

Baptist and Reflector

November 18, 1992

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STATEWIDE EDITION

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For Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

Put aside differences, asks FMB's Kammerdiener

By Marty Croll
For Baptist Press

RICHMOND — Southern Baptists should lay aside their differences and unite to reach the \$84 million goal for the 1992 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions, said Don Kammerdiener, the Foreign Mission Board's interim president.

"The \$84 million goal is not only reachable — just 3.25 percent higher than was actually given last year — but it is one we must meet if the board is to keep from curtailing some of its work," Kammerdiener said.

Kammerdiener's statement came soon after he took the helm of the board which sustains work in 126 countries. He follows former FMB president R. Keith Parks who retired Oct. 31.

The FMB appeal also followed an announcement that the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, a group of Southern Baptist "moderates," announced a new world mission offering campaign that will compete with both the Lottie Moon offering and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions.

"I have faith that Southern Baptists will overcome the weak economy and attempts

by a Southern Baptist splinter group to raise money for an alternative mission program, and remain true to the heritage that has guided us in the past," he said.

If the goal is reached this year, the \$84 million will fund about half of next year's foreign mission program. Receipts from the Cooperative Program, Southern Baptists' unified plan of giving, will pay for the remainder.

The Lottie Moon offering is the largest of its kind in evangelical history. □



J. L. FORD, executive director of Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes, accepts the deed to Stoneway Acres from Joy Nabi, president of Baptist Homes for Exceptional Persons, during a banquet Nov. 5 in Nashville. The following night, Adult Homes received the deed to Rainbow Acres in Jacksboro. Both homes are ministries to mentally handicapped adults. Official presentations will be made during the annual meeting of the Tennessee Baptist Convention in Gatlinburg.

Medical team ministers in Chile

For Baptist and Reflector

A 41-member team spent ten days serving Christ in Chile recently as participants in the Tennessee/Chile Partnership.

The volunteers were led by Nashville physician Dewey Dunn of Woodmont Church. The teams treated more than 4611 patients and encountered 227 decisions for Christ and many rededications, Dunn said.

"The impact of this project was powerful in the lives of individual Chilean church members who spent the week

serving Christ by witnessing one-on-one in the clinics, preparing food for the volunteers, cleaning up the church clinics, and assisting in the flow of patients through the clinics," Dunn said.

A large portion of the team served in Temuco where they conducted clinics in churches. An eye clinic also was held at the Baptist association office in Temuco, Dunn reported.

Many church members can now read their Bibles thanks to the donated eyeglasses, Dunn said.

Five members of the team did a special project in Punto Arenas — literally going around to the end of the earth. Punto Arenas is the southernmost city in the world.

The Punto Arenas team was comprised of two nurses who examined school children, a dentist, and a surgeon and surgical nurse who did consultations at the local hospitals.

The five who went to Punto Arenas were greeted by government officials who later expressed deep appreciation for the Baptists, Dunn said.

Missionary Mike Deitz and his family, along with other missionaries, assisted the medical team in Punto Arenas. In addition to conducting clinics, dentist Richard Toland of Arkansas preached each Sunday. Other team members gave testimonies during Sunday School and worship services.

The team's impact was magnified by conferences, radio talk shows, and three articles in the local newspaper, Dunn reported. Dunn said the missionaries there agreed that Chileans in Punto Arenas now know about Baptists and their willingness to serve others in Jesus' name.

In Temuco four pastors conducted revival services each evening. The four medical/dental teams in Temuco each served in two places and experienced a strong bonding among themselves, the Chileans, and the Southern Baptist missionaries, Dunn said.

One of the Temuco teams drove out into the country on three days for rural clinics. In Puyangui there was no electricity. A doctor visits the area only twice each month, Dunn said. He noted a dentist had not been at the clinic for 12 years.

The team experienced some exciting moments, Dunn said. On the first day heavy rains caused their vehicles to get stuck in the mud and a team of oxen was needed to get them out. "The Lord provided a beautiful rainbow at the end of that day," Dunn recalled.

On the second and third days, people came by boat, horseback, ox cart, and on foot to be treated by the medical volunteers. On the final day a Chilean pastor and layman witnessed all day with 12 persons accepting Christ, he said.

— See Medical, page 2

New technology enhances paper; convention coverage next week

This week, in addition to subscribers at home, the *Baptist and Reflector* has readers at the annual session of the Tennessee Baptist Convention in Gatlinburg. We welcome this group, including new readers.

The paper for several weeks has prepared messengers and observers to the convention sessions by printing stories and background information about the TBC. We have tried to present adequate material about the program and potential news-making events.

We have a team of reporters at Gatlinburg who will report to all our readers events and happenings of the TBC. We also will report on the Pastors' Conference, WMU convention, and other meetings.

For several months the staff planned a new look for the paper which debuted in July. Since then we have tried to improve and continue to put a "new face" on the paper. For several weeks the church newsletter pages have been done on Macintosh computers by desktop publishing. The Nov. 11 issue was done by desktop publishing as have many pages in this issue.

With advanced equipment and with sufficient experience, the staff is ready to provide more TBC churches with their newsletters printed weekly in the *Baptist and Reflector*. Interested pastors or church leaders can contact a staff member in Gatlinburg this week or call the Brentwood office at (615) 371-2003. □

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Tennesseans respond to ruling on abortion

For Baptist and Reflector

A Nashville judge's ruling on abortion had both good and bad points, according to pro-life supporters in Tennessee.

Circuit Judge Hamilton Gayden ruled last week that some of Tennessee's abortion restrictions were unconstitutional while others were proper.

Hayden struck down a ruling that a woman must wait 48 hours before undergoing an abortion and that abortions in Tennessee be performed only on state residents.

The Nashville judge, however, upheld that women be notified of the risks and benefits of both abortion and carrying a baby to term, but said that the attending doctor does

not necessarily have to be the person to relay the information.

Also upheld was a requirement that at least one parent of a minor be notified, although he allowed for exceptions at the discretion of the physician. If the doctor suspects child abuse, that requirement can be waived, according to the ruling.

The big gain was parental notification while the big loss was the waiting period, said Bobbie Patray, a member of Two Rivers Church, Nashville, and a legislation representative for Tennessee Eagle Forum, a national pro-family organization.

In a crisis a person tends to make a snap decision, but when given time to reflect that person might make a different decision, Patray ob-

served about the waiting period.

"We feel that for the parental notification to be enforced will be a world of help to girls in a crisis pregnancy because it will give families time to help them and to make good decisions," she said.

Gerald Stow, president of Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, said he is grateful parental consent was upheld.

The law still has strength in it, Stow said.

He noted that while abortion can be fought in the courts, the best thing Tennessee Baptists and churches can do is teach young people how to properly use their bodies and the sanctity of human life.

What effect Gayden's ruling will have is unclear

because a similar case is pending in Chancellor C. Allen High's court in Nashville. No date has been set.

Both cases were filed after a U.S. Supreme Court ruling in June that upheld a woman's basic right to abortion but also allowed some abortion restrictions.

Planned Parenthood, the plaintiff in Hayden's court, challenged abortion access restrictions because it feared district attorneys in Tennessee would begin enforcing the law as a result of the Pennsylvania verdict.

Enforcement of the law has been barred in Tennessee, except Knox County, under an injunction issued by Gayden July 31. □

Medical team ministers in Chile . . .

—Continued from page 1

"The people in Puyangui will remember Tennessee Baptists forever," Dunn predicted.

The trip was especially meaningful to Jim Jenkins, a layman from Brentwood Church, Brentwood, who went as a non-medical volunteer. Because a pastor cancelled, Jenkins was pressed into service as a revival preacher at the Fourth Baptist Church in Temuco, Dunn said.

Dunn noted Jenkins gave "timely messages" to the church. He spoke specifically to the youth of the church who dedicated their lives to Christian service and ministry in the congregation, Dunn said, adding that Jenkins gave a Bible to each youth and also had a special relationship to the children.

"The messages were truly from the Lord because I only had minimal preparation for the messages before I arrived in Chile," Jenkins said.

Missionary Clara Brincefield coordinated the medical team's trip in Chile, enlisting 20 missionaries and other bilingual persons to translate for the medical volunteers.

Betty Wiseman, a Belmont University faculty member and member of Brentwood Church, Brentwood, spent the month of October in Chile, serving as a volunteer assistant under Brincefield. "Our people will never be the same again because they have seen love in action," Brincefield said.

Those volunteers who participated agreed they too would not be the same.

"This was my second experience serving in Chile. The experience on a medical team was

quite different, but very rewarding. I have a great love for God and missions. Each trip just makes you more eager to go again," said Phyllis Bandy, a member of Kingston Pike Church, Lenoir City.

Juanita Hall, a nurse from Bayside Church, Harrison, noted "the blessings we received far outnumbered any

sacrifices we made to make this trip possible."

Jack Sparks, a lab technician from First Church, Paris, noted, "God worked miracles in more ways than a person could ever imagine. I have a tremendous sense of gratitude for God allowing and making this trip possible," he said.

Plans are being made for

another medical team to travel to Chile March 13-21, 1993, Dunn said. For information, contact Dunn at (615) 383-8499. - Adapted from materials provided by Dewey Dunn

CP shows increase

For Baptist Press

NASHVILLE - Southern Baptist Convention Cooperative Program receipts for the first month of the new fiscal year were up 1.28 percent over the previous year's first month, according to Morris H. Chapman, president and chief executive officer of the SBC Executive Committee.

October 1992 receipts, the first month of the 1992-93 fiscal year, were \$10,830,045 compared to October 1991 of \$10,693,592, or a 1.28 percent increase, according to Chapman.

However, the monthly basic operating budget requirement for the month is \$11,683,366, leaving the October CP gifts about 7.9 percent below budget. The 1992-93 Cooperative Program Allocation Budget is \$140,200,395.

Designated gifts for the first month were up a whopping 41.99 percent over last year: \$2,100,758 for October 1992 compared to \$1,479,520 for October 1991.

The Cooperative Program is Southern Baptists' method of supporting missions and ministry efforts of state and regional conventions and the Southern Baptist Convention. Designated contributions include the Lottie Moon and Annie Armstrong offerings, world hunger, and other special gifts. □

71-year-old volunteers

Thomas Drake, a 71-year-old retired pastor who has been in the ministry for 51 years, is still going strong.

Drake, who retired as pastor of First Church, McEwen, in 1987, has continued his ministry.

Three days after retiring at McEwen, he became pastor of the church's Freedom Mission. After the mission closed he served as associate pastor of Immanuel Church, McEwen, until last December.

He has supplied in different pulpits since then. In October, however, he took on a new role - as a Chile missions volunteer.

Drake traveled with a medical team of volunteers and served as a pastor and counselor during the trip.

The Greenbrier native preached revival at El Sembrador Church near Temuco. There were 68 professions of faith during the services, Drake reported.

Drake, who participated on a mission trip to South Korea in 1981, was excited about the effort.

"We came to be a blessing to them, but they were a blessing and encouragement to us," he said.

Drake is a firm believer in

missions. "I encourage people to become involved in the Chile partnership."

"It will change your mind about missions and you will see the good work of our missionaries. They are doing a wonderful job," he affirmed.

