

## ■ this week's news

### global —

- Overseas baptisms reach 251,901 in 1992, a new record. — See page 3

### national —

- Study on Masons is completed but will not be released until March. — See page 3
- Southern Baptist Stewardship Commission cuts professional staff. — See page 3
- Enrollments at Baptist colleges continue to show increases. — See page 5

### state —

- Golden State funds help new Big Emory church. — See photos on page 3
- Union Association director of missions leads in prison ministry. — See page 8

MOVING? Cut out and mail address label and new address to Baptist and Reflector, P. O. Box 728, Brentwood, Tenn., 37024.

SOUTHERN BAPTIST HISTORICAL LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES  
Historical Commission, SBC  
Nashville, Tennessee

\*900-024-10-0127  
\*HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
\*901 COMMERCE ST SUITE 400  
\*NASHVILLE TN 37203

## SBC statistics up in eight key categories

By Linda Lawson  
For Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — Southern Baptists registered gains in eight of 10 key denominational reporting areas in 1992 while posting the first decrease in baptisms in five years.

Increases were registered in number of churches, church membership, ongoing Sunday School enrollment, Discipleship Training enrollment/participation, ongoing music ministry enrollment, Brotherhood enrollment/participation, mission expenditures, and total tithes, offerings, and special gifts.

Baptists totaled 367,847 in

1992 compared to 396,668 in 1991, for a decrease of 28,821, or 7.3 percent. Woman's Missionary Union enrollment decreased by 0.8 percent.

The denomination showed a net gain of 237 churches to reach a new total of 38,458.

The number of new churches started in 1992 was considerably higher than in recent years, 497 compared to 454 in 1991, but the number of churches which ceased to exist also was higher, 277 in 1992 compared to 231 in 1991. This resulted in a net decrease slightly lower than the 247 of 1991, according to Mary Frances Jones, of the Baptist Sunday School Board's Corpo-

rate Marketing Research Department.

Church membership, which topped 15 million in 1991, increased by 0.8 percent or 127,203 in 1992, for a new total of 15,365,486.

Ongoing enrollment in Sunday School increased 78,720 or one percent, marking the fourth consecutive gain and increases in 10 out of the last 13 years. The new total of 8,262,521 is a record enrollment.

Discipleship Training enrollment/participation increased by 1.1 percent or 23,486, to reach a new total of 2,226,013. The total represents the highest enrollment/partici-

pation since a new records system was instituted in 1990.

Other increases: ongoing music ministry enrollment, 0.6 percent; Brotherhood enrollment/participation, 2.1 percent.

In financial categories, mission expenditures increased 2.7 percent or \$19,682,479 to a 1992 total of \$751,773,457, for the largest increase since 1989.

Total tithes, offerings, and special gifts totaled \$4,899,015,605, an increase of 4.1 percent or \$194,028,885 from 1991 and the second largest increase in dollar amount since 1986. □

## FMB initiates Europe changes, elects Floyd area director

By Robert O'Brien  
For Baptist Press

RICHMOND — Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board trustees projected a new direction for mission work in Europe, debated how to communicate a dialogue with Woman's Missionary Union (See story on page 2) to missionaries overseas, and shelved a proposal to study whether the mission board should move.

Meeting Feb. 8-10 in Richmond, they also heard reports of increased evangelism and church growth overseas (See story on page 3) and appointed 27 missionaries and reappointed one for service.

John Floyd, a former missionary and current vice president at Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary in Memphis, was elected unanimously to become area director for Europe, effective March 1. He succeeds Keith Parker, who took early retirement last year in protest of board actions.

But in the same session, trustees voted to realign mission work in European countries into two administrative areas — Western Europe and Eastern Europe. Floyd will administer the whole area until the realignment takes place and another area director is elected to lead one of the areas.

Trustee chairman John Jackson said he was pleased at the decision to create a new area, which came out of a recommendation from Sam James, vice president for Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa. "Most of us have — See FMB, page 2

## Tennessee legislature may act on lottery issue

NASHVILLE — Tennessee Baptists have been issued a legislative "alert" by TBC Public Affairs Consultant Bill Bates.

Bates, former TBC president, says Tennessee Baptists should be aware the state leg-

islature, now in session in Nashville, may take action on a lottery-related proposal. Senate bill SJR-025 would eliminate the word "lottery" as it stands in the State Constitution, he said. Lotteries are not legal in Tennessee.

The bill currently rests with the Senate Judiciary Committee. It is likely the committee will approve the proposal on Feb. 23, and then send it to the full Senate. If the bill passes the Senate and House, it would then be ready for inclusion on the 1994 gubernatorial ballot.

Tennessee Baptists should contact members of the committee, Bates said, if they wish to oppose the bill. According to anti-gambling sources, if approved, the measure would be a big step toward legalizing a state lottery. Currently lotteries are not permitted because of wording in the State Constitution.

The bill must pass each legislative body by a two-thirds margin. It passed the House last term by a simple majority.

The two-thirds margin, which would delete "lottery" from the constitution's language, may make it difficult to gain approval.

One argument by lottery proponents is that the matter should be put into "the hands of the people." However, this is not the method for most legislative proposals.

The Senate Judiciary Committee, which may act as early as Feb. 23, is chaired by Curtis S. Person Jr. of Memphis. Other members are Keith Jordan, Franklin; Rusty Crowe, Johnson City; Stephen I. Cohen, Memphis; Bud Gilbert, Knoxville; Thelma Harper, Nashville; Joe M. Haynes, Goodlettsville; Jim Holcomb, Bluff City; and Anna Belle O'Brien, Crossville.

While the bill may well get out of committee, Bates emphasizes that Tennessee Baptists who oppose lotteries and other forms of gambling should immediately contact members of the committee. "Time is short and this vote is critical," Bates said. — Wm. Fletcher Allen. □



TWO TENNESSEANS were elected as trustee officers of the Baptist Sunday School Board during the agency's semi-annual meeting Feb. 8-10. Visiting during a break were, from left, Jerry Sutton, pastor, Two Rivers Church, Nashville, vice chairman and chairman of the trustees' executive committee; Dan Collins, an attorney from Greenville, S.C., chairman; and Roy Miller, a layman from First Church, Lexington. See story from trustee meeting on page 4. — Photo by Jim Veneman

- Wm. Fletcher Allen is the editor.
- **Subscribe to the Baptist and Reflector** for one year and receive 51 copies. Family or individual subscription — \$7.50, clubs of ten or more subscriptions — \$7.25, church (more than 50 percent of families) — \$6.50. Send check/money order to address listed below.
- **To contribute a news item**, call or write Lonnie Wilkey, associate editor; or Connie Davis, assistant editor.
- **To advertise** — Lonnie Wilkey, associate editor.
- **For billing and subscription list questions** — Betty Williams, bookkeeper.
- **For information about trial subscription plan** for church or association edition — Lonnie Wilkey, Connie Davis, or Susie Edwards, administrative secretary.
- **For information about local church edition** — Connie Umstead, news assistant/church pages coordinator.
- **For production answers** — Mary Nimmo, production assistant.
- PUBLISHER** — Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board. **Board of directors:**  
David George, chairman; Joe Littlefield, vice chairman; Lee Barrett, Mickey Basham, Wendell Boertje, David Crocker, Gary Gerhardt, Dean Haun, Diane Jordan, Howard Kolb, Leonard Markham, Earl McCosh, Paul Moody, Don Owens, Frank Samuels, Mike Thrower, Bobby Turner, and Larry Williams.
- OFFICE** — Baptist and Reflector, 5001 Maryland Way, Brentwood, Tenn., 37027. Mailing address — P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, Tenn., 37024. Phone — (615) 371-2003. FAX — (615) 371-2080.
- MEMBERSHIPS** — Southern Baptist Press Association
- POSTMASTER** —  
■ Send address changes to Baptist and Reflector, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, Tenn., 37024.  
■ Second class postage paid at Brentwood and at additional mailing office. (USPS 041-780). □



Printed on recycled paper

## FMB initiates Europe changes, elects Floyd ...

— Continued from page 1  
looked forward to this for some time, and we hoped staff would study it," Jackson said.

James warned that not all European Baptists and missionaries will like the new alignment. Many fear that "dividing" Europe will create problems in an area finally free from division by the Iron Curtain.

The Feb. 8 dialogue with WMU leaders continued to be the focus of intense discussion at the trustees' plenary session two days later.



FLOYD

Trustees approved a motion from their communications committee to send a videotape of the entire two-hour session to the approximately 125 regional organizations of Southern Baptist missionaries overseas so the missionaries could judge the dialogue for themselves. They also will send a transcript of it to each missionary.

The decision to send the videotapes and transcripts came despite questions raised by Jackson and interim FMB President Don Kammerdiener about the wisdom of the action. They asked that the matter be referred to them for discussion. But a motion to that effect lost by a one-vote margin. A later motion to reconsider also failed.

Kammerdiener expressed concern about the tape which does not communicate the entire trustee meeting, would affect missionary morale. "What questions would they have?" he asked. He suggested sending a balanced report from the board's communications office. Trustee John Simms of Virginia, a member of the communications committee, said the committee recommended sending the videotape because it felt a *Richmond Times-Dispatch* article reporting on the dialogue already was in the hands of missionaries. "The

committee thought they should see for themselves what happened," Simms said.

In his president's report, Kammerdiener drew "amens" and applause from trustees as he thanked Woman's Missionary Union leaders for the spiritual and financial nurture it has provided to missions and gave his interpretation of the Feb. 8 dialogue. "You were invited here. You were not summoned. As you graciously invited us to come to your meeting (in January), we invited you. You're always welcome here. This is your home," he told WMU leaders.

Reflecting on the dialogue,

Kammerdiener said, "We engaged in serious, intense dialogue about issues that are of great concern to us. If we didn't feel things deeply — if we didn't have deep concerns for the future of our relationships and the work of this agency and WMU — we would overlook things and not get below the surface. But the fact that we care deeply means that we must discuss intensely. I hope this dialogue will continue," he said.

In other actions, the trustee policy study committee reported Feb. 10 that it would not study a move out of Richmond of FMB headquarters, but

would reaffirm a 1991 decision that set up six criteria the board would use in determining a move from Richmond.

Trustees also elected Faye Pearson, a 24-year veteran of foreign missions to become area director of East Asia and affirmed their "full and unwavering support" of the committee searching for a successor to R. Keith Parks.

Trustees referred for study a motion that would require a 75 percent majority vote to elect FMB staff subject to trustee approval. In an earlier meeting trustees voted to require that margin for the election of a new president. □

## WMU, FMB trustees disagree during dialogue

By Erich Bridges  
For Baptist Press

RICHMOND — Leaders of the Woman's Missionary Union and Foreign Mission Board — sister agencies for more than a century — strongly disagreed Feb. 8 over recent changes in WMU policy.

During a tense two-hour session, board trustees questioned WMU Executive Director Dellanna O'Brien, WMU President Carolyn Miller, Associate Executive Director June Whitlow, and Ellen Teague, WMU leader and president of the District of Columbia Baptist Convention. The questions focused on the WMU executive board's January vote to assist mission groups other than the Southern Baptist Foreign and Home Mission boards.

A clear division of opinion quickly emerged.

WMU leaders believe they are responding to a changing society and a changing Southern Baptist scene, where churches and individuals are exploring a variety of choices in mission participation.

They said they have no intention of backing down on what they have done in the past — supporting Southern Baptist missions and helping

raise millions of dollars for the two denominational mission boards. But they said, at the same time, they want to help all Southern Baptists do missions.

FMB trustees, in contrast, feel the WMU is abandoning the long-cherished unity of Southern Baptist Convention-sponsored mission efforts to aid splinter groups like the "moderate" Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

Much of the FMB trustees' concern focused on the WMU's decision to provide prayer support and resources for additional Southern Baptist mission groups — presumably including the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. The fellowship is not specifically mentioned in WMU's approved recommendations.

Tennessee pastor Bill Blanchard of Soddy-Daisy called the move "a radical departure from our past cooperative efforts" in supporting only "Southern Baptist Convention-sanctioned" mission work.

Blanchard repeatedly asked if WMU's study committee had

attempted to poll or inform local WMU leaders about the "sweeping decisions" it was contemplating and if the decisions really represented grassroots opinion.

WMU is by nature a grassroots organization, O'Brien responded. Its executive board is made up of state WMU leaders who come to meetings with the "freshness of the local church," she said. "It's hard to say" how closely the final decisions mirror every local WMU," O'Brien acknowledged as Blanchard pressed the question. "But (the new policy) is different only in that our denomination is different."

After the dialogue in which several FMB trustees voiced concerns over the WMU action, WMU leaders appeared shocked by the tense atmosphere.

"I was surprised that there were so many negative perceptions," O'Brien said. "There didn't seem to be a tendency toward trying to understand where we were. ... The questions seemed more designed to express frustration than elicit information."

"I think it was significant that there was not a kind word for WMU" after a century of support for the FMB, O'Brien said. □



O'BRIEN

## Home missionaries to receive more intensive soul-winning training

Baptist Press

ATLANTA — All home missionaries will receive more comprehensive soul-winning training under a new guideline reviewed and supported by the Home Mission Board's missionary personnel committee.

The committee reviewed the issue Feb. 9 during HMB executive committee meetings.

HMB President Larry Lewis explained that all approved missionaries are re-

quired to take a one-day soul-winning course, but under the new requirements appointed and approved missionaries will need to take a more intensive seminar within two years of appointment.

"We have consulted with missionaries and convention leadership across the country and feel strongly that the missionaries need these soul-winning tools to help reach this nation for Christ," Lewis explained. □

## RFRA to be reintroduced in Congress

The Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA) will be reintroduced in Congress within the next couple of weeks, according to Brent Walker of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

The bill is designed to counter the effects of the 1990 Supreme Court decision in *Employment Division v. Smith*. The court in *Smith* did away with the requirement that government demonstrate a compelling interest before it will be permitted to burden our free ex-

ercise of religion, Walker said. The RFRA would restore that high standard to the law.

Baptists are encouraged to contact their senators and representatives to urge them to co-sponsor RFRA. The number for the Capitol switchboard is (202) 224-3121.

The Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission has joined the Baptist Joint Committee and 52 other organizations in supporting the Religious Freedom Restoration Act. □

# Overseas baptisms hit new high; membership passes 3 million

By Erich Bridges  
For Baptist Press

RICHMOND — Southern Baptist missionaries and their overseas Baptist partners baptized more than a quarter of a million new believers around the world in 1992.

The 251,901 baptisms, a new-high, topped 1991's record total by eight percent.

Missionaries and international Baptists — assisted by more than 11,000 volunteers, students, and tentmakers — also started 1,606 churches last year. That represents a nearly six percent jump over 1991's church starts.

All churches related to Southern Baptist foreign missions jumped to about 32,800, a 4,865, or 17.4 percent, increase. Total church membership topped three million for the first time, climbing 463,000 to more than 3.4 million, a 15.5 percent rise.

But the big jumps in church and membership totals reflect "cleanup" and "affiliate" growth as well as actual new churches, stressed Jim Slack, church growth consultant for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. Slack compiles the board's annual statistical report.

"Cleanup" growth results from a continuing drive for more accurate accounting of results on mission fields. "Affiliate" growth counts already existing churches, for

the most part, in areas that become Southern Baptist mission fields in a given year.

Southern Baptists became mission partners in some big areas in 1992 — like whole chunks of the former Soviet empire. "Next year we won't have any more Russias and Eastern Europe come in through affiliate growth," Slack cautioned. "We'll have a little of that as we count the Czech Republic or Lithuania or Georgia, but those aren't real large numbers," he added.

The new church and baptism totals, however, are "real, solid statistics" revealing growth that actually occurred in 1992, Slack said.

Most significant for world evangelization, missionaries, and co-workers actually planted churches — 20 of them — in "World A," that part of humanity virtually untouched by the Gospel. Southern Baptists

have begun focusing on entirely unreached peoples in recent years.

Sunday School membership in overseas churches grew by

ing points become churches, Southern Baptists will reach about 75 percent of their Bold Mission Thrust goal of 75,840 churches overseas by the year

of churches all over the world," Slack explained.

In order to move to the next level of growth "we've got to do what we do better, and we've got to make some hard choices and tightly focus on evangelism and growing edges. That's hard for churches to do," he said.

He noted a balance is needed between church starting and discipling.

Just sending more new missionaries won't meet the challenge either, Slack added, unless they fit into a coordinated team focused on solid church growth.

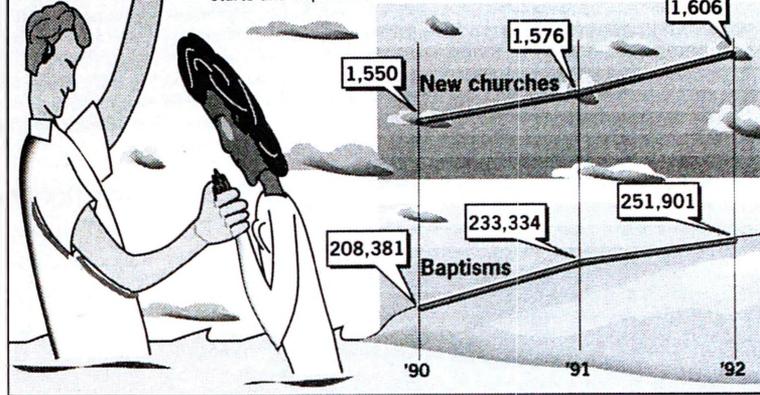
But mission fields definitely need new missionaries. The FMB appointed 404 new missionary personnel in 1992 and reappointed 10 veterans. But 427 missionaries completed service through retirements, resignations, or deaths. That's a net loss of 13 and only the third such loss in two decades. The other two loss years were 1972 and 1989.

Average retirements have jumped from 25-30 a year in the late 1980s to 60 to 75 now. The final missionary count for 1992 was 3,893.

Slack estimated it will take two years for the FMB to recover from the net loss of missionaries in 1992. Annual missionary appointments will need to average at least 430 to avoid a succession of yearly downturns, he said. □

## Missionaries report 1992 gains overseas

Southern Baptist missionaries and the Baptists with whom they work continued to make record advances in 1992. Baptists crossed the 3 million mark in number of members, started 1,606 new churches and baptized a record 251,901 new Christians. Charts show the solid growth in both church starts and baptisms.



(BP) GRAPHIC By Marty Croll

about 145,000 to 1.9 million people, 54 percent of total church membership. "Preaching points" — Gospel outposts that may one day become churches — increased by 1,153 to almost 23,900.

Churches and preaching points together totaled about 56,700. If current growth rates continue, and if all the preach-

2000, Slack predicted.

But many of those preaching points aren't maturing fast enough for healthy growth, he warned.

New church starts overseas also far surpass Southern Baptist Convention levels. But they still haven't broken out of the five to seven percent annual growth range. "That's the nature

## Stewardship agency cuts professional staff

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — The Southern Baptist Stewardship Commission will reduce its professional staff by three positions

## HMB completes study on Masons; report to be released in March

Baptist Press

ATLANTA — A study of Freemasonry by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's Interfaith Witness Department received its first review Feb. 8 by the administrative committee of the HMB board of directors.

The department was directed to conduct the study by a motion passed at the 1992 Southern Baptist Convention in Indianapolis.

Although contents of the study will not be released until all members of the board have an opportunity to review it, reactions were positive. Ron Phillips, pastor of Central Church, Hixson, and chairman of the HMB board, described the study as "thorough and scholarly," predicting "a

and cut salaries of other professional staff by five percent. A. R. Fagan, commission president announced Feb. 10.

Fagan, in a news release, noted the commission also cut

majority of our Southern Baptist family will receive it well."

Larry Lewis, HMB president, said present plans call for the study and the board's report to be released at the March meeting of the HMB board of directors. That report, also directed by the 1992 annual convention, will contain a recommendation about freemasonry. Because of the length of the study, it will be made available at cost through the HMB's customer services department, Lewis said. The report is more concise and will be made available upon request, Lewis added.

"We pray that the Interfaith Witness Department study and the board's report will be well received and that the convention will be able to move on to pressing needs in missions and evangelism," Phillips said. □

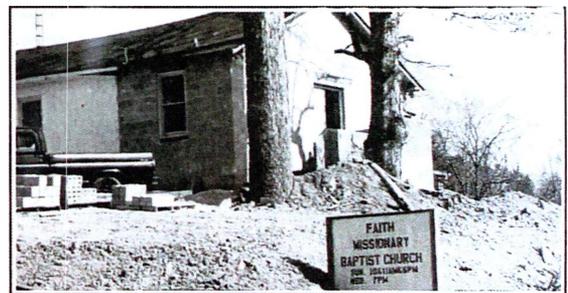
two positions last year after retirements. The reductions will leave it with 11 professional staff members, compared to 16 at the outset of 1992.

Additionally, the commission used some \$250,000 in reserve funds each of the past two years to meet its budget. In financial information presented to the SBC Executive Committee's program and budget subcommittee in January, commission reserves for the 1992-93 budget year stand at \$847,555, compared to \$1.1 million in 1991-92. Reserves are projected to be \$647,109 for 1993-94.

"Economic conditions the last few years have led us to believe that we should take the lead in downsizing our organization as a matter of good stewardship," Fagan said in the release.

He said the commission would continue to provide "the very best quality of materials for churches in promoting stewardship and the Cooperative Program."

Fagan said the agency also would continue to offer "Together We Build," a professional-led fund-raising service. □



FAITH MISSIONARY CHURCH in Lancing is the newest church in Big Emory Association. It was accepted into fellowship by the association last fall during annual session. Director of Missions Bill Bargiol, bottom left, recently presented a check to Pastor Benji Blackney, center, and church treasurer Jerry Landrum on behalf of the Tennessee Baptist Convention's Missions Department. The money, which comes from the Golden State Missions Offering, is to help the church in remodeling its present facility which is being provided to the congregation by Big Emory Association. — Photos by Lonnie Wilkey



## ■ about letters to the editor

- Make it concise, no more than 250 words. Letters may be edited for length.
- Name may be withheld for sufficient reason. Include address and phone number.
- Avoid personal attacks on the character or integrity of anyone.
- Send original copy. Form letters and "open" letters will not be published.
- Only one letter in a three-months period per writer will be published.
- If letter does not conform, it will be returned.
- Opinions and ideas expressed in letters are not necessarily shared by the *Baptist and Reflector* and its staff. □

### Missions giving

I want to express my appreciation for your support for foreign missions, especially in regard to your paper's emphases for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions. I have been heartened by the many positive messages of foreign missions coming from our state papers.

Because of your willingness to run numerous foreign missions articles, and due to the supportive words of your editorials, we look confidently for a strong ingathering of this offering. Of course it will take some time before we know the full outcome of the offering, but you deserve

bless you in your worthy ministry.

*Don Kammerdiener*  
Interim President, FMB  
Richmond, Va. 23230

### Longtime member

I am 83 years old. I have been a member of WMU since I was three. I was a Sunbeam (now Mission Friends), a GA (two age groups), a member of YWA (now Acteens), a member of WMS (now Baptist Women).

I liked WMU very much. I believe in everything we stood for. I don't like WMU to change, modify, supplement. I want WMU to stay as we were, a loyal auxiliary of the Southern Baptist Convention.

*Mrs. Paul Sliger*  
Niota 37826

### Thanks, from Chile

We have had 13 wonderful days with a construction team from First Church, Nashville.

It was a joy to work along side the group and see their sweet and willing spirits.

Fourth Baptist Church always will be grateful for them. As missionaries here in Concepcion, Chile, we will never forget their visit here.

We especially thank Cecil Palmer, the team leader, as well as Tom, Mike, Phil, Bob,

Jim, Ray, Ron, Mary Alice, Headley, Ethelene, Mark, Alan, Bob, and E. J. They are a very special group of people.

We are thankful for the Tennessee/Chile Partnership and how it has blessed Chile as well as we who are missionaries.

May God continue to bless the efforts of Tennessee Baptists. If you are considering coming to Chile talk to any of the above and they will be a big help.

*Bill, Linda, Michael, Taylor, and Mindy Clark*  
Concepcion, Chile

### Minister needed

I am the pastor of an English-speaking church in Asia. We need a staff member.

Our church here has experienced considerable growth. We are looking for a combination youth and music minister. Please share our need.

We have two English Sunday Schools and two English worship services on Sunday morning. We are near our capacity in these and may go to three worship services. This has been taxing on our music program. All of our music has been handled by volunteers. We have had FMB journeymen

to work with youth.

This summer, when our current journeyman leaves, we anticipate having a music and youth minister combination. Our desire is that would be a two-year commitment to our church. We are looking for someone either single or married without children.

Interested parties can contact me at the church at (65) 466-4911 or home number, (65) 763-6412. The address is: International Baptist Church, 90 King's Road, Singapore, 1026.

*David Packer, pastor*  
Singapore 1026



an immediate expression of gratitude for your efforts which promote the offering.

Thanks for your vision of taking the Gospel message to the uttermost parts of the earth. May God continually

## Draper cites concerns, actions at SSB; trustees adjust budget

By Charles Willis  
For Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — A short-term future "ripe with opportunities and challenges" will lead Baptist Sunday School Board to a long-term future of greater business and ministry effectiveness than ever before, President James T. Draper Jr. told the agency's trustees Feb. 8.

In a "State of the Sunday School Board" report, Draper

said while he is "extremely optimistic about where we're headed," administration concerns need trustee understanding, support, and assistance to reach "the potential that is ours for touching lives with the Gospel into the 21st century."

Acknowledging "many good things are happening now," Draper said his message focused on problems and concerns so trustees can "join with us in understanding them in order to most effectively take

action to deal with them."

The nine concerns listed were:

(1) Flat to declining sales. The board's total revenue has had real growth in only four of the last 10 years.

(2) Declining dated literature unit sales. From 1982-83 to 1990-91, unit sales declined eight percent or 4.4 million units. In the October-December 1992 quarter overall church literature dated unit sales declined 6.5 percent.

(3) Profitability. Only four of the board's 17 programs — Sunday School, Church Music, Church Administration, and Family Ministry — have generated a net contribution in each of the last three years.

(4) A poor track record for new business ventures.

(5) Contribution of products. Seven percent of board products provide 94 percent of product financial contribution.

(6) Image of the board among customers. Research in a recent image study showed frustration with the board on the part of some customers. Among comments from respondents was the observation that the board is a tremendous resource for Southern Baptists that will have less influence in the future if it does not change.

(7) Products which sell well

but do not generate income.

Draper cited the *Holman Bible Dictionary*, Anita Bryant's *A New Day*, and *The New American Commentary* as examples.

(8) Consistent mechanisms to secure, organize, and evaluate feedback.

(9) Accountability for results.

"While we have done many things well, there also are areas where improvement is needed," Draper told trustees. He cited steps underway to address the concerns.

Among them are developing a corporate business statement, strategic and business planning, placing priority attention on the image of the board among customers, and monitoring resources and their use.

Also, during the trustees' three-day session in Nashville, