President Bush in the election. Exit polls show Bush captured only 58 percent of the evangelical vote as opposed to 75-80 percent in 1988.

Chapman said he and many other Southern Baptists will pray specifically that Clinton will change his position on abortion and homosexual rights.

SBC Christian Life Commission Executive Director Richard Land noted, "the Bible commands us to pray for all those in authority, so we certainly pledge to pray for President-elect Clinton and his administration."

Ed McAteer, a Southern Baptist layman from Memphis and founder of the Religious Roundtable, predicted Clinton's election will hasten the decline of America.

"This speeds the U.S. on its fast slide down to moral oblivion, and we see through this election that Christianity is being taunted by an ever more hostile media and secular leadership," he said. □



**BILL WILSON**, THEN interim executive director, Tennessee Baptist Convention, on Oct. 30 accepted a check for more than \$176,000 from Earl Wilson, right, president-treasurer of the Tennessee Baptist Foundation. The check, added to another check in April, makes a total of \$327,000 given to the Cooperative Program this year. The gift comes from 73 trust funds managed by the foundation, and specified to the CP. All but a few of the givers are deceased, some for more than 30 or 40 years. This year's contribution, Wilson said, exceeded last year's total by more than \$2000, though interest rates dropped.

# High attendance forecast at annual session

- Continued from page 1

During the budgeting process this year the board's Education Committee recommended substantial decreases for Carson-Newman College, Belmont University, Union University, and Harrison-Chilhowee Academy. The three colleges, who after last year's convention receive equal CP funding, in the proposed budget would receive six percent less than last year while HCA's allocation was reduced by about 35 percent. In order to achieve a plausible budget, the Budget and Program Committee recommended reductions for several TBC entities, including the Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes, Tennessee Baptist Foundation, *Baptist and Reflector*, and some departments. Of these, Harrison-Chilhowee is almost certain to mount a protest in Gatlinburg and may seek to restore most of the proposed cut while accepting a six percent reduction.

One of the main reasons given for the budget reductions is that for several years, the convention has not achieved its budget goal. There just doesn't seem to be enough money to go around, to do all the things the convention needs to do.

In the case of Harrison-Chilhowee, last year the Five-Year Budget Planning Study Committee (a special commit-

tee of the Executive Board) recommended a study of the future of Harrison-Chilhowee. The Education Committee began the study and had meetings with HCA President Bill Palmer and with the school's trustees. In presenting the budget recommendation to the finance committee, according to Education Committee chairman David George, the decision was based in part on responses by the school's trustees and president to questions put to them by the committee. The questions and answers dealt with enrollment for the last ten years, education cost per student, sources of funding, endowment, mission statement, exploration of ways to expand the school's ministry, and percentage of cost for administration. There were 17 questions in all.

In a July 28 meeting with HCA trustees and administration, the Education Committee noted that support of the school "has been a matter of debate in the convention at least since 1959." While expressing appreciation for the school, the committee also noted that "the present situation of Harrison-Chilhowee cannot continue," referring to the high cost of operations for a small number of students. It was also stated that HCA trustees "must give serious consideration to changing this situation," since the

convention "cannot continue to fund the school at this level."

In answering the committee's questions, school officials replied that enrollment had dropped from 141 students in 1982 to 95 at present. Fifty-three of the students are dormitory residents, and the cost per student has risen from \$5714 in 1982 to \$11,049 at present, with a budget of \$1,017,134 (1982) and \$1,226,445 in 1991. TBC cost per student has increased substantially from the 1982 level of \$1332.

Part of the committee's statement to HCA trustees and administration at the July 28 meeting was an expression of hope to see "rather than controversy, prayerful, mutual decision making, in which we all together find creative approaches to the question."

When the 1992-93 TBC budget proposal was presented to the Executive Board on Sept. 4, Bill Palmer, HCA president, spoke to the Harrison-Chilhowee budget allocation before the board voted. He distributed copies of a letter from the HCA board chairman, Jane Ellison, addressed to David George. The letter spoke of the budget reduction and the "heavy burden" and requested the funding "be maintained at the same percentage decrease as the three colleges [six percent]." The letter said a special committee would work with the

Education Committee.

The totals in the recommended allocation to Harrison-Chilhowee are \$326,048 (\$279,527 operating and \$46,521 capital), down from \$505,907 (\$391,987 operating and \$113,920 capital). With the TBC paying \$5382 per student at HCA, the committee sees disparity since the convention pays only \$815 to \$1084 per student at the three colleges. George said a survey shows that seven other academies supported by Baptist conventions receive an average of \$710 per student from the conventions.

George said the Education Committee had worked with the school in a thorough study. He said the committee concluded that "this seems to be the right time to make a decision" and that the trustees need to take a hard look at the future direction of the school. The vote on the proposed budget was unanimous - for presentation to convention messengers at the Nov. 17 meeting. HCA President Palmer has informed George that a motion will be made at the convention concerning the budget allocation reduction. A letter in this issue of the *Baptist and Reflector* verifies that intention.

Other items which could be brought from the convention floor include: the selection process for Executive Board

members, "broader" representation on certain committees and boards, process for electing the executive director, and relationships (including salary supplements) between the Executive Board and directors of missions.

The convention's 118th annual session begins at 8:45 a.m. Nov. 17 with pre-convention music. President Phillips will call the meeting to order at 9 a.m. In that opening session, the treasurer's report and budget recommendations will be presented, the Executive Board's first report is given, messengers meet James Porch, the new executive, and there is a period for miscellaneous business. The convention closes Wednesday night with a message from Harry Piland, director of Church Growth and Sunday School Division, Baptist Sunday School Board.

"I will lift up mine eyes ..." is the convention theme.

Other convention officers include Clint Oakley, vice president, retired Memphis pastor; Gary Anderson Sr., second vice president and pastor of First Church, Dunlap; Wallace Anderson, recording and statistical secretary; and Dan Ferrell, interim registration secretary. Anderson and Ferrell are Baptist Center staff members. Executive Director Porch is also convention treasurer. □

## Views on several issues presented by director of missions

The following information comes from Bill Bargiol, director of missions, Big Emory Association, and discusses briefly several issues he feels need addressing by Tennessee Baptists. He believes others agree these six issues are crucial to the well-being of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, and "must be faced and dealt with if the present conflict within the convention is to be resolved peaceably." The editor realizes that while some of these points have been discussed periodically, some may attract swift rebuttal. For example, cooperative giving currently is in debate by differing views. The *Baptist and Reflector* does not necessarily agree with the points but presentation here could help if forums develop. Bargiol's proposals follow. - Editor

**1. Ownership of the TBC institutions** - Who owns and operates the institutions? This deals with trust and commitment. At the 1991 TBC annual meeting, a special study reported that, based on information and legal opinions, the TBC does not legally own and operate a single institution. If this be true, then what is the relationship between the convention and the institutions - including the three colleges, the academy, hospitals, Children's Homes, Adult Homes, Baptist Foundation, and the Executive Board? The convention cannot "own" and "not own" an institution at the same time.

Somehow we must face the issue and find the answers agreeable to the convention and the institutions. The simplest way is to release the institutions from any real or pretended convention control.

**2. The executive director-treasurer of the Executive Board** - This has to do with the role of the person and process of election. Is the executive director just a chief executive officer to work for the board? Or is the executive director intended to serve as the primary leader of the TBC and all Tennessee Baptists? If the executive director is hired by the board just for the board, it needs to be stated, and the selection process belongs only to the board. If the person is expected to serve all Tennessee Baptists and be accepted as leader, the selection process needs to be opened and expanded to a larger representation of Tennessee Baptists. The convention should decide whether to function on the basis of what is legal, or if we function cooperatively as family.

**3. The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship** - Many see the CBF as an organization which is in direct conflict with the Cooperative Program and Southern Baptist missions support. We must ask, "What role in TBC life is acceptable for those who are involved in and openly promoting and supporting the CBF?" At present, CBF supporters hold key leadership offices

in TBC structures. Is this role acceptable? Is it in conflict with convention processes for them to be decision makers for the convention? This involves autonomy of the individual, the church, the convention, and all three must be recognized and protected. The TBC must decide where the CBF and its supporters stand in the existing relationship.

**4. Selection of Executive Board members** - There is a perception that the present process for selection of Executive Board members is generating intense frustration with the convention, and that the process bypasses local input. We must ask, "Are TBC Executive Board members intended to function as a corporation board doing 'board work,' or are they supposed to be representatives of the churches directing the extended ministries of the churches?" If the latter is true, the selection process needs to be broadened from a few to many. Solving this problem will reduce much tension within the convention.

**5. The "closed system" nominations process** - This relates to the selection of all board members for all TBC entities. At present the TBC Committee on Committees selects the Committee on Boards, which in turn selects the Committee on Committees. This process perpetuates itself and locks up the convention leadership system. The convention president has no

authority, and is a position of honor. There are two ways to impact the system. The rules can be changed to give the president power to appoint the Committee on Committees, or the committee can be nominated from the convention floor. To continue the system as it is leaves in place a self-perpetuating bureaucracy. If the convention can open the process for broader representation, there would be less frustration and more cooperation in denominational life. Otherwise, tension, conflict, and lack of trust will remain.

**6. Relationships between the Executive Board and associational directors of missions** - This issue is simply, who do we (directors of missions) work with, how do we work together, whose money is being divided and allocated for insurance and salary supplements? Each DOM works with and for the churches of the association, pastors and staffs, and elected leadership there. When allowed opportunity for input, the DOM works with the Executive Board, its staff, and personnel. Such opportunity often is absent. Working together in cooperative effort is dependent upon relationships. This situation needs addressing and nurturing. The money we use and handle belongs to God and we all share in the stewardship. It is given by the Tennessee Baptist churches to be used that way. Recent changes in the allocation of

funds for the DOMs have caused frustration and ill feelings. Further consideration of the changes will help temper these feelings.

Bargiol says there is no structure in the convention for discussing such issues and that a means must be found for such discussion. He proposes open forums inclusive of TBC Executive Board members, directors of missions, possibly association moderators, representatives of TBC institutions, and other interested parties. The meetings could be scheduled at chosen locations in the three state divisions. A select committee composed of individuals from the groups could plan an agenda and could guide the discussion process. It would be a positive effort toward seeking solutions.

He said the question should be asked, "How much is the Tennessee Baptist Convention worth to each of us?" He believes it possible to deal with issues as Christian friends. He met with James Porch, TBC executive director, and shared the concerns and he also is aware they represent some concerns of some Tennessee Baptists. He said he and the executive director invite other Tennessee Baptists to join in developing a process for dealing with these and other issues that might arise, and to join in prayer and cooperation for the wellbeing of God's kingdom. □

## ■ about letters to the editor

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- Name may be withheld for sufficient reason. Include address and phone number
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- Only one letter in a three-months period per writer will be published
- If letter does not conform, it will be returned.
- Opinions and ideas expressed in letters are not necessarily shared by the **Baptist and Reflector** and its staff. □

### Amendment offered

At the Oct. 27 meeting of Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy trustees, the proposed Tennessee Baptist Convention budget as it pertains to our school was discussed in length. The trustees are not pleased with the disproportionate reduction in Cooperative Program funding for the academy (35.5 percent) in comparison with a 6 percent reduction for the other institutions and agencies. In fairness to the mission ministry of distinctively Christian education, the trustees believe that our school should have equal treatment.

Our ninety students are worthy of the investment being made in their lives. Sixty-six made academic honors in the first six weeks. More than 30 of these national and international teenagers have accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior in the past year.

An amendment to the budget will be presented in Gatlinburg:

In behalf of the trustees of Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy, I move that this convention amend the proposed Tennessee Baptist Convention Budget for 1992-93 by changing that portion of the budget relating to Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy's "operating funds" and "capital funds" to reflect a 6 percent reduction from the 1991-92 budget (as has been done for Belmont University, Carson-Newman College, Union University, the Baptist Children's Home, and the Baptist Adult Homes) rather than the 35.5 percent

reduction which is in the proposed Tennessee Baptist Convention Budget for 1992-93.

For more than 112 years, Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy has been blessed of God in ministry with young people. We need your prayers and your support.

*William L. Palmer, president  
Harrison-Chilhowee Academy  
Seymour 37865*

### Why not cooperate?

The letter in *Baptist and Reflector* Oct. 28 by Tony McGuire caught my immediate attention because of many basic facts. Yes, this whole SBC commotion is over, "power struggles, committee controls, and a few leaders trying to tell all of us how to think, talk, and interpret the Bible." None of these should take first place among a group of Christian believers.

We as Baptists ought to be able to "disagree without being disagreeable" and not hurt one another. In a free country we have a right to our opinions and my Christianity tells me that I can read the Bible and make my own interpretation without asking anyone. Why in the world can we not all practice "the golden rule" and go about doing good instead of fighting?

We should be a great fellowship of harmonious peace lovers and stop criticizing every little thing that we don't agree with. Let's share our great faith in God and be big enough to stop wanting to be "boss and in control of others." Surely we can respect one another and sit down at a negotiating table and iron out differences without running people off. I have been a Baptist 63 years and this bothers me. We are all Baptists and there should not be any question about "who believes the Bible the most."

Just one word about the Baptist-Mason conflict. The Lord my God in Masonry is the same God that we as Baptists believe in, and that conflict should immediately be laid to eternal rest for the good of both organizations. Why stir up trouble for no reason?

*Henry D. Wattenbarger  
Kingston 37763*

### Change suggested

In our annual associational meeting Salem Baptist Association unanimously passed a resolution calling for a change in the way members of the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention are nominated. It is my strong belief that all churches of the TBC should be able to know what is happening in the TBC. The only way this is possible is for each church to have local access to a member of the

Executive Board. Therefore, each group of churches that make up an Association should be entitled to nominate a member to the Executive Board with the remaining members divided over the state. If you look at Executive Board members for the new year, you will find 20 associations across the state do not have a member on the board. Furthermore, in the Middle Tennessee division, Nashville Association will have 12 of the 30 members or 40 percent of the Executive Board. This is wrong. The TBC exists for the churches. The only way to stop favoritism and have equality for all the churches is to change the way members to the Executive Board are nominated.

*Don Mathis, pastor  
Salem Church  
Liberty 37095*

### Work together

A few weeks ago an article in the *Baptist and Reflector* reported a meeting held at Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, for the purpose of training to bring to the Tennessee Baptist Convention the politics of recent years in the SBC.

This was disturbing. More disturbing is a letter written about a meeting held in Two Rivers Baptist Church, Sept. 24.

The letter speaks of building a conservative network across the state of Tennessee to bring change. It supports a proposal to give the president of the TBC appointive powers to the Committee on Committees. Such an action would simply bring power politics to the TBC.

We do not need further division. We need people of good will who will seek to work together to the glory of God.

*Joseph T. Nickell  
Maryville 37801*

### Deplores book

I learned Oct. 30 that R. R. Donnelley and Sons, printers of the pornographic *Sex*, also does printing for Southern Baptists.

It appears to me that board President Jimmy Draper equivocated when he said "If they say they will keep up this practice of printing that kind of book then we will act accordingly."

I believe it is time for Southern Baptists to stand up in every situation involving Christian ethics and morality in our public and our private lives.

As is almost always the case, purveyors of this kind of smut attempt to wrap themselves in the First Amendment. They claim we are guilty of censorship. Donnelley claims the right to print anything they want

even if it means controversy. Baptists should also have the right to show their contempt for this notion.

I think Southern Baptists should send a message loud and clear that we will not now or in the future condone the spread of such filth as the book *Sex* by continuing to do business with anyone engaged in this sorry business.

Our Bible study lesson Oct. 25 was based in part on I Timothy 6:10 (KJV), "For the love of money (greed) is the root of all evil." In my opinion greed was the sole motivating factor in Donnelley's decision to engage in this travesty against Christian principles and ideals. I think it is time for Southern Baptists to do the same.

*Lloyd Comer  
Lawrenceburg 38464*

### Louisiana gratitude

On behalf of the churches in Adolphe Stagg and Atchafalaya Baptist associations here in Louisiana, I want to offer thanks to churches, associations, and individuals for their disaster assistance.

People from many states have come, fed people, built houses, cleaned and repaired

## State DOMs plan retirements

Two state directors of missions Elmer Crosby and J. C. Lewis have announced retirement plans.

Crosby, native of Chattanooga, has served as director of missions for Maury Association, headquartered in Columbia, for 17 years. His retirement is effective Dec. 31.

He has served as pastor of three churches in Tennessee — McCarty Church, Chattanooga; First Church, Cowan; and First Church, Sparta. He also served on the staff of Red Bank Church, Chattanooga.

Crosby is a graduate of Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C. He and his wife, Mildred, have two sons — Bill of Erlanger, Ky., and Mike of Lansing, Mich.

The Crosbys plan to continue living in Columbia. He will be available for supply and interim pastorates.

Kentucky native J. C. Lewis will retire Jan. 31, 1993 after 11 years as director of missions for Bledsoe Association, based in Gallatin.

Lewis, a graduate of the University of Kentucky and New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary, has held pastorates in Kentucky, Louisiana, and Florida.

Lewis and his wife, Ann, are investigating the possibilities of

church buildings, given out food, clothing, and witnessed as they worked and provided materials.

I hope and pray that the need for us in these two associations to return the favor will never come, but if it does, count on us to help you.

*Arthur Achord  
Director of Missions  
Houma, La. 70360*

### Leadership needs

I read in the Nov. 4 edition that Southern Baptists lead the way in advocating abstinence from alcohol and felt good about it when I glanced at another report that four well-known Southern Baptists, two Senators and two Congressmen, have accepted large contributions from the alcohol industry.

This, along with the fact we will soon have two more well-known Southern Baptists in the White House asking us to defend abortion and gay rights, makes me feel that our denomination not only needs strong leadership at our conventions, but also in basic Biblical training.

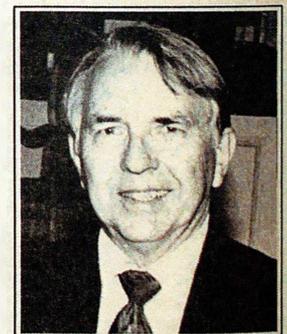
*George Glenn  
East Ridge 37412*

volunteer missions service with either the Home or Foreign Mission Boards. They plan to maintain their residence in Gallatin.

The Lewis' have five children and five grandchildren. □



ELMER CROSBY



J. C. LEWIS

## 'Doing what comes naturally' isn't always the best way

"Seize the moment" might be a good rallying cry for Tennessee Baptists as we gather in Gatlinburg next week for our annual meeting.

Those words can be an inspirational motto to accompany the theme of the two-day session — and for all the other meetings that will take place.

Of course the theme itself is more than mere symbolism. Grasping the promising words from the Psalms, "I will lift up mine eyes," is more than a spiritual crutch. We will be among the mountains, some of God's greatest handiwork. But the call to stray from the purpose of the gathering will be loud and strident. So we look upward, lifting eyes and hearts to the mountains and beyond. Spiritually, we look to the maker of the hills and seek his face.

Then as we seek God, it seems wise to attempt to seize the day. We will have opportunity to touch others and to experience God's blessings from his rich storehouse, well-equipped to dispense blessing after blessing. Breaking precedent then, we are expecting the unexpected blessings.

Whether we accept God's blessings or settle for the usual stress and strain, perhaps accompanied by divisive actions and confusion, is our choice. It seems to us that God's promises are overwhelming, and

there is no adequate reason for expecting anything but the best. God's storehouse is not empty. He is a god of blessing. Why should we be willing to accept man's disruptions when there is so much more available? We can continue to do good work.

**Inspiration.** The annual meeting is chock full of opportunities to focus on praise, prayer, Scripture, sermons, singing, and remembrances. All of these are part of worship.

**Education.** Reporting to messengers, every department, institution, college, agency, will share what work has been done this year in the Lord's name. We will talk about children, students, older adults, health care, finances, churches, and associations. Even more, every phase of Tennessee Baptist ministry will be expressed through sight and sound.

**Missions.** Though we are all on mission through our particular ministries, there are specific missions which we gladly do. Consider the hundreds, perhaps thousands, of Tennessee Baptist volunteers who performed hands-on missions in Chile and other foreign lands, in Michigan and other states, in the local associations. Consider the hundreds who trekked to Florida and Louisiana to be on the frontlines for Christ after Hurricane Andrew

plundered the land and the people. Consider the students who built and repaired homes for people in many different places. There are others.

**Material blessings.** Glad hearts gave generously to foreign, home, state, and associational missions. Often the gifts have been sacrificial. The mission offerings were a bounty for people with faces and needs here and across the world.

**Prayer and evangelism.** The new birth came to many lost people in Tennessee during the year because of ordinary Christians who were willing to pray, to give, to go. New babes in Christ were born, new churches started, old ways changed, other lives renewed.

These are only a few of the fruits of the Spirit visited upon Tennessee since we last met in annual session. Selfish attitudes won't do. Others will be meeting unofficially, but somehow we must all work together for the cause of the Christ we serve.

Let not a word be spoken, no plan made, no suggestion offered, no action taken, without earnest prayer that it is offered in the name of the Master and has no selfish design involved.

We can offer ourselves. Let us seize the day in his name, and not do what comes naturally. Seize the moment for him! □

■ one  
word more  
By Wm. Fletcher Allen  
editor

### Avoid those shortcuts and hurry along fast

Life is filled with shortcuts, easy ways to accomplish goals. We are often enticed to use them. After all, getting there first, finishing the assignment before the other fellow wins the praise, doesn't it?

I've run several marathons, the real thing, the 26.2 miles variety. Training to do a strenuous physical exercise like that is necessary.

To finish the distance with a whole body, sound mind, and a desire to do it again, requires proper intense preparation. It means getting up at 4 a. m. and hitting the roads when it is still dark. It means setting a satisfactory schedule and never flinching from it.

It means discipline. There are other ways to gain life's vitality in discipline, but I know that correct training for the marathon is one very good way.

Any worthy task deserves the best possible effort. Life demands the best of us, if we expect to do anything significant. So we might then ask ourselves, "Why not the best?" The quick way, the easy route, is not always the best.

Listen to Dwight Moody: "I prayed for faith and thought that some day faith would come down and strike me like lightning. But faith did not seem to come. One day I read in Romans 10, 'Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.' I had [up to this time] closed my Bible and prayed for faith. I now opened my Bible and began to study, and faith has been growing ever since." What a discovery!

A group of emigrants in 1846 tried to reach California by taking the so-called Hastings Cutoff south of the Great Salt Lake, leaving the established trail. They tried to get there by taking the ill-advised shortcut. Most of them starved or froze to death.

A young survivor of the horror, kept a diary. After rescue, she wrote to a cousin, "Don't take no cutoffs, and hurry along as fast as you can." That is sound advice. □



ALLEN

By Wm. Fletcher Allen, editor

## ■ just for today

By Fred Wood  
pastor emeritus  
Eudora Church, Memphis

### Start with a smile —

The youth counselor conducting the session was amazed. "You mean to say that you are engaged to five different boys at once?" The young lady smiled, but with a bit of wistfulness, "Yes, and I surely do dread after Christmas when I try to straighten things out!"

### Take this truth with you —

The longer we avoid our problems the more difficult they may become. A friend of mine said that he always opens the letter first that he thinks might have bad news in it. In this way he can cope with the problem and then enjoy the other letters which might be more pleasant. Why not deal with that problem today that you have shied away from facing. It might be easier to solve than you think.

### Memorize this Scripture —

"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap" (Galatians 6:7).

### Pray this Prayer —

Lord, help me to remember that the law of the harvest is always at work. Help me to sow good seed in order that I may expect to reap that which will bring joy to my life. □

## President states rules of order for TBC

When Ron Phillips, Tennessee Baptist Convention president, strikes the gavel to the podium at Gatlinburg's Convention Center Nov. 17, he will be calling official messengers and visitors to order. The 118th session will begin at 9 a. m. after 15 minutes of pre-session music.

"I look forward to seeing our Tennessee Baptist family gather in the name and power of our Savior," Phillips said. The pastor of Central Church Hixson, Chattanooga, wants to remind convention-goers that the right mix of order and fellowship should prevail.

Reminding messengers that reports and business sessions are scheduled at designated times, Phillips said convention business must be conducted within the guidelines of Christian conduct and *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* 9th edition, 1990.

Phillips also offers some practical guidelines he will follow in conducting convention sessions:

1. The chair will be fair, firm, and sensitive to all messengers who desire to speak.

2. Microphones will be provided on floor level and other locations for convenience. Only those recognized by the chair will be permitted to speak. Each speaker will first state name and church from which he/she has been elected as

messenger.

3. The chair will not permit attack upon a member's motives, or the person of another messenger.

4. All remarks from messengers will be addressed to and through the chair. A messenger shall not directly address another in debate. As much as possible, use of names of messengers shall be avoided in debate.

5. In debate a messenger cannot reflect adversely on any prior action of the convention, not pending.

6. All motions and resolutions shall be brought in writing to the chair for correct wording when presented.

7. Since the meeting area is large, voting by show of ballots is the primary means of declaring the vote. If this means is not conclusive to the chair, we will vote by ballot.

8. In respect to all persons present, the chair will not permit outbursts of applause, especially after a vote. The chair will not permit any disrespect toward any person.

9. To be recognized by the chair, the messenger must be at a microphone. The chair will not permit "shouting" toward the chair.

10. By common consent of messengers, the chair recommends a three minute limit for speakers making a motion.

Phillips said he was grate-

ful that Frank Ingraham, Nashville attorney and member of First Church, Franklin, had accepted appointment as convention parliamentarian. "Let us pray for a convention that focuses on empowering kingdom growth and not on issues that would detract from this main purpose," he said. □

### Referendums on liquor defeated

Anti-liquor forces in Tennessee rallied to defeat liquor-by-the-drink referendums in Paris, Union City, Cleveland, Bradley County, McKenzie, Pulaski, Harriman, and Springfield.

Similar referendums were approved, however, in Dyersburg and Cookeville.

In Union City and Norris, residents also defeated package liquor sales referendums. The sale of package liquors was approved in Springfield and Harriman. Ironically residents of both towns voted against liquor-by-the-drink, but approved package liquor sales.

Waymon Jones, executive director of United Tennessee League, expressed appreciation for all who worked hard against the liquor referendums.

It was a tough fall with 14 liquor referendums, but "we won our fair share," he said. □

# Annuity Board's new program for prescription medicines starts Jan. 1

Baptist Press

DALLAS — A new managed prescription drug program combining the Southern Baptist Annuity Board's current mail order service with a national network of retail pharmacies will go into effect Jan. 1, 1993, for all participants in the board's comprehensive medical plans.

"Twenty years ago, prescription drugs represented only four percent of health benefit costs, compared to ten to 15 percent today," said Joel Mathis, senior vice president of the board's insurance division. "We believe this new program will help to curb rising medical costs and

offer better service to our participants."

Health Care Services (HCS) of Bensalem, Pa., will continue to provide mail order prescription drugs. The only change in January is that participants will pay 20 percent of the cost of the

medication rather than a flat fee. The minimum cost of a prescription will be \$5 and the maximum cost will not exceed \$100 for up to a three-month supply. PCS Health Systems, based in Scottsdale, Ariz., will partici-

pate ... in the acute care retail portion of the prescription drug program. □

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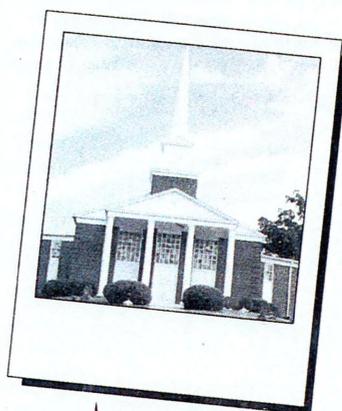
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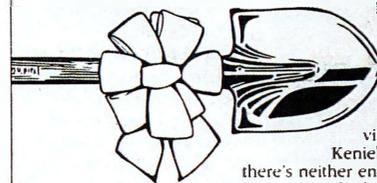
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# ■ Sunday School lesson commentary

## □ God's sovereign choice of Israel — Bible Book Series for November 15

By Mike Kemper, pastor, Green River Church, Waynesboro

The question Paul addresses in chapter 9 is this: If God's elect are secure, what about the "Israelites to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises," (9:4)? Is God not dependable? Can God be trusted? Paul set out to answer, yes! God is faithful. He is righteous and just!

You cannot help admiring Paul's deep heart concern for Israel (vv. 1-3). No other nation or people had received the blessing described in verses 4 and 5. Yet the Israelites had gone their own way and turned away from God. Paul's desire for Israel is an encouragement to everyone who has turned away from God. If Paul felt this way, imagine how much more God, who sent His Son into the world to seek

and save that which was lost, cares about those gone astray. Paul said he had the desire to become a curse for his brethren that they might be saved. That is exactly what Christ did for us. He became a curse for us that we might be saved.

Israel's failure to accept Jesus and the Gospel message does not mean God made a mistake. It does not mean God is unfair in His dealings with Israel or any of us. Israel's failure does not mean God is unfaithful. God has always been, is now, and always will be true to His own Word, no matter what men may or may not choose to do.



KEMPER

Paul again chose Abraham as his example, along with other Old Testament people. Abraham was chosen by God as the father of the Hebrew nation. But all of Abraham's descendants are not "true" sons of Israel. Abraham had many children, but only one chosen son, Isaac, was a child of promise by faith. Ishmael was a child of the flesh through works. The "true seed of Abraham" are believers, and not just those who have Jewish blood (vv. 7-9).

Further, God bypassed Esau, the "first born," for Jacob. This choice of God came even before the children were born. God's will is accomplished by God's choice, not man's choice. Men may choose to refuse God's will. This rejection by man however, does not cancel or change God's will, which will be done despite rejection by a nation (Israel) or

an individual. God is sovereign. He has the right, and the power to act as He wills to accomplish whatever He wants. There is no justification for anyone to say, "God is unfair," (v. 14). The purpose of God has nothing to do with justice or fairness, but everything to do with grace and mercy (vv. 15-16). If God did what was just and fair, He would have wiped Israel from the pages of history, and condemned us all to hell. It is His sovereign right to show mercy where He wants and hardness where He wants (vv. 17-18).

Paul's application of the potter is in response to the question, "Why does God find fault if none can resist His will?" (v. 19) God is the potter. The nations of the world and their leaders are the vessels. Some are vessels of wrath that God endures until

their time of destruction comes. Others are vessels of mercy representing believers (both Jews and Gentiles, v. 24). Paul quoted Hosea 2:23 and 1:10, God promised to call Gentiles "children of the living God," (v. 26). This is "the church" made of Gentiles and a remnant of Jews.

### Basic Passage Romans 9:1-29

If the Lord had not left a "seed" remnant among the Jews, they would have been destroyed like Sodom and Gomorrah (v. 29).

So, God is faithful, righteous, and just. He is more than fair. Men love to emphasize human will and self-effort, but God's Word and will shall prevail, regardless of man's disobedience. □

## □ Hosea: Prophet of God's love — Convention Uniform Series for November 15

By Wes Ellis, retired pastor, Forest Hill Church, Germantown

God illustrated His love for His people by the marriage of the prophet Hosea and Gomer. Hosea's tragic situation enabled him to feel God's grief over the apostasy of His people. Disorderly arrangement of the material reflects agony of heart and message.



ELLIS

Hosea was a contemporary of Amos and preached also to the northern kingdom. The time was one of economic prosperity and moral bankruptcy. Heartbreak came as the Assyrians conquered Syria in 732 BC and Samaria in 722 BC.

Hosea's personal calamities paralleled the national calamities, and the message of the Lord extended hope and love to

the fallen.

### God's love shown in a broken relationship ch. 1:1-9; 3:1-2

When people turn against Him, is God only a judge, or is He also a grieving Father? Hosea portrayed God as one who hurts and struggles with justice. The final outcome of this problem is seen in the cross of the Lord Jesus Christ.

God instructed Hosea to marry an Israelite woman who had forsaken Him, not one who was already a harlot. Spiritual harlotry is clearly the reference in the end of chapter 1:2. Gomer's paganism led to sexual immorality. Notice she "bore him a son" (v. 3), but verses 6 and 8 imply the other two children were not Hosea's. The names of the children spoke of impending judgment and rejection by the Lord.

Gomer was like the people who had forsaken God and gone after the gods of pleasure, materialism, and immorality. This is a powerful message to our generation. What is God's assessment? He knows the fickleness of our hearts, the lies of our lips when we profess to love Him. He sees how quickly we leave Him for other allurements! He hurts because we hurt ourselves.

"Another" or "her friend" in chapter 3:1 was not Hosea. Rather, Gomer left her husband and family and went into prostitution in service of pagan gods, and went so far as to be on the market to be sold as a slave. Hosea was told to buy her back, expressing love such as the love of God for His wayward people.

Hosea as a poor man could pay only half of the price of the slave, making up the balance with grain from his small farm.

Gomer, like the nation, would be placed on probation, in hope of repentance and restoration "in the last days." In a similar way, the love of God is extended to all guilty sinners (2 Peter 3:9).

### God's assessment of phony religion — ch. 6:1-6

By chapter 4, the illustration of the dealings of Hosea with Gomer was dropped as God addressed Israel in words of

### Basic Passage Hosea 1:1-3; 3:1-2; 6:4-6; 11:1-4

rebuke, warning, and judgment. The Lord waited for the people's repentance (ch. 5:25), and their statements appeared to reflect genuine repentance. However, God's cry of anguish shows it was words without heart. Fear may have motivated the pious talk, but God saw through it. God delights in "loyalty rather

than sacrifice and . . . the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings," (v. 6).

### Love of a father for a wayward child — ch. 11:1-4

Disappointment and rejection were felt by God and Hosea as they remembered the past. Love and mercy had been God's motives as He delivered the Israelites from slavery and blessed them. Yet they rejected Him. He spoke of Himself as a loving parent and a compassionate cattle owner who tenderly met the needs of his animals. All was futile, however, for "my people are bent on turning from me," (v. 7a). Contrasted with the human heart's iniquity is God's agony (ch. 11:8-9). Hope for future restoration and blessing was expressed (ch. 14:4-9).

Can God's love be defeated? Hosea joined those who believed God's love would always win. □

## □ Be equipped — Life and Work Series for November 15

By James Hutson, pastor, First Church, Rockwood

Be equipped for what? — a golf game, a football game, a test in physics or a medical test? This lesson teaches us how to be equipped for living the Christian life in difficult times, the real test of our Christianity.

### Difficult days — vv. 1-5

The words "last days" may refer to those events which will precede our Lord's return. The words may also refer to the entire Christian era. Probably the best answer is a combination of both. The days of moral corruption which Paul described are common to every generation. These difficulties will intensify as our Lord's return draws nigh.

I cannot find any order in the list of vices in verses 2-5. It would be helpful to use one or more additional translations to get a better understanding of the terms. Four of the terms

have to do with a love that is falsely directed, "lovers of self, lovers of money, lovers of pleasures, and not lovers of God," (vv. 2a, 4b). Boastful and proud (v. 2) convey the idea of arrogance. A blasphemer is someone who speaks evil against his fellow man and against God.

The last three words in verse 2 are all denials of God's commandments. All the words in verse 3 except "false accusers" have a negative prefix. This emphasizes the words' negative aspect. All these terms portray the picture of moral perversion.

The first two terms of verse 4 belong together. They describe

someone who is reckless and filled with self-importance. Verse 5 describes a religious setting. Everything looks good, but there is nothing on the inside. Paul advised Timothy to avoid such people as he described in verses 2-5.

### Enduring difficult days vv. 10-12

Paul reminded Timothy that he had been an eyewitness to Paul's teaching and life-style. Paul used nine terms to describe his own example. The first three refer to Paul's teaching. The remainder refer to Paul's life.

Verse 11 refers to some of the events in Paul's first missionary journey. It was on this journey that Timothy was won to faith in Christ.

Those who desire to live a godly life will suffer persecution. That was the experience of our

Lord and the apostle Paul. It can also be true for all believers.

### Contrast between good and evil men — vv. 13-14

There is the progressive nature of evil men, (v. 13). Someone has said, "the vices of one generation become the virtues of the next generation."

There is the steadfastness of good men (v. 14). Timothy's confidence was based on the quality of what he had been taught and the character of his teachers, Paul, Lois, and Eunice.

### Importance of Scriptures vv. 15-17

Verse 15 teaches us the importance of teaching the Scriptures to our children. Bible study also applies to all ages. None of us are too old or too wise to ignore regular Bible study.

Verse 16 tells that every sin-

gle part of the Bible is inspired. This verse offers four areas where Bible study is helpful and useful. (1) Teaching and rebuking are opposite sides of the same purpose. (2) In the ethical areas of life, the Scriptures provide both correcting and training.

### Basic Passage: II Timothy 3

Verse 17 teaches us the Bible prepares a person for good works. It describes the place of the Bible for study (personal growth) and life's work (action).

Being equipped for living the Christian life is realizing we live in difficult times. We are equipped for such days when we know how to handle the Scriptures. This means knowledge, understanding, and application. □



HUTSON

# TenneScene ■ the people, their work

## ■ education

■ **Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City**, will host a Saturday Showcase for prospective students and their parents Nov. 14. Registration will begin at 9 a.m. in the music building. Students will have the opportunity to tour the campus, meet faculty members, and talk with admissions and financial aid counselors. A football game will be at 1 p.m.

## ■ the leaders

■ **H. Dean Haun** accepted the pastorate of Hermitage Hills Church, Hermitage, effective Nov. 8. A Knoxville native, Haun served as pastor of First Church, Sparta, from 1988 until moving to Hermitage. He also was pastor of Calvary Church, Alcoa, and has held pastorates in Texas and Florida. He is a graduate of Cumberland College in Williamsburg, Ky., and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.



HAUN

■ **Signal Mountain Church, Signal Mountain, called Dan Hanson** as minister of music.

■ **Angela Clark** is the new director of the childcare center at First Church, Nashville.

■ **Avery L. Blakeney** is the new pastor of Messiah Chapel, a mission of First Church, Nashville. Blakeney is a third-year student at American Baptist College, Nashville, where he is president of the Baptist Student Union. He served as associate pastor of Brandonview Missionary Church, Christiana, for three years.

■ **Westview Church, Chattanooga, called David Burns** as minister of music. He began his ministry Oct. 14.

■ Four churches in Clinton Association have called new pastors. **Tom Chadwick** is pastor of Frost Bottom Church, Oliver Springs. **Lee Kidwell** is pastor of Red Hill Church, Clinton. **Wayne Provence** is serving at First Church, Norris. **Mike Viles** is pastor of Mount Pleasant Church, Andersonville, and **Bill Walker** is serving at New Mountain View, Oliver Springs.

■ **Calvary Church, Brownsville, called Walt Seaman**, Bartlett, as youth minister. He began Oct. 4.

■ **Jason Ford**, Memphis, recently joined the staff of Woodland Church, Brownsville, as youth director.

■ **Bob Ozment** is now serving as pastor of Bogota Church,

Bogota.

■ **Enon Church, Halls, called J. B. Haynes** as interim pastor.

■ **Members of Macedonia Church, Ripley, recently welcomed new Youth and Children's Minister Ken Coleman.**

■ **Rodney Hardin** became pastor of First Church, Gadsden, Nov. 1. He formerly served Spring Hill Church, Trenton.

■ **Hillcrest, Trenton, Pastor David Harwell** was ordained to the Gospel ministry Oct. 18 at Fellowship Church, Milan.

■ **Terry McDonald**, interim pastor at Southside Church, Humboldt, will be ordained Nov. 15 at Smyrna Church, Humboldt.

■ **Guy Wilkerson** is the new pastor of Pleasant View Church, Dukedom. He formerly served as pastor of New Prospect Church, McKenzie.

■ **Maple Valley Church, Only, elected Angie Hanes** as youth director.

## ■ the people

■ **Dennis Moon** was ordained to the deacon ministry of First Church, Dresden.

■ **David Pearson** was ordained as a deacon Oct. 25 at Antioch, Church, Antioch.

■ **Richard Hartsfield** will be ordained as a deacon at New Hope Church, Dyer.

■ **Robert Cox, Gay Lynn Caldwell, Joel Ledbetter, and Mabel Levi** were ordained as deacons at Signal Mountain Church, Signal Mountain.

■ **William C. and Mary Warmath** recently retired from mission service in Japan. He is a graduate of Union University, Jackson, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., and is available for supply work and interim pastorates. The Warmaths' address is 432 Rivermont Drive, Clarksville, Tenn., 37043.

■ **Belmont Heights Church, Nashville, ordained Earl Carroll, David Cooper, James**

**Stewart, and Keith Sykes** to the deacon ministry.

■ **Retired pastor Eugene B. Roberts and his wife, Becky**, of Seymour, recently celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. The 78-year-old Roberts retired 16 years ago after holding several pastorates in Middle and East Tennessee. He has held several interim pastorates and still does supply preaching and, along with his wife, serve as foreign missions volunteers. The Roberts' have four children and four grandchildren.

■ **Central Church, Martin, ordained Bob Johnson and Danny Robbins** as deacons.

■ **Lebern Allen and Larry Wilson** were ordained to the deacon ministry of Jolley Springs Church, Gleason.

■ **Fellowship Church, Milan, ordained David Harwell** to the Gospel ministry Oct. 18.

■ **Ray Steele and Steve Moore** were ordained as deacons Oct. 18 at Brook Hollow Church, Nashville.

■ **First Church, Middleton, ordained James Smith** to the deacon ministry Oct. 11.

■ **Grace Church, Nashville, ordained John Vick** to the deacon ministry Nov. 1.

■ **Billy Trew** was recently ordained as deacon at Shiloh Church, Ocoee.

■ **Daryl Crouch** was recently ordained to the Gospel ministry at First Church, Manchester.

■ **Virginia pastor James E. Sorells Sr.**, a native of Dyersburg and former pastor of Central Church, Johnson City, died recently at his home in Virginia. He is survived by two children, Kelly Worden and James E. Sorells Jr., both of Johnson City.

■ **Clara Ward, Chattanooga, was recently honored by Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, in recognition of the Ward Missions Fund** established by Ward and her late husband Clifton. Mr. Ward served on the board of trustees of Carson-Newman and the Foreign Mission Board.

■ **Big Springs Church, Elizabethton, ordained David Nanney** as deacon Oct. 18.

## ■ the churches

■ **The congregation of Third Church, Murfreesboro, will dedicate their new worship center and educational facility** Nov. 22 at 2 p.m.

■ **Revival will be Nov. 11-14 at Dungan Chapel, Elizabethton.** Services will be led by the Clergymen.

■ **Haskel Ingram** will preach the opening services of revival Nov. 23 at **First Church, Hampton.** The Clergymen will lead services Nov. 24-25.

■ **Fellowship Missionary Church, Lansing, recently was accepted as the 49th church in Big Emory Association** during the association's annual meeting in October.

## ■ the work

■ **Bill Black, director of Smoky Mountain Resort Ministries, will receive this year's Home Mission Board Ken Prickett Award** for creativity in missions.

The award will be presented Nov. 17 during the Tennessee Baptist Convention annual meeting in Gatlinburg. It is named in honor of a former HMB staff member who developed resort ministries.

**Black and his wife Cindy** coordinate ministries in 16 campgrounds, making their work one of the largest resort projects in the country.

■ **Missionary to Chile Donna Mae Bobby** is on the field. She may be addressed at Casilla 214, Valdivia, Chile. She is a native Tennessean and was born in Nashville.

■ **Ron and Margie Carothers, missionaries to Guatemala, are in the states and living in Memphis.** They may be written to at 5511 Melvin Road, Memphis, Tenn., 38120. Both are natives of North Carolina.

■ **Humboldt natives Guy and Tammy Causey, mission-**

aries to Ghana, are on the field and may be addressed at P. O. Box 400, Accra, Ghana.

■ **Daryl and Glenda Cox, missionaries to Ivory Coast, are on the field.** Write to them at Mission Baptiste, 01 B P 512, Bouake, Ivory Coast. He was born in California, but considers Lake City his hometown. She is a native of Georgia.

■ **Joe and Patty Rinehart** were appointed to mission service in Tennessee by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board in October.

They will be in Atoka, where Rinehart will serve as a church planter apprentice and his wife will work in family and church service.



RINEHARTS

Rinehart is a graduate of Trinity College of Florida, Holiday, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

■ **Missionaries Tim and Janice McCall** are on their field of service in Nigeria. They may be written to at EKY Baptist Hospital, PMB 4040, Sapele, Delta State, Nigeria. He is a native of Memphis.

■ **Charles and Audrey Morris** missionaries to Kenya, are living at 4680 Walnut Grove Road, Memphis, Tenn., 38117. They are natives of Arkansas, but the former Audrey Dulin considers Memphis her hometown.

■ **Missionaries Benny and Elena Petty** are on the field in Hong Kong. They may be written to at 169 Boundary Street, Kowloon, Hong Kong. He is a native of Selmer and she is the former Elena Atkinson of Brady, Texas.

■ **Missionaries to Zambia Joe and Gloria Turman** are on the field and may be addressed at Box 61174, Livingstone, Zambia. The former Gloria Ann Reece was born in Memphis and grew up in Haywood County. He is a native of Tyler, Texas.



**NEW OFFICERS** of Concord Association are, from left, Darrel Whaley, Bradley's Creek Church, Lascassas, vice moderator; Milton Hicks, First Church, LaVergne, moderator; and Marion Arbuckle, Westwood Church, outgoing moderator.



**OFFICERS PRESIDING** at the 70th annual meeting of Maury Association were, from left, Jack Westmoreland, Friendship Church, moderator; Gilbert Westberry, Highland Park Church, Columbia, vice moderator; Jean Jackson, Rock Springs Church, treasurer; and Director of Missions Elmer Crosby.