Despite his age and the fact he had heart bypass surgery a few years ago, Drake had no qualms about going and was encouraged by family and friends to go.

He noted members of First Church, McEwen, family, and people from the McEwen community contributed financially to his trip.

A highlight for Drake was a commissioning service held by First Church "for their old retired pastor."

Drake praised the medical volunteers for their concern about the people. There is a great need for health care in Chile, he observed.

Drake noted plans are in the works for another health care team to go to Chile next March and he is already planning to go, hopefully, with his wife, Shirley.

"As long as the Lord gives me strength and ability and mind, I'm ready to go," he declared. - By Lonnie Wilkey □

Texas Baptists reject defunding of Baylor, BJC

By Ken Camp
For Baptist Press

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas — Messengers to the Baptist General Convention of Texas decisively rejected attempts to defund Baylor University and the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs and overwhelmingly adopted a \$63.5 million basic Cooperative Program unified budget for 1993.

The 107th annual BGCT, which drew more than 6200 registered messengers to the Bayfront Plaza Convention Center in Corpus Christi, also re-elected Dick Maples, pastor of First Baptist Church, Bryan, to a traditional, second one-year term as convention president.

Billy Sluder, pastor of First Church, Cotulla, introduced the motion to include the budget to delete the \$4 million Cooperative Program allocation for Baylor University and divide the funds equally among the other seven Texas Baptist schools.

On Sept. 21, 1990, the Baylor board of trustees voted to change the university's charter to create a virtually self-perpetuating governing board of regents. Previously, the university had been governed by a 48-member board of trustees elected by the BGCT.

At the 1991 BGCT meeting in Waco, Texas, a record 11,159 messengers approved a new relationship between the convention and Baylor in which the

BGCT elects 25 percent of each class of Baylor's governing board and Baylor elects the remaining 75 percent, giving "due and careful consideration to the suggestions of the BGCT."

Speakers opposing the amendment cited the number of Baylor students preparing for Christian ministry and the university's contributions to Texas Baptist and Southern Baptist life. Supporters of Baylor defunding cited the decreased BGCT representation on the university's governing board.

Ted Tedder of Thousand Oaks Church, San Antonio, introduced the motion to delete from the budget the \$63,000 allocation for the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, the Washington-

based, religious liberty watchdog organization.

The Baptist Joint Committee was defunded in recent years by the national Southern Baptist Convention, and the religious liberty and church-state affairs assignment was transferred to the Christian Life Commission. SBC leaders of the past decade were critical of the Baptist Joint Committee position opposing state-sanctioned prayers in public schools and vouchers for parochial schools.

Speakers for and against the motion to defund the Baptist Joint Committee centered their arguments on whether they felt adequately represented in Washington by the CLC.

"I'm among those Baptists

who no longer feel represented by the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission," said Bill Bruster, pastor of First Baptist Church, Abilene. "But I believe there is room enough in Baptist life for all of us."

The 1993 Cooperative Program budget includes a basic operating goal of \$63.5 million and an additional \$5.3 million challenge goal. It represents no increase over the previous year.

Maples, newly re-elected president of the 2.5 million-member Texas Baptist convention, told reporters at his post-election news conference he would be inclusive in his appointments and "reach out to all Baptists." □

Florida Baptists elect layman, advise Clinton

For Baptist Press

FORT MYERS, Fla. — For the first time in 12 years, a layman has been elected president of the Florida Baptist Convention.

Tim Locher of Hollywood, a pilot for Delta Airlines, received 55 percent of the vote, 594 votes, to 485 votes for the only other nominee, Darrell Orman, pastor of First Church, Stuart.

Locher has served for four years on the convention's board of missions and was vice chairman this past year. He is Sunday School director in his church, Sheridan Hills Church, and was nominated by his pastor, Bill Billingsley, a former state convention president.

In other actions, the 1618 messengers passed a resolution promising to pray daily for fellow Southern Baptist President-elect Bill Clinton and asking him to renounce his "stated intentions to promote abortion on demand and minority status for homosexuals."

The resolution pointed out Florida Baptists repeatedly have affirmed the sanctity of human life and found homosexuality a

contradiction to Scripture.

The response of Florida and Southern Baptists to the victims of Hurricane Andrew, which struck south Dade County in

late August, was featured throughout the annual session. John Sullivan, executive director-treasurer, reported more than 15,000 Baptist volunteers

came to the rescue and that \$1.8 million was received from across the Southern Baptist Convention. Personal testimonies by both volunteers and recipients

were shared and resolutions of appreciation for several persons and state conventions were unanimously adopted. □

Virginian convention approves another financial channel

For Baptist Press

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. — Virginia Baptists have opened an official mechanism for churches in the state to contribute funds to the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

The action, overwhelmingly adopted by messengers attending the Nov. 10-11 annual meeting of the Baptist General Association of Virginia, makes Virginia the first state Baptist convention to forge ties with the organization of moderate Southern Baptists.

Also during the two-day meeting, messengers adopted a resolution encouraging redemptive ministry to homosexuals but refused to modify the statement to parallel an earlier resolution passed by the state association's general board by categorizing homosexual behavior as sinful.

In addition, the 4200 messen-

gers elected retired public school administrator Walter Harrow of Deltaville as president. Harrow, a member of Zoar Church, Deltaville, who was endorsed by the state's "moderates," defeated T.C. Pinckney of Alexandria 2888-877. Pinckney, a retired U.S. Air Force general and member of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, is widely acknowledged as leader of Virginia's "conservative" faction.

Funding for the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship is part of a three-track world missions giving plan incorporated in the \$16,300,000 1993 BGAV budget.

About 65 percent of the total — \$10,590,400 — is allocated for state ministries, partnership missions projects, and an annuity and protection plan for Virginia ministers.

Distribution of the remaining \$5,709,600 will be determined by churches that choose one of three options. "World Missions 1" allocates funds to causes supported by the Southern Baptist Convention's Cooperative Program budget.

"World Missions 2" is evenly divided between SBC CP ministries and selected Baptist causes, including such moderate-supported agencies as Associated Baptist Press, the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, and the Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond.

"World Missions 3" funds the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's "Vision 2000" plan, one of three giving channels administered by the CBF and the only one that exclusively finances CBF ministries.

Virginia churches also may utilize a BGAV constitutional

provision for crafting their own giving plans while remaining members of the state association.

Following unsuccessful attempts to eliminate the CBF giving track and the allocation for the Richmond seminary, messengers adopted the budget by an estimated 75 percent margin.

Virginia joined other state conventions in dealing with homosexuality, perhaps the most controversial topic among Southern Baptists today. The issue emerged last year when one Southern Baptist church in North Carolina ordained a homosexual man and another

blessed the union of a homosexual couple. The SBC subsequently cut ties with both churches.

While Virginia's resolution encourages Baptists "to minister redemptively to all persons, including homosexuals," it does not condemn homosexual behavior. It describes homosexuality as a "difficult issue ... which must be faced by our churches" and acknowledges "the diversity of thought concerning this issue among Virginia Baptists."

"We call upon Virginia Baptists to seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit and the Bible in dealing with this issue," the statement says. □

Oklahoma budget reflects recession

For Baptist Press

MOORE, Okla. — Oklahoma Baptists elected apparently the first Native American to a statewide office during the annual meeting of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma's annual meeting Nov. 9-11.

While approving a resolution endorsing the Cooperative Program, messengers reduced the percentage of their \$17.6 million 1993 budget for CP-funded Southern Baptist home and foreign missions and ministries from 44.25 percent to 42 percent. The 1992 budget totaled \$17 million.

In introducing the recommendation to reduce the CP division, Bill Merrell, member of a committee to study the matter, noted the decision was "not political. It was purely an economic decision" based on a decade of recession in Okla-

homa.

Messengers also approved rescinding a 1987 action requiring the BGCO to adjust its division gradually until it returned to a 50-50 split. Messengers also assigned responsibility for determining future divisions to the budget subcommittee of the board of directors' administrative committee.

Other resolutions adopted by messengers took stands against homosexuality, abortion, and gambling.

In the election for BGCO president, messengers picked Keith Russell, pastor of First Church, Elk City, by a 314-245 vote over Merrell, director of missions for the Comanche-Cotton Association.

Native American Bill Barnett, pastor of Indian Nations Church near Seminole, was elected first vice president over Bobby Boyles, pastor of the host church, First, Moore. □



LEADING TENNESSEE VALLEY Association during the annual meeting were, from left, Clyde Fitzgerald, pastor, First Church, Grayville, moderator; Judy Hughes, New Union Church, clerk; and Director of Missions Omer Painter. — Photo by Lonnie Wilkey

■ Sunday School lesson commentary

□ Israel's rejection of God's message— Bible Book Series for November 22

By Mike Kemper, pastor, Green River Church, Waynesboro

This lesson teaches us that because God has gone to such lengths to share His message, people have no excuse when they reject it. A key word in this lesson is "righteousness." Chapter 9 ended with a paradox — the Jews had sought righteousness, but did not find it; while the Gentiles, who did not search for it, found it! The Jews wanted righteousness, but they tried to attain it in the wrong way.

People today are not much different. Many make great efforts, but fail because they believe God will accept them for their good works. Man is interested in righteousness, but is confused about what brings righteousness our way. Paul described a "works-righteousness" and "faith-righteousness."

The Jews, in their ignorance,

would not submit to the faith-righteousness required by God (v. 3). They rejected Christ and held on to the works-righteousness. They failed to realize the law was God's plan to prepare the way for the coming of the Messiah, and that the Messiah's coming ended the dominion of law for righteousness. When Jesus finished salvation's work on the cross, the law was no longer the way God would deal with His people. The "new covenant" was established between God and man.

I am thankful our relationship with God is based not on law, but on what Jesus did for me on the cross. Jesus ended man's need to keep the law to be accepted by God (v. 4). Lost sinners, Jews or Gentiles, however, are still condemned by the law. "The strength of sin is the law.

But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ," (I Corinthians 15:56-57).

Paul used the Old Testament passage from Leviticus 8:15 to describe law-righteousness (v. 5). The faith-righteousness of verses 6-8 is explained by referring to Deuteronomy 30:12-14. The Deuteronomy passage tells that God's Word is readily available to the sinner. The Word is near to us. We do not have to go to heaven or descend to the depths of the sea to find God's Word. The Word is on our lips and in our hearts. If anyone is willing to "confess with the mouth ... and believe in their heart" (v. 9) that Christ is alive from the dead, that person can be saved. The things believed in the heart will be confessed with the mouth (v. 10).

Paul continued in verse 11 by quoting Isaiah 28:16 to show salvation comes by faith that is not ashamed. The Jews would not like the word "whosoever" in verses 11 and 13. They considered themselves God's "chosen people." Paul cited the Old Testament passage of Joel 2:32 to prove that "whoever" may call

apart from the Word of God, for "faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God," (v. 17). Did Israel not know? (v. 19) They had the Word. They should have known. Paul used Moses' words in Deuteronomy 32:21 to tell them God provoked Israel to jealousy by the other nations, calling them "a no people."

He also called Isaiah 65:1-2 as his second witness (v. 20) against Israel. The Lord said Israel would be disobedient, but other nations, though not looking, would find Him and have salvation. See God's attitude toward Israel, then and now. Even though the Jews are in darkness, disobedience, and unbelief, God still stretches forth His hand to Israel and all the lost. God's salvation is available to all who call on the name of the Lord! □

Basic Passage Romans 9:30 — 10:21

upon Christ and thus be saved. Faith in Jesus Christ is the "key" to salvation available to everyone. Human effort, "good looks," nor "good works" meet God's requirement. However, the Lord is eager to respond to any who come to Him by faith to accept His gift of grace.

The significance of verses 14-17 is that none can be saved

□ Micah: Prophet of righteousness — Convention Uniform Series for November 22

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

The prophet Micah ministered in Judah, but his message pertained to Israel (Samaria) and Judah. His name means "Who is like Yahweh?" and the period was during the reigns of several eighth century BC kings, especially Hezekiah.

Although Micah was from an obscure village and his long preaching ministry was summarized in just seven chapters, he spoke to common folks, just as pastors in small country churches do today. Even 100 years after his death, he helped save the life of the prophet Jeremiah (Jeremiah 26:18-19), and even later showed the Magi the location of the birth of the Messiah (Matthew 2:5-6). Jesus quoted him when commissioning His disciples (Matthew 10:35-36).

These were dangerous times. In the fifth year of Hezekiah's reign in Judah, the northern

kingdom fell to the armies of Assyria (721 BC). Then pressure began to mount against Jerusalem. There were internal problems as well.

What does it take to be significant to God — large crowds, material success, many friends, prominence, church growth? Micah answered the question.

Judgment and hope ch. 1:2-5:15

The setting was a courtroom to which the Lord called peoples of the whole earth to hear His witness against Samaria and Judah. Typical of Old Testament prophets, Micah spoke in apocalyptic imagery of the coming of the Lord to confront His people (1:2-4). The fates of Samaria and Judah were described (1:6-16). Chapters 2 and 3 identify sins including idolatry; oppression of the poor by the wealthy; and abuses by

rulers, prophets, and priests.

Micah turned his message toward the glorious hope for the future in chapter 4:1 ("in the last days"), the time of universal blessings under the divine Leader (5:2-5a), Jesus Christ.

God's requirements ch. 6:1-8

After that sublime word of hope, Micah returned to the immediate situation. There again was the courtroom scene. The Lord had a complaint against Israel that had gone unheeded. Always His purpose is to reason with people so they might repent and live (Isaiah 1:18). Note the dramatic form of this section: the introduction by the prophet (vv. 1-2), the plea by the Lord (vv. 3-5), the complaint by the people (vv. 6-7), and the prophet's interruption and reminder (v. 8).

The Lord called on Israel to

voice complaints they had against Him (v. 3). After reminders of His saving acts on behalf of a sinful nation, the people responded sarcastically, as if to say, "Is there anything at all that will please this tyrant?" They had carried out ritual and sacrifice "religiously." What more could God want? They suggested blasphemously that perhaps He was like one of the pagan gods, demanding human sacrifice (v. 7c).

At this point Micah interrupted their tirade (v. 8). Their sin was not ignorance or neglect. It was rebellion, because God had His requirements clear. They were without excuse.

What does God require? "Justice" (fair dealings with others) and "kindness" (intentionally finding ways to do good to others) were social requirements.

"Walk humbly with your God" stressed a humility coming from an understanding of who God is and who we are, with an active trust and obedience relationship. The twofold stress cannot be separated, as the New Testament clearly shows (Matthew 5:23-24; I Corinthians 11:27-33; James 1:26-27). Is God impressed with the beautiful

Basic Passage Micah 6

surroundings and performances in churches today? Is worship to be confined to a place, leaving the rest of life unaffected? Is Micah's message being followed in church and denominational disputes by all parties involved? True religious expression includes right dealings with fellow men and humble service to the Father (Matthew 22:36-40). □

□ Serve with courage — Life and Work Series for November 22

By James Hulston, pastor, First Church, Rockwood

This is the last lesson from I and II Timothy. As far as we know, this is Paul's last correspondence to his young son in the ministry. Did Paul know this would be his last correspondence to Timothy? There is no certainty at this point. What is evident is that Paul knew his time was short.

Paul's final charge to Timothy — vv. 1-5

Earlier Paul charged Timothy to be impartial in his dealings with church affairs (I Timothy 5:21). In II Timothy 4:1, Paul charged Timothy to remember his ministry is to be performed in the presence of God and Jesus Christ. All of us must serve, not for the plaudits of men but for the approval of God.

Verse 2 has five imperatives. Preach the word reminded

Timothy that the subject of his preaching was the Gospel. Be prepared in and out of season means that the Christian is always on duty. Every moment of every day must be seized as an opportunity for service. This includes preaching, but it involves much more.

Reprove means to correct. Paul used the same word in I Timothy 5:20. This word is best used in the context of Christian discipline. Rebuke contains the idea of censure. When one Christian offers rebuke to another believer, it must be on the basis of Scripture, not our personal prejudices. All rebuke must be done in Christian love.

Exhort means to encourage.

All these imperatives are to be done with patience (manner) and doctrine (method).

Verses 3 and 4 are reminders

that some will not heed sound doctrine, but rather turn away from the truth. Spiritual discernment on the part of every believer is absolutely essential for spiritual health.

Paul returned to his theme in verse 5. Be watchful. Keep your eyes open, your mind alert, and your ears attuned like a sentry on guard.

Endure sufferings like a good soldier (ch. 2:3). Be an evangelist. This involves winning the lost and developing the saved. All these terms in verses 2 and 5 are part of total ministry.

Paul's triumphant assertion vv. 6-8

How wonderful it is to come to the end of life and be able to say, "I am ready to be offered. I have fought a good fight. I have finished my course. I have kept the faith. Look what I am going

to receive — the crown of righteousness." I believe Paul referred to the crown which is the reward of a righteous man.

All of us are going to die. It is a sure fact. When we are young, we think we will live forever. As we get older, we become more certain of our own frailties. But during the time between youth

Basic Passage: II Timothy 4

and death, which may be short or long in years, there is a fight to be fought, a race to be run, and a faith to keep. Paul's triumphant assertion was the result of a life of faithfulness.

Desertion and deliverance vv. 16-18

In verses 9-13, Paul made some personal requests and observations. Twice, in verses 9

and 21, Paul urged Timothy to come to him and bring Paul's cloak and parchments.

In verses 16-18, Paul told Timothy that no one came to his support when he appeared on trial. Paul was not bitter over this desertion. He testified to divine assistance in verses 17 and 18. The danger was great. "I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion." Paul testified that God would deliver and bring him safely to His heavenly kingdom. When Paul remembered God's heavenly kingdom, he broke out in a doxology, (v. 18c).

This lesson is a reminder of Paul's courage. Courage comes in many forms; but all God's children should be courageous, not because of our own strength, wisdom, or resources, but because God can bring us safely to His heavenly kingdom. □

Less whining, more gratitude needed on Thanksgiving

Americans have a holiday coming up, and it should be instead a holy day. Why is this so?

The day in question of course is Thanksgiving Day. On the secular calendar it ranks right up there with Independence Day, Labor Day, perhaps Easter, and, oh yes, Christmas.

"Holidays" have a way of losing significance because we divert the real reason for observing them. They become an escape from work, a time for relaxing, a change of pace.

As we celebrate Thanksgiving next week, it is appropriate to recall the examples of gratitude given by pilgrims in the new land. It is also appropriate to hearken to God's Word with other revelations of the receivers' thankful hearts.

Did not Jesus point to one of the healed lepers, the grateful one, and ask the whereabouts of the other nine?

Did not Jesus refer to the penniless widow who emptied out the last coin from her purse, for him, as giving more than the richest? They gave from their surplus, he said to the disciples; the widow gave from an extravagant heart.

When the lame man at the temple gate asked Peter and John for money, did not Peter answer that he had neither silver nor

gold, but that because of Jesus, the man would be able to walk?

There are corollaries affixed to giving and receiving. Even in our language we mention giving — then receiving. Doesn't Scripture tell us that giving is more precious to our lives than is receiving?

In one concordance, the verb "give" and its tenses use six full pages. Over and over again, we read about the blessings given to man by God.

The psalmists praise God continuously, and number countless blessings received! Where are the grateful hearts of our time?

The story of the first expressions of those early thanksgiving days are part of our heritage, but we have earlier evidences of special occasions for praise and thanks.

It seems that we have abandoned our feelings of gratitude and developed a new practice of selfish propensity. We want what we want when we want it. By the way, there seems to be a general attitude that we deserve the blessings we seek.

The era of looking out for "Number One" now has an added dimension. We have become a nation of whiners and worshipers of success and material gratification.

Before being written off as a doomsayer, we hasten to recognize the not so vocal minority of thankful people. The number

needs to be increasing.

Many citizens are quick to place blame on government, local and national. However, the fault lies with all of us.

Christians can make a difference in our world. We do not have to be selfish. We do not have to be whiners. We do not have to be Number One. We do not have to assess blame.

Certainly in our own state, Tennessee Baptists have opportunity and responsibility to be salt and light. We can live the thankful life. We can tell others our reasons from being debtors to Christ. We can freely give, and be thankful, because we have received freely.

The best way to expose our thankful hearts is to be vulnerable, as was our Lord. Let the proud know. Tell the unsaved. Let fellow Christians know the reality of Jesus Christ in our lives. Let those in other denominations see that Christ living in us is our foremost reason for being thankful. Tell it from the mountains.

Next week all Christians can observe Thanksgiving Day, or we can celebrate our joy and gratitude. Once again, as we meet with family or friends, or ask the lonely and homeless to join us, let voices and hearts be raised to the Almighty Savior God. Let praises ring. □

By Wm.
Fletcher
Allen,
editor

■ one word more

By Wm. Fletcher Allen
editor

Life in living colors

Normal, that's how it began, an ordinary day. But soon I realized something ethereal and boundless was beginning.

It happened after I was out on the road. I paused and half-turned, a backward glance over the shoulder.

There it was. Spread across a fourth of sky-space, in triumphant, sheer majesty, God had splashed one of his memorable rainbows. We have all seen rainbows on a summer's day, stretched from horizon to horizon, often with darker clouds of contrast backdrop-ping the spans of colors.

But listen, this bold brilliance was glorifying a cold fall morning. It was daring those who looked to grab hold of stunning serendipity.

I pitied the sleepy people who slept on, unaware of God's display soaring far above the rooftops. A few other brave partakers of early morn were hustling about, scurrying toward the work places. My planned direction put my back to the awesome presence in the "untrespassed sanctity of space." And, while I could not go there to touch the splendor, my eyes brought it down to me. I stored it for future joy.

A few brave drops of rain reminded me of the reason for the name, rainbow. The sun was slipping away from its bondage, becoming more and more visible. The gaudy rainbow stayed almost forever, arrayed against silver plumes.

I turned for one last look. It faded, ever so gently. And then it was gone.

The glory I had seen in the sky was but a prelude to the dazzling brilliance that was to come — to stay. I waited, and blessed the moment.

Though I am a reluctant child of God's at times. I like his ways. I could not reach out and take hold of that rainbow beauty, but I could put it as treasure in my heart's safe place. It's there, secure.

And I could not adequately explain the sun's sudden appearance, but I lived in its light all the day long. I marked the moment.

I can still see that cascade of colors, and I live in the Son's presence in life and work he has given me to do. Amen! □

Georgians elect Robert White as executive director

Baptist Press

MACON, Ga.—Ignoring those who said it couldn't be done, the Georgia Baptist Convention's

■ just for today

By Fred Wood
pastor emeritus
Eudora Church, Memphis

Start with a smile —

"Doctor," said the woman, "my husband has a problem. He thinks he's a space satellite." "Unless I can see him personally, I can't do much to help him." "You can," she replied. "He'll be passing overhead in about two hours."

Take this truth with you —

We all have problems! Some of them are with others and some are with ourselves. Resolve today you will get along with people. Don't force your frustrations upon them or make them miserable because of your insecurities!

Memorize this Scripture —

"Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God" (Matthew 5:9).

Pray this Prayer —

Help me to understand who's to blame every time an unpleasant situation arises. If I am at fault, help me to be tolerant. □

executive committee voted unanimously Nov. 9 to elect Paducah, Ky., pastor J. Robert White as GBC's new executive director-treasurer.

White, pastor of First Church in Paducah and a former pastor of Tabernacle Church in Carrollton, Ga., told the committee he was not looking for a job. "I have a wonderful church — we have had a marvelous 11 years," he said. "The only reason I would ever consider (the GBC position) is if God is in it. I feel God is in this."

The committee evidently agreed, electing White without dissent or opposition. The standing vote revealed a united committee, meeting in its traditional pre-convention session.

The meeting came less than 60 days after the committee elected Home Mission Board administrator Gary S. Jones by a 69-34 vote after a heated and divisive debate. Jones subsequently declined to accept the position, citing the split vote.

Search committee chairman James M. Ramsey, pastor of First Church in Albany, presented White to the committee, citing his pastoral spirit, commitment to missions, and effectiveness in supporting Southern Baptists' Cooperative Program for funding national and international missions and ministry. White's Paducah church ranked second in Kentucky CP giving, with over \$300,000 in 1991-1992 contributions.

White identified himself as

"unaligned" in the Southern Baptist controversy. "When one becomes aligned, it becomes difficult to minister to persons of both perspectives." He said he will "move to crisis points" within the convention and described his style of leadership as "shepherding."

Addressing what has become an issue in some state conventions, White said he remains

firmly committed to the Cooperative Program. "I have felt so strongly — even more strongly in recent years — that we are mandated to remain faithful to the Cooperative Program," he stated, adding he will oppose moves toward designation. "Our convention is the most wonderful evangelical body. We need to maintain our strength." □

Daily prayer requests for Chile/Tennessee Partnership

November —

- 18 — Pray for new missionaries, Hawk and Carol Hawkins, who recently arrived in Santiago to begin their ministry. Pray for them as they continue to learn Spanish and adjust to their new lifestyles.
- 19 — Pray for Caroline Agullo, a young lady who accepted Christ in Caldera during a recent evangelistic effort.
- 20 — Praise God for the response to our medical/dental team who served in Temuco in October!
- 21 — Prayer is asked for Juan Lara and family who serve as foreign missionaries from Chile to Ecuador. Pray for continued help as they adjust to the city of Esmeraldas. Also pray for the family's health.
- 22 — Happy birthday today to missionary Victor Lyons! Pray the Lord's direction for him.
- 23 — Missionary Bill Clark asks for prayer for Gustavo Gutierrez and his wife, Sandra, as they serve in Huepil.
- 24 — Pray birthday blessings for Grundy Janes today as he serves as a missionary educator in Chile.
- 25 — Pray that God would now be preparing a pastor for the Nueva Esperanza Baptist Church in Arica. Missionary Dave Grossman will be pastoring this church until next furlough.



Necessities, not frills, top missionaries' wish lists

By Susan Doyle
For Baptist and Reflector

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle action figures. Men's neckwear. Nylon warm-up suits. Movies.

These are four of the items Americans raced to purchase last Christmas.

Retailers say it is too early to know what "hot" items will grab the attention and money of shoppers this Christmas. But if their projections are accurate, millions of gift recipients will be smiling on Christmas morning as will retailers who expect to increase their sales six percent above last year, according to reports in *The Wall Street Journal*.

Another group of gift recipients can't be so certain about Christmas "gifts" or the bottom line. They aren't asking for luxurious items or those some would consider "frills." They're asking instead for gifts which are basic to their work — building materials, tires, computers, refrigerators, etc.

This "wish list" is the one held by Southern Baptist foreign missionaries and Foreign Mission Board administrators. They, like retailers, are waiting to see if the bottom line will be up from last year.

Retailers, who depend on gift-giving during the Christmas season for the bulk of their profits, are not unlike the Foreign Mission Board. The Foreign Mission Board depends heavily on gifts from Southern Baptists given through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions.

The goal for this year's Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is \$84 million. A week of prayer for this year's offering, which is built around the theme, "Declare Hope," is set for Nov. 29-Dec. 6. Tennessee Baptists' goal for the annual offering is \$7 million.

The offering currently provides 46 percent of the board's annual budget while the Cooperative Program provides 38 percent. The Cooperative Program is the Southern Baptist Convention's unified plan of giving.

The board's yearly budget is set based on the goal for the offering, not actual offering receipts. Should offering receipts fall short of the goal, the FMB budget has to be reduced — something that has been done every year for the past ten years. The last year Southern Baptists reached the goal was 1981.

"Some Southern Baptists are

surprised to learn that the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is not money that is over and above the Foreign Mission Board budget," said Carl Johnson, FMB vice president and treasurer. "We depend on the offering to provide missionary support and items they need to work with."

giving through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering," he said. "It's a good news, bad news problem."

The missionaries Southern Baptists have appointed depend on the income from the annual offering.

"The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering holds us up so we can

foreign missionaries have made plans to expand their ministries using every dollar of the \$84 million offering goal. They are looking to Southern Baptists for help.

These are examples of ways missionaries will use the 1992 Lottie Moon Offering money:

- To buy and distribute tracts and Bibles.
- To purchase gasoline for automobiles.
- To pay for language instruction.
- To rent a building for worship services.
- To roof a church.
- To buy Sunday School literature.
- To buy a film projector.
- To provide a library for a seminary.

Each of the 3897 Southern Baptist foreign missionaries serving in 126 countries has a list of how he or she could effectively use the 1992 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering money.

"An \$84 million goal may sound like a lot of money," said Johnson. "However, it isn't much when you consider that if the goal is reached, Southern Baptists will have spent only 2.4 cents on each of the 3.5 billion non-Christian people of the world." □

**Week of prayer
for
Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
Nov. 29- Dec. 6**

**National goal: \$84 million
Tennessee Baptist goal:
\$7 million**

The entire amount given through the offering is used in the overseas budget. None of the money is used for administrative or promotional costs at the Foreign Mission Board headquarters in Richmond, Johnson said.

"Through the years, Southern Baptists have appointed missionaries at a faster rate than they have increased their

declare hope," said Tennessee Jeff Palmer of Waverly, an agricultural missionary to the Philippines.

"The majority of the people we work with are impoverished in both the spiritual area and the physical area. The hope that we've been able to offer them is in Jesus Christ," Palmer said.

This year, Southern Baptist

TENNESSEE A DECADE OF DECLARING HOPE

1982 \$ 3,682,810

1983 \$ 3,954,465

1984 \$ 4,372,080

1985 \$ 4,726,349

1986 \$ 4,931,136

1987 \$ 5,034,606

1988 \$ 5,868,125

1989 \$ 5,979,905

1990 \$ 5,756,315

1991 \$ 6,329,563

Gifts to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

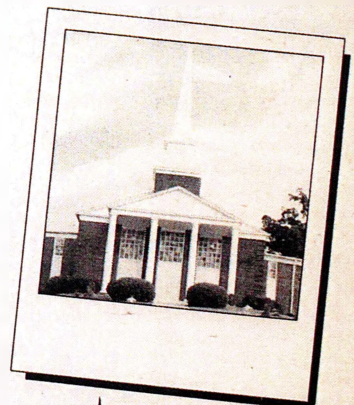
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TenneScene ■ the people, their work

■ the churches

■ Benny Jackson will lead revival Nov. 22-25 at **Calvary Church, Kingsport**.

■ Moody Adams will speak at a one-day revival Nov. 22 at **Park Avenue Church, Nashville**.

■ **Central Church, Hixson**, will hold a one-day fall revival with evangelist Bill Stafford Nov. 22.

■ Henry Linginfelter, Alcoa, recently led revival at **First Church, Mt. Juliet**, during which 40 people made professions of faith. Jim McNeil, St. Louis, was music evangelist.

■ Phil Glisson, Memphis, led revival Nov. 8-11 at **Riverside Church, Harri-man**.

■ As an alternative to Halloween, **Immanuel Church, Lawrenceburg**, sponsored a party featuring a favorite Bible character costume contest and carnival games for the church's youth and adults.

■ Nathan Pillow, evangelism director for the Arizona Baptist Convention, and John

Norvell, minister of music at First Church, Bemis, recently led revival at **First Church, Lexington**. There were 17 professions of faith and four additions to the church by letter. Two people dedicated their lives to special ministry.

■ Members of **Mount Sinai Church, Buchanan**, are enjoying the facilities of a new fellowship hall with Sunday School and nursery space.

■ A youth revival will be Nov. 20-22 at **Sand Ridge Church, Lexington**. It will be led by a team from Union University, Jackson.

■ the leaders

■ **Nathan Powers** was licensed to the Gospel ministry Nov. 8 at Lascassas Church, Lascassas. He was recently called as youth pastor at Eagleville Church, Eagleville. He is the son of James Powers, Concord Association director of missions.

■ **Buck Morton** will assume the pastorate of Fairview Church, Paris, Nov. 29.

■ **Steve Shirk** has been

called as associate pastor/worship and youth at New Harmony Church, Paris.

■ Members of Central Church, Johnson City, recently voted to call **Ronald J. Springate** as church business administrator.

■ **John Garnand** is serving as interim music director at First Church, Bluff City.

■ **Doe River Church, Elizabethton**, called **Jim Lindsay**, formerly pastor of Riverview Church, Elizabethton, as pastor.

■ **Ronnie Campbell** is the new pastor of Beck Mountain Church, Elizabethton. He was pastor of Little Milligan Church, Butler, for nine years.

■ **Kreg Smith** assumed the pastorate of Little Doe Church, Butler, in October. He formerly was a chaplain at Baptist Hospital, Knoxville.

■ **Virgil Bennett**, pastor of Bethel Church, Johnson City, was recently ordained to the Gospel ministry at Harmony Church, Elizabethton.

■ **Jimmy Hutton** is the new pastor of Center Point Church, Charleston.

■ **Blue Springs Church, Cleveland**, called **Douglas Snyder** as pastor.

■ **First Church, Smithville**, ordained **Billy Hawkins Jr.**, to the Gospel ministry. He is pastor of Hobson Pike Church, Mount Juliet.

■ **Jerry Osborn**, pastor of Malones Chapel Church, Alexandria, was ordained to the Gospel ministry Nov. 15 at Mount Zion Church, Liberty.

■ **Frank Webb** is serving as interim pastor of Prosperity Church, Auburntown.

■ **Dowelltown Church, Dowelltown**, called **Don Rigsby** as interim pastor.

■ the people

■ **Paul Stout and Lonnie Estep Jr.**, were ordained to the deacon ministry of Calvary Church, Elizabethton.

■ **West End Church, Fayetteville**, ordained **Jacky Childress and Larry Gardner** as deacons.

■ **Southside Church, Martin**, recently ordained **Billy Fuqua and Phil Wade** to the



JANICE BOLLES recently received a plaque and gift certificate in recognition of 20 years service as church pianist at the West End Church, Fayetteville, from Pastor Mike Johnson.

deacon ministry.

■ **Larry Comer** was recently ordained as a deacon at First Church, Selmer.

■ **Patrick Milam**, a student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., will be ordained to the Gospel ministry Nov. 22 at First Church, Tullahoma.

■ **James Smith** was recently ordained as deacon at First Church, Middleton.

Tennessee Sampler ■ views, insights

Prayer as important as Bible to life

Charles Wm. Brown, pastor First Church, Maryville

In Baptist life, prayer ranks next to the Bible in terms of perceived importance. However, like the Bible, we spend a great deal more time talking about prayer than we do actually praying. Prayer is not unknown to us. We sprinkle it throughout both worship services as well as the Sunday School. We even designate Wednesday evening as "prayer meeting." It is ironic that when we announce prayer only (thus, suspending Bible study or special programs) the attendance is reduced sharply.

In the hectic pace of modern life, we neglect prayer the most. It is the one thing that we need the most. Prayer is the holy dynamic that feeds and sustains the Christian life and the fellowship called church.

An effective practitioner of prayer, Henri Nouwen, says, "We have accepted the idea that 'doing things' is more important than prayer and have come to think of prayer as something for times when there is nothing urgent to do."

Honesty forces us to admit that he is right. Our compulsive behavior fueled by a frantic culture makes it difficult to practice the discipline of prayer. Paul Tournier, Swiss physician and author, was asked how he

could spend time in prayer with such a heavy workload. He replied, "With my demanding schedule, how can I afford not to spend time in prayer."

Nouwen adds, "Prayer requires that we stand in God's presence with open hands, naked and vulnerable, proclaiming to ourselves and to others that without God we can do nothing. This is difficult in a climate where the predominant counsel is 'Do your best and God will do the rest.' When life is divided into 'our best' and 'God's rest,' we have turned prayer into a last resort to be used only when all our own resources are depleted."

Real prayer is not a convenient first-aid kit for emergency use only. It is the recognition that God is the source of all our strength, hope, courage, and confidence. As such, it is as vital as the very air that we breathe. □

Evidences of autumn proclaim God

Raymond Atwood
director of missions
Loudon County Association

It is still dark outside as I stand on our sundeck porch looking east toward the Great Smoky Mountains. Just across the Tennessee River the leaves are turning. Autumn has come to our valley here in East Tennessee.

Massive thunderclouds loom

over the peaks directly in front of me, an ominous sign this early in the day. These anvil-shaped thunderheads are different. Lifted by enormously powerful convective currents, they soar to more than five miles where winds aloft smear their tops to resemble finely carded wool. A deceptively benign appearance, dangerous storms brew inside these clouds, and I watch them roll higher, amassing power and violence. There will be no flying today. If I am to see the autumn colors, it will be by auto, not in my Cessna 172.

By daybreak I was driving into Cades Cove. Hidden in a valley on the west side of the mountains, in the southeastern corner of Tennessee, is one of the most beautiful sights one can see. Maples mingle with oaks and green pine form some of the unusual sights of the day. In October this secluded valley boasts an autumn spectacle as fine as any. A variety of colorful foliage competes for attention, but the host of colorful maples wins out with a vibrant display of fiery hues, ranging from deep red to brilliant gold.

From Cades Cove to Mt. LeConte is a spectacular drive. Walking in a grove of multi-colored trees on the slopes of Newfound Gap, I gazed up through a canopy of golden leaves. A cold dawn breeze rattles the treetops as if in greeting. I rise, walk through the chill dew of morning and look

out over the bright fabric of the mountains into North Carolina.

The earth smells musty beneath its carpet of newly fallen leaves. I sat down in a small clearing and stared into the sky as clouds race overhead, curling back on themselves like huge piles of cotton. The wind rises and sails through the trees. Maples leaves spin and wheel in the mountain air like swarms of yellow butterflies.

I walked up a hiking trail through a canopy of moss-covered trees not far from the 6200 foot summit, the wind in my hair, the clouds galloping across the fractured ridgeline like wild stallions. Gazing out at the brown contour interspersed with green timber and multi-colored trees, I knew autumn

had come to the Great Smoky Mountains of Tennessee.

Deep within the heart of the mountains, summer's fierce throb is stilled now in the throes of autumn, its crystal breath caressing mountain slopes and meadow, igniting a blush of muted colors flung against the backdrop of the heavens. The very air is hushed and waiting, and beyond hovers the sky dome. This is God's way of telling us that life is almost over for this season. Soon will come the snows with winter's icy sapphires covering the mountain peaks.

If I had no Bible or any other written record of God Almighty, I would still turn my head toward the heavens and cry out, "O, God, How Great Thou Art!" □

Church celebrates 24 new 'children'

David Livingston Jr., pastor, First Church, Smithville

What a year we have had at First Baptist Church! God used us to lead the Salem Association in baptisms. Would you ever think that God would use us to give birth to 24 new souls and the opportunity to see them grow in the Lord. My heart is full of joy for you in all the work you have done in winning people to Jesus Christ.

Ben Franklin wanted to install street lighting in Philadelphia, but knew the city fathers would refuse to pay the price.

So he hung a beautiful lantern on a long bracket in front of his house.

People, stumbling in the dark, rejoiced in Franklin's well-lit area. Soon his neighbors did as he did. Before long the whole city saw the value of street lighting.

Franklin achieved what he wanted by example, without arguments. For one example is worth a thousand arguments.

No wonder the Bible says, "Be an example in speech, in life, in love, and in faith."

My prayer for you - Help us, Father, by lip and by life to draw others to you. Keep us, we pray you, from driving others away from you. Make our lives wholesome and winsome. □



WILSON COUNTY ASSOCIATION met at Gladeville and Fall Creek churches. Billy Trice, left, was elected moderator. From left, Trice; Kenneth Griffin, clerk; Don Elmore, vice moderator; Arlie Pass, treasurer; and Robert Agee, director of missions. Russ Stephens gave a Bible study at each session.



STONE ASSOCIATION on Oct. 27 accepted its first Black church into membership. Moderator Ken Altom presented two pastors of the church, Leroy Jackson, center, founder of Trinity Church more than 40 years ago, and current pastor Earl Dirksen. Pastor Jackson is 102 years old. Two new missions were recognized, Crossroads Chapel and University Heights. Colonial View Church was accepted, and Dillards Creek will be under watchcare for a year.

Associations look back, forward

Most of Tennessee's 68 associations — areas often based on county lines in which Baptists cooperate — gather during autumn to conduct business. The following is a summary of actions.

Resolutions

The recent election of James Porch as executive director-treasurer, Tennessee Baptist Convention, was affirmed by Shelby County Association. Opposition to the action of the TBC Executive Board to vote before the announced date was stated by **Riverside**.

The sanctity of life and sin of abortion was confirmed by **Stone, Dyer, and William Carey**.

Homosexuality was condemned by **Central, Dyer, and William Carey**.

Stone supported the Tennessee/Chile Partnership and **Central** affirmed the Cooperative Program.

Messengers in **Robertson County** and **William Carey**, voiced opposition to legalized alcohol. **Dyer** messengers endorsed efforts by Citizens for a Better Dyer County and the

association's Christian Life Committee against liquor by the drink. **Stone** went on record against a Nov. 3 referendum which was approved.

Opposition to pornography was expressed by **William Carey** and **Bledsoe**. **Bledsoe** called for a boycott against K-Mart stores, owner of Waldenbooks, which the association's Christian Life director accused of selling pornography.

Growing in congregations

Twelve associations added churches. All but two added one church — **Nashville** added four

and **Stone** added three, one a black church.

Big Hatchie added a church but already reports it hopes to add another soon. Gateway Mission, which has just begun meeting, will be the first new church in 33 years which is not a division from an existing church, reported Director of Missions Ira Perkins.

Missions

A World Missions Conference was held by **Nolachucky** in conjunction with the annual meeting.

By coordinating the timing of the meeting with the depar-

ture of a **Lawrence County** missions team, 14 volunteers were commissioned before leaving for Florida.

Haywood reported a record 128 missions volunteers went out last year.

McMinn-Meigs members did construction work in churches in Decatur, Riceville, and Lakeside Chapel. Outside Tennessee they sent volunteers to Colorado, New Jersey, Russia, Chile, and several teams to Michigan, South Carolina, and Florida to assist victims of Hurricane Andrew.

Western District adopted the "1000 Club" to raise funds for missions through memberships at \$20 per year.

A ministry to Asian Indians, which number about 500 in the Dyersburg area, was endorsed by **Dyer**. It is led by Bansi Brahmabhatt.

Beech River voted to raise funds to help a mission in Franklin, La., damaged by Hurricane Andrew.

A team of six from **Loudon County** reported plans to work in Tanzania next year. During the past year 21 worked in Antigua, Chile, France, Russia, and Venezuela.

Guests representing the Michigan/Tennessee Partnership at the **Bledsoe** meeting were Tom Martin, associational missionary coordinator of Bay Area Association, along with three pastors.

Growing in other ways

Churches in **Jefferson County** baptized 17.8 percent more than last year; gave 17.8 percent more to missions; and gave 11.8 percent more to the Cooperative Program, the SBC funds distribution plan.

Simultaneous revivals in 1995 were set by **Cumberland**.

Top enrollment increases among churches in **New Duck River** were Smyrna — 37 percent, Hurricane Grove — 35 percent, and El Bethel — 25 percent.

Haywood reported 127 percent increase in baptisms.

Chilhowee began long range planning.

Increases in all but one church program marked reports by **Riverside**. Top statistics include Sunday School — up 204, Church Music — 107, and Discipleship Training — 74. □

Honored —

■ Mary Williams, retiring clerk/treasurer/association secretary of **Haywood** after 17 years

■ J. C. Lewis, director of missions, and Ann, associational secretary, **Bledsoe**, on their retirement Jan. 31, 1993

■ Charles McMinn, church development director, **Nashville**, on his retirement

■ Ira and Mary Alice Berry, managers of Watauga lodge at Ridgcrest Conference

Center for 20 years on retirement

■ G. W. Moon, pastor, New Hope Church, Lathan, as **Weakley County** bivocational pastor of the year

■ Pat Amos, office secretary, **Loudon County**, for 25 years of service

■ Frank Edwards, pastor, Hannah's Gap Church; for 39 years of pastoral ministry; and J.L. Baker, pastor, Immanuel Church, for 25 years, by **New Duck River** □



PRESIDING DURING the 69th annual session of Madison-Chester Association were, from left, Bill Northcott, associate pastor, West Jackson Church, Jackson, vice moderator; Director of Missions Herbert Higdon; and Elzie Donley, pastor, Mallesus Church, Jackson, moderator.



LEADERS OF BIG HATCHIE Association who directed business at the Oct. 19-20 meetings were, from left, Ira Perkins, director of missions; M. B. Howard, newly elected moderator; and Cliff Sweat Jr., moderator. Messengers gathered at Beaver and Oak Grove churches.

Stoneway Acres 'gift' a dream come true for couple

By Lonnie Wilkey
For Baptist and Reflector

NASHVILLE — A dream came true for Gene and Joy Nabi during the annual banquet of Baptist Homes for Exceptional Persons Nov. 5 at Two Rivers Church.

During the banquet, Stoneway Acres, a Christian group home for eight mentally handicapped men in Lebanon, officially was given to Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes.

About six years ago the Nabis, members of First Church, Nashville, led in establishing Baptist Homes for Exceptional Persons, a private, non-profit organization which is dedicated to providing Christian group homes for persons with mental handicaps in Middle Tennessee. Joy Nabi is BHEP president.

BHEP, which is operated by a board of directors, all members of Middle Tennessee Baptist churches, bought a house and six and one half acres of land in Lebanon. In 1990 the facility was opened as Stoneway Acres. Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes has worked with BHEP and Stoneway Acres in an advisory role.

In 1988 messengers to the Tennessee Baptist Convention in Jackson authorized Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes to

begin a ministry for mentally handicapped adults.

The action made it possible for TBAH to accept Christian group homes as a ministry once the organizing group had the facility debt-free. The group would then deed the home and property to TBAH "with no strings attached," said Mark Anderson, associate director of Adult Homes.

He noted that once this is done, Adult Homes will continue the ministry at the homes.

Adult Homes also will operate the ministry of Rainbow Acres, a group home in Jacksboro, which was deeded to Adults Homes Nov. 6 by Baptist Homes for Retarded Adults, a Knoxville-based organization.

Rainbow Acres, established in 1985, was the first Baptist home to open in Tennessee and was the springboard for other organizations, including the Tennessee Baptist Convention, to be involved in ministry to mentally handicapped adults.

The operating costs of the group homes are funded by fees from the residents and their parents, Anderson said, adding that very few Cooperative Program dollars will be used for actual operating expenses of the homes.

During the banquet at Two Rivers Church, the deed for



PHYLLIS YOUNG, right, of Hendersonville, presents a plaque to Gene and Joy Nabi on behalf of the board of directors of Baptist Homes for Exceptional Persons. The board voted to name the first adult group home at Stoneway Acres "The Nabi House" in honor of the couple who devoted their time and efforts to establish the ministry.

Stoneway Acres was presented to J. L. Ford, executive director of Adult Homes. Baptist Homes for Exceptional Persons paid off the \$230,000 facility in less than two years. They were aided by an anonymous donor who matched every dollar raised between April 1 and November 1, up to \$50,000.

Board member Randle Davis of First Church, Hendersonville, noted support came from a "broad spectrum of contributors."

In presenting the facility to Adult Homes, Joy Nabi noted,

"God has brought us to this first milestone."

She observed that Stoneway Acres is a ministry both to residents and their parents. It answers the question for parents, "What will happen to my son after I am no longer able to care for him?"

Mrs. Nabi said the secret to the success of Stoneway Acres has been the response of the local churches in Wilson County Association. The residents of Stoneway Acres attend Immanuel Church in Lebanon.

"This is a dream come true,"

said Nabi, whose son, Scott, is a Stoneway resident.

Bill Marr, vice president of BHEP and pastor of Lincova Hills Church, Nashville, said the organization will continue to exist and serve as "capital acquirers." Plans are already being formulated to build another house on the Lebanon property.

In accepting the property, Ford said he views Stoneway Acres as "a model that other areas in the state should follow" in building adult group homes.

"We pledge to you our best efforts not only for maintaining the good ministry at Stoneway Acres but also for other homes that are needed across the state," he said.

At the banquet two churches were cited and given "Encourager Awards" for including Stoneway Acres in their budgets — Forest Hills Church, Nashville, and Temple Church, Old Hickory. The Baptist Young Men's group of Woodmont Church, Nashville, also was cited for their work with the residents of Stoneway Acres.

Each of the residents had the opportunity to speak during the banquet. Alan Brunson summed up the feelings of the residents when he said, "To me, Stoneway Acres is a nice, Christian place." □

Knoxville church dedicates room to history of Bill Wallace

By Connie J. Umstead
news assistant

Wallace Memorial Church, Knoxville, was constituted in 1953 and named in memory of William Lindsey Wallace, a medical missionary from Knoxville who had been killed two years earlier in South China at age 43.

Thirty-nine years later, Nov. 14 and 15, members and friends of the church gathered again to honor Wallace by dedicating a room that serves as a museum/research center of information about his life and ministry, The Bill Wallace Room.

Wallace, who was called to be a medical missionary at age 17, left for South China in September 1935, to answer his call at Stout Memorial Baptist Hospital in Wuchow.

While there, he dealt with malnutrition, poverty, cholera epidemics, malaria, no running water, a faulty generator, and bombings by the Japanese. His areas of expertise included surgery, constructing artificial limbs, and repairing the faulty generator.

When the communists took control of Wuchow in 1949,

Wallace hoped to coexist with them if he provided medical help to the community. However, Communist officers eventually arrested Wallace as an American spy. They later claimed he hanged himself in his cell. Two Catholic priests who were later released said Wallace did not commit suicide.

The Christian martyr's remains were returned to his home state in 1985. He is buried in Knoxville beside his parents.

The idea for The Bill Wallace Room was born seven years ago when Wallace Memorial Church Pastor James McCluskey realized very little was known about the doctor for whom Wallace Memorial Church was named. He also realized people from the generation who knew Wallace were still alive, but getting older.

He approached retired librarian Jane Powell, who was recently widowed, to gather and organize all the information she could about Wallace.

Powell said when she began she had no idea where to start, but the project mushroomed after she talked with Wallace's sister, Ruth Lynn Stegall, of Knoxville.

Although Wallace wrote letters to his sister, he did not give information about his work. Even when he was home on two furloughs, he preferred to visit his family and be updated on their activities, and continue his medical training.

However, Stegall saved every letter, card, article, and memento she received from and regarding her brother. She offered to let Powell copy each item. Powell set up the church copier on Stegall's dining room table, and worked for two days.

"We didn't know then what we were copying, but we realized that was the beginning," Powell said. After she finished and went through the material, she had the names of Wallace's friends, many of whom she later interviewed.

Powell's research took her across the United States and to Wuchow, China. She spent two weeks at the Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, during which time she talked with Eugene Hill, who was a missionary professor in Canton and close friend of Wallace. She later visited Lucy Wright Parker, a nurse for Wallace, in St. Petersburg, Fla., for ten days.

Powell also conducted an

interview with Cornelia Leavell in Mississippi. Leavell was born in Wuchow, and her father, George Leavell supervised the construction of Stout Memorial Baptist Hospital.

"One lead led to another, and one interview led to someone else," Powell said. She eventually interviewed Mary Lucille Saunders; Mildred Lovegren; Carter Morgan; and Eloise Cauthen, wife of Baker James Cauthen, all missionaries during Wallace's time.

Another interview occurred in Saulsbury, Md., with Everley Hayes, Wallace's surgical nurse and director of the school of nursing in Wuchow from 1947-1951. Although not imprisoned, Hayes was placed under house arrest after Wallace was killed. Also a missionary, Hayes later served in Indonesia, a plan she and Wallace had discussed when it appeared they would have to leave China.

The Bill Wallace Room, specially designed for Wallace Memorial Church's new facilities which were completed last year, presents a picture of China during the time Wallace served before Communist rule. The oriental design includes curio cabinets from Taiwan,

Peking rugs, a Chinese screen, oriental benches, and an oriental game table and chairs.

Slides, video and cassette tapes, interview transcripts, articles, letters, memorabilia, and photographs are available; as well as books regarding Wallace, the history of the time period, and missionaries connected to Wallace.

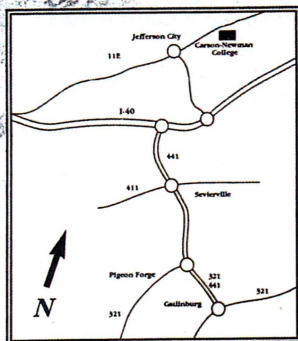
Many of the Chinese items displayed were donated to the church by Hayes. Her collection includes a set of handcarved emperor's horses and decorative pieces of ivory and cloisonne. Other artifacts were donated by Leavell and Parker.

The Bill Wallace Room even has a hammer displayed. Wallace gave the hammer to his friend Frank Woodward after Woodward's hammer was stolen by the Japanese. Woodward felt it should be displayed in the room dedicated to Wallace.

McCluskey's foresight in gathering information about Wallace while people were alive who knew him was well-timed. Several people Powell interviewed have since either died or are now seriously ill. Those who have died include Parker and Woodward. Hayes now lives in a nursing home. □



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Belmont...Answering the call to Missions

"Go and Make Disciples..." (Matt. 28:19-20)

...in Nashville

Every week, Belmont students working through the Baptist Student Union, volunteer time and effort to work in Nashville-area missions projects. At left are Stephen Dean and Vickie Patterson helping to construct living quarters at Broken Wings homeless shelter.



...in Tennessee

Misha Crute, senior religion major, far left, worked as a summer missionary at Fifth Avenue Baptist Church in Knoxville. Of the life-changing experience, she said "The Lord became my friend and partner in ministry. I won't ever forget the poverty and brokenness of the lives of the children and families we visited."

...in other parts of the United States

Every summer, School of Nursing students participate in a course, Caring for Native Americans, taught on an Indian reservation in South Dakota. At left, nursing professor Judy Gunter holds a Native American baby as nursing student Evie Cobb looks on.



...and throughout the world.

Last summer, Belmont's School of Religion entered into the Tennessee Baptist Partnership with Chile. Religion professor Marty Bell accompanied six religion students to Chile where they worked and witnessed. At left, Sarah Bedenbaugh and Twyla Fagan work with a group of Chilean children. Another team is preparing to go in the summer of 1993.



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Union students build second Habitat home in Jackson

By Tracey King
For Baptist and Reflector

JACKSON — Shanell and Willie Boykin never believed they could own a house of their own. Making a down payment and writing a mortgage check each month seemed like an impossible dream until Union University students teamed up with Habitat for Humanity to make the Boykin dream a reality.

Students, faculty, and other

volunteers began construction on the \$27,500 house Oct. 8. Three weeks later it was completed and ready for occupation. The Boykins should be settled in by Thanksgiving.

The Boykins' home is Union's second attempt at building a house for a needy family in Jackson. Last fall the university became the first college in the nation to build and completely finance a Habitat house.

"Union students have raised

\$6500 each year to supplement a grant from the Tennessee Housing Development Agency," said Tim Wheat, campus minister. "Construction on last year's house lasted five months. This year the foundation for the second house was laid on Oct. 8 — three weeks later it was finished.

"On our big work day, 130 volunteers worked from 7 a.m. until sunset putting shingles on the roof, digging the driveway and framing the walls," continued Wheat. "Workers haven't been professional carpenters or painters; they have been people with a willing heart to share with those who are less fortunate." A total of 257 Union volunteers worked on the house.

The Boykins have worked alongside volunteers to build the three-bedroom, two-bath home. After contributing 500 hours of "sweat equity," they will rent the house for one year, making payments of less than \$200 a month. If they make their scheduled payments for a year, then they will take over the low-interest mortgage.

"The Union students have been a blessing," said 23-year-

old Shanell. "We've met a lot of nice people who have helped us put a roof over our family's heads." Willie, an industrial equipment operator, and Shanell, a homemaker, have two children, Cherokee, five, and Jeremy, two.

Theresa Williams, executive

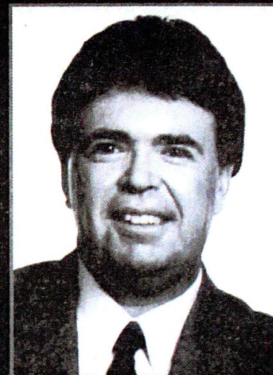
director of Jackson's Habitat office and a student in Union's nursing program, thanked the university for leading the way in such an ambitious project.

"Three weeks is one of the shortest construction times for a house built in Jackson," Williams said.



UNION UNIVERSITY students work on a Habitat for Humanity house for Willie and Shanell Boykin of Jackson.

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For almost half a century, the Baptist Health System of East Tennessee has been fulfilling Christ's healing ministry on behalf of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. For several years, we have celebrated our service to God and to the Convention through Baptist Hospital Sunday. This year, we would like to share with you our pride in our charitable mission and the new symbol of our Christian service in your name.

It has been said that a picture is worth a thousand words. During the past year, much of our work has been devoted to fully understanding our mission as a charitable Christian health care organization. What has emerged is a reaffirmation of our belief that we are God's servants, blessed to have been chosen to be part of His healing ministry. To express our calling, we have developed a new symbol that we think reflects our pride in our Christian service and Baptist heritage.

Through visual graphics the new symbol for the Baptist Health System of East Tennessee reaffirms the biblical truth - that the healing skills of man stand empowered because of the healing acts of God. This proclamation is represented by the cross as an ever-present reminder that Christ is the source of all true healing.

The logo begins with a reversed silhouette of a "B" which serves to both identify the denomination and rekindle the Baptist heritage. A majestic cross rises from the heart of the "B" and joins three bands that reflect the three-fold ministries of Christ - preaching, teaching and healing - as well as the three types of healing offered by our healthcare system. The top band signifies spiritual healing; the bottom stands for physical renewal; and the middle band suggests the vibrancy that comes with the revival of emotional health.

The design is a dynamic, quickly recognizable symbol that projects a unified image for the Baptist Health System and heralds our Christian calling on behalf of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

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Belmont students help Hurricane Andrew victims

By Karin Hogrefe
For Baptist and Reflector

NASHVILLE — A Belmont University team brought hope to victims of Hurricane Andrew in October.

The team, led by Marvin Schoenecke, campus activities director at Belmont, and his wife, traveled to Baldwin, La., during fall break to help disaster victims clean up the debris Hurricane Andrew left in its path nearly three months ago.

Several of the students are from Tennessee Baptist churches: Lorri Hines, First Church, Madison; Trey Hunter, Immanuel Church, Lebanon; Futoshi Kobayashi and Elisabeth Schoenecke, First Church, Nashville; Sara Beth McPherson, Brentwood Church, Brentwood; Richard Ryan, First Church, Hendersonville; Katie Tenpenny, Park Avenue Church, Nashville; and Donetta Wiley, Two Rivers Church, Nashville. Other students were Jamie Aulsebrook, Terry Blandford, Timothy

Dean, and Rob Huffstetler.

The group arrived in Baldwin at 2:30 a.m. on Oct. 15 after driving all night. They stayed at Little Pass Church in Baldwin. What the group saw the next morning was "devastating," Schoenecke said.

The three days were spent repairing and cleaning up after the hurricane. Students tore down walls left from demolished homes, hauled garbage and wreckage to the dump, and laid the floor for a home that was being rebuilt.

The group's aid was a welcome relief to many of the Baldwin community members.

"When we got to the places people were really happy to see us. You could really see how it brightened their day to have us helping them out," said Richard Ryan.

Jamie Aulsebrook noted the trip "had an enormous impact

on my life. It brought me closer to God. But it broke my heart that we only had three days to spend down there," he said.

During a meeting Nov. 10 the Belmont students reminisced about their experiences.

In three days the group

cleaned up and threw away what took most of the residents a lifetime to accumulate.

It made Donetta Wiley appreciate "what I've got back here now." The students all agreed they would love to go back and help again. □

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What I learned at the Children's Home has stuck with me over the years and helped me when I needed it.

Today I feel like I am a stronger person because of my upbringing. The people of the Children's Home introduced me to Jesus. They helped me become the person that I am.

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Residential Care

Universities, college enroll more graduate, nursing students

Tennessee's two universities - Union in Jackson, Belmont in Nashville - and college - Carson-Newman in Jefferson City - reported fall enrollment figures.

Although Carson-Newman College reported a slight drop in overall enrollment, it once again topped the 2000 mark, which is considered to be the optimum capacity given its current facilities. C-N has 2022 while Belmont has 2866 and Union set a record of 2430 students.

In schools of nursing, C-N has a record 115 with a waiting list for new students for the first time. Union instructs 791 nursing students and Belmont has 262.

Union's newly accredited master of education program resulted in the dramatic

increase of 65 percent or 81 graduate students. Belmont had the next largest increase in graduate students with nearly 13 percent or 263. C-N drew a record 140 to its graduate education programs. A new major

in C-N's program is Teaching English as a Second Language. It arose from the college's Chinese Cross Cultural Institute and is expected to help fill the language needs of U.S. society, reported the college. □

Comparison of enrollment to last year-

	UU	C-NC	BU
Total students	5%	-4.5%	1.6%
Nursing students	9%	30 %	26 %
Graduate students	65%	7.6%	12.7%

Farmer, Gamble retire from director of mission posts

Two more directors of missions join J. C. Lewis of Bledsoe and Elmer Crosby of Maury Association in recently announcing plans for retirement.

E. R. Gamble, director of missions, Hiwassee Association, retired Oct. 24 to end a 34-year ministry.

Gamble's ministry began at Chapman Grove Church, Kingston, which he served as pastor for 22 years. He has been DOM for 12 years.



FARMER



GAMBLE

During his tenure at Hiwassee, Gamble also has served four churches as interim pastor. He plans to continue to do

interim and supply pastoral work, he reported.

Gamble and his wife, Opal, will remain in Kingston where they will enjoy their two sons, 11 grandchildren, and 4 great-grandchildren.

Emery Farmer also served Tennessee Baptists for many years before his Oct. 31 retirement. His cumulative years of service total 32 years.

Farmer led the following churches as pastor - Flewellyn

Church, Springfield; Cross Creek Church, Indian Mound; First Church, Cornerville; New Middleton Church, New Middleton; First Church, Red Boiling Springs; and Oak Grove Church, McEwen. He plans to resume his work in churches during his retirement.

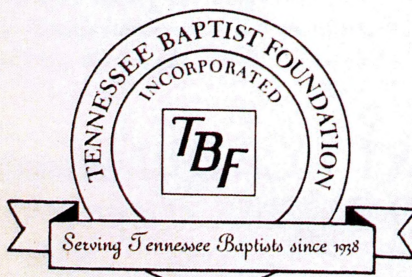
Farmer and his wife, Margaret, have two daughters. They plan to remain in their New Middleton residence. □

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.....

Carissa Shope, Class of '93
Maryville, TN

"These past two years have been a wonderful experience and have helped me to grow stronger in Christ. I hope that many others may experience HCBA and have it mean as much to them as it does to me."

Etsushi Tokuda, Class of '93
Saitama, Japan

"I have been at Chilhowee two years and I've learned a lot about Jesus from the teachers. I've learned how to study academics and I have a great time with my friends."

Dr. and Mrs. Clarence Chesnutt
Former Missionaries to Kenya, parents of Peter Chesnutt, Class of '90

"We chose H.C.B.A. because it helped Peter to adjust to living in the U.S. after living in a 3rd world country for several years. He was not exposed to the tremendous peer pressure so prevalent in the U.S. high schools for drugs, etc. The situation of our present day high schools is alarming. We are very grateful that Peter was able to attend Harrison-Chilhowee."

Mrs. J.V.Graham
Mother of Maurice Graham '68 (former Southern Baptist Missionary and hostage in Kuwait)
"...we love Chilhowee because Maurice got just what he needed for the work of the Lord--a good Christian start. May it go on and on."

Peter Lok, Class of '93
Kowloon, Hong Kong
"I have accepted Jesus into my heart this year because a teacher showed me from the Bible the plan of salvation. I am thankful to be baptized into the church. I am thankful for all the friends here and the opportunity to play sports."

Tamamo Yamagishi, Class of '94
Nagano, Japan
"I became a Christian at Harrison-Chilhowee just a month after coming to the United States, and when Pastor Liner baptized me and I came out of the water, I cried. I am the first Christian in my family, but when I went home at Christmas I gave them Bibles for gifts."

Dianne Tribble, Class of '80
MK, Chile and Bolivia
"A few days ago, I read a letter I wrote from H.C.B.A. to my parents. In it I told them how much I had grown as a Christian. Being away from my parents and the influence of other Christians at H.C.B.A. were a catalyst for my spiritual growth. If missionaries are in a situation where their children cannot get a good education, then I would recommend H.C.B.A. as a place where their children can learn and grow in many different areas; where they will be safe and cared for."

David Samples, Class of '81
Home Mission Board MK
Ft. Washakie, Wyoming
"My parents and I were looking for a school that was academically high and spiritually sound. I would rate Chilhowee as the greatest experience of my life. I went from a shy, introverted 9th grader into a bold, confident graduate. Academically, I was challenged. Spiritually, my life was changed forever."

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SBC leaders urge support of Lottie Moon offering

By Herb Hollinger
Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — Promotion of a "Global Missions Offering" for the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship has drawn criticism from Southern Baptist Convention executives who see it as competition for the denomination's mission offerings.

The CBF sent publicity packets for its first Global Missions Offering, which has a goal of \$2 million, to more than 700 Baptist churches. The offering would go to "undergird (the Fellowship's) mission work where others have broken that promise," Cecil E. Sherman, coordinator for the Atlanta-based CBF Coordinating Council, said in a cover letter included with the packets.

With a theme "Keeping the Promises," \$345,000 of the CBF offering would go to Baptist Theo-

logical Seminary in Ruschlikon, Switzerland (defunded by the SBC Foreign Mission Board last year), \$1.2 million for the ministry of new "missionaries" employed by the CBF, and \$455,000 for relief for hungry and homeless people, Sherman said.

But the timing of the CBF offering, shortly before promotion begins for the SBC's Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions, drew the ire of several SBC officials.

"The CBF already has developed a Ventures 2000 plan of giving which totally circumvents the SBC Cooperative Program," Morris H. Chapman, president

and chief executive officer of the SBC Executive Committee said. "These gifts will go directly to CBF projects. Now the Fellowship is appealing to some of our SBC churches to give to a Global Missions Offering ... in direct competition with Lottie Moon and Annie Armstrong offerings ..."

Regarding the CBF's "Keeping the Promises" theme, Foreign Mission Board interim President

Don Kammerdiener responded: "I feel some promises have been made to Southern Baptist missionaries. I hope Baptists will want to keep the promises made to support those missionaries who went out on faith that Southern Baptists would continue to support them."

Larry Lewis, president of the Home Mission Board, said, "I regret any efforts which would

erode support for Southern Baptist missionaries on the field by promotion of a competitive missions offering."

Lewis said he would "strongly" encourage Southern Baptists to continue their support through the two SBC mission offerings.

Sherman, when told of the SBC officials' criticism, told Baptist Press, "People who feel like I do should do what they think best." □

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to attend the formal dedication of the new worship center and educational facilities at

410 W. McKnight Dr.
Sunday, Nov. 22
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This Christmas, help rescue the perishing.

It may be hard to believe, but two refrigerators in Zimbabwe are helping save lives.

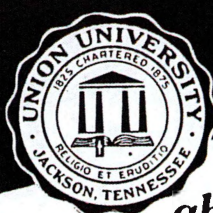
Nancy Carley works as a nurse at Sanyati Baptist Hospital. The refrigerator at the hospital stores vaccines, which she uses to bring hope to hurting children.

The refrigerator at her home was purchased with Lottie Moon Christmas Offering funds and stores cold drinks and snacks for the youth she teaches in Sunday School. Through her work with the young people, Nancy brings hope of eternal life to the Zimbabwean youth.

Pray for Nancy and the hospital staff as they declare hope and give support to the growing number of families. Pray that the Zimbabweans will accept the hope offered to them through Jesus Christ.

HOPE

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
National Goal: \$84 million

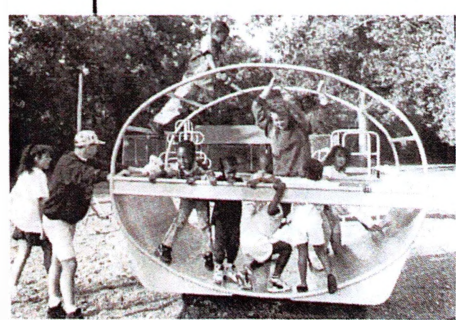


What comes to mind when you think about college students with a little time on their hands?

If you think all students are preoccupied with fraternity parties, fast cars and Saturday night dates, you're not thinking about Union University. Because last year in their "spare time", Union students tried to make the world a better place to live by claiming a little portion of it for the Kingdom.

Let's review what they accomplished for Bold Missions Thrust during the 1991-1992 academic year.

- They reported 3620 known decisions for Christ.
- 216 students served on weekend revival teams.
- While digging into their pockets to pay their tuition, students dug a little deeper to raise over \$42,000 for summer missions.
- 117 students and faculty served on Home Missions Board SPOTS teams in Detroit, East St. Louis, Nashville, Savannah, GA, Cherokee, NC, Emerald Isle, NC, Atlanta, GA, New Orleans, LA and Honduras.
- Since 1991 students and faculty have financed and built two Habitat for Humanity houses providing shelter and security to a needy family in Jackson.



Union students are committed to missions and evangelism. So the next time you think about students with "spare time" on their hands, remember those students over in Jackson - and their commitment to spreading the Gospel.

Every Wednesday afternoon Union students minister to children living in Jackson's housing projects. Through Backyard Bible Clubs the children have a lot of fun playing games, making new friends and learning about Jesus' love for them.

When you talk about Bold Missions, you're talking about Union!

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Baptists to close Gaza nursing school

Baptist Press

GAZA — Southern Baptists will close their nursing school in the Israeli-occupied territory of Gaza next spring after fighting for years to keep it operating amid difficulties. They are discussing possibly allowing a United Nations relief agency to use the facility to start its own nursing school.

Since 1987, when Palestinian Arabs began their uprising against Israeli military occupation, each year has brought growing uncertainty for the school.

Forced to depend heavily on short-term workers, Southern Baptist representatives have questioned at the end of each school term whether teachers would be found for the next. More recently they began wondering if it's wise to invite someone to work in such a traumatic place. □

Dakotas oppose gambling, abortion; boost CP percentage

Baptist Press

RAPID CITY, S.D. — Resolutions opposing gambling and abortion on demand were adopted by the Dakota Baptist Convention during its Oct. 22-24 annual meeting at Calvary Church here.

Messengers also increased the two-state convention's giving to Southern Baptist national and international missions and ministries funded by the Cooperative Program by one-half percent — to 14.5 percent

of their 1993 budget of \$810,825. The 1993 budget is a three percent increase above the convention's 1992 budget.

James Shackelford, pastor of Burlington (N.D.) Church, was elected convention president on a first ballot with four candidates. He has been chairman of the convention's executive board the past year.

A total of 115 messengers represented the 85 churches and missions in the convention which have a membership of 9400. □

Winningham honored in Minnesota meeting

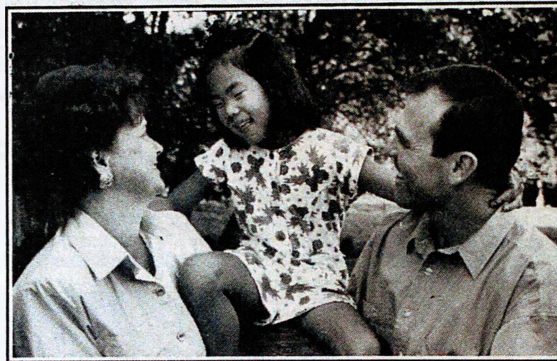
Baptist Press

ROCHESTER, Minn. — Minnesota-Wisconsin Southern Baptists honored their retiring executive director, Otha Winningham, at a banquet during the two-state convention's annual meeting Oct. 29-31 at Emmanuel Church here.

The 141 messengers also commissioned Winningham to write the 40-year history of Southern Baptist work in the two states. Including visitors, 246 people attended the convention sessions.

A 1993 budget of \$1,711,305 was adopted, a 1.25 percent increase over 1992. Of this, 26 percent is again earmarked for national Southern Baptist Convention causes.

Resolutions adopted by the messengers included one affirming "the Biblical prohibition against taking of unborn human life." Another asked members to "maintain personal purity in memberships in voluntary associations, refraining from participating in organizations with teachings, oaths, or



FORMER NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE player Mike Simpson is ready for a new playing arena — the mission field. Simpson, who played from 1970-74 with the San Francisco 49ers, had his playing days cut short by injury. He now believes "God has a timetable that he brings us along on." Though disappointed his career was cut short, Simpson now understands "the greater picture" of what God had in store for his life. For the past nine years Simpson has been a Southern Baptist pastor in Henderson, Texas. He and his wife, Beckie, were recently appointed as missionaries to Honduras. They are shown here with their adopted daughter, Emily Grace.

mystical knowledge which are contrary to the Bible."

Bob Barrett, a layman from First Church, Wausau, Wis., was elected president. □

20,000th SBC church enters Annuity Board plan

Baptist Press

DALLAS — A Georgia Baptist church, Cresthill in Savannah, has become the 20,000th "expanded participating church" in the Church Annuity Plan administered by the Southern Baptist Convention Annuity Board.

Expanded participating churches are those which have signed a "Cooperative Agreement" with their state Baptist conventions, providing eligible staff members with matching state convention funds for their annuity plans. The expanded plan was inaugurated in 1988.

By signing the agreement, Cresthill adopted the Church Annuity Plan as the retirement plan it will provide for staff and employees. The agreement encourages staff members to contribute at least five percent of pay and the church to match those contributions two for one, up to ten percent of salary. □

1993 work dates set for World Changers

Baptist Press

MEMPHIS — The Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission has announced 11 World Changers national work projects for 1993. Three sites are in Tennessee.

A project in Puerto Rico and a junior high project also are scheduled.

World Changers is a week-long missions project for Southern Baptist youth sponsored by the Brotherhood Commission. World Changers work projects include a missions education component before the youth go to their project location. Once on site, they are involved in activities allowing them to experience missions firsthand.

Project dates and locations for 1993 are: Houston, Kansas City, Mo., and Millington, June 12-19; Briceville and Brockton, Mont., June 26-July 3; Savannah, Ga., and Canton, N.C., July 10-17; Campbell County, July 17-24; Tuscaloosa, Ala., July 24-31; and Eastern Shore, Va., and Clarksdale, Miss., July 31-Aug. 7.

More information about World Changers is available from the Brotherhood Commission at (901) 272-2461. □

Southern Baptist Congressmen receive tobacco-related gifts

Baptist Press

WASHINGTON — Thirteen Southern Baptists, five in the Senate and eight in the House of Representatives, ranked among the leading recipients of contributions from the tobacco industry, according to a recent report. Four of the 13 also were among the leaders in accepting donations from the alcohol industry, according to a report released less than two weeks previously.

Southern Baptists who were in the top 25 in the Senate in tobacco industry contributions were Jesse Helms, R-N.C., second, \$60,950; Wendell Ford, D-

Ky., third, \$59,774; Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., fifth, \$49,500; Thad Cochran, R-Miss., 18th, \$22,450; and Trent Lott, R-Miss., 22nd, \$21,000.

A Southern Baptist, Richard Gephardt, D-Mo., was first in the House of Representatives with contributions of \$26,198 from the tobacco industry.

Other Southern Baptists in the top 25 in the House were Charles Taylor, R-N.C., 14th, \$12,700; Steny Hoyer, D-Md., 17th, \$12,200; Tim Valentine, D-N.C., 20th, \$11,050; Bill Hefner, D-N.C., 21st, \$11,000; David Price, D-N.C., 22nd, \$10,550; Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., and Tom DeLay, R-Texas, tied for 25th, \$9800.

Ford, McConnell, Gephardt, and Gingrich also ranked in the top ten in their respective houses in alcohol industry contributions.

Results of the research were released by two Washington-based consumer interest groups, Public Citizen and the Advocacy Institute. □

Graham preaches to more than 70,000 in Moscow crusade

Foreign Mission Board

MOSCOW — A record 50,000 people filled every seat and all standing room in Moscow's Olympic Stadium to hear Southern Baptist evangelist Billy Graham preach during the last service of a recent three-day crusade.

Another 20,000 people watched a large screen television outside the stadium.

Organizers described it as the largest crowd to hear the Gospel at one time in the former Soviet Union.

Graham team member Cliff Barrows led a 7000-voice choir. Another music group also performed religious songs — the former Red Army choir.

The crusade included nationwide television and radio broadcasts, regional rallies, literature distribution, food and medical distribution, and a direct-mail campaign to every Moscow resident. □

Baptist journalist tapped for N.Y. post

Baptist Press

NEW YORK CITY — Karen Willoughby Santiago, former Southern Baptist Home Mission Board-related writer, has been named editor and co-publisher of *The Beacon*, a monthly Christian newjournal.

Santiago was an HMB Missions Service Corps writer for 15 western states from 1989 to 1991. □

Welcome TBC messengers

The staff of the *Baptist and Reflector* welcomes readers of this special Tennessee Baptist Convention issue. If this is the first time you have seen the paper in a long while, we trust you like the changes you see. The changes have been made with our readers in mind. We hope you will join our list of subscribers who receive the paper each week. An individual subscription is only \$7.50 per year. If you already get the paper, subscribe for a friend. Become a part of the *Baptist and Reflector* team.

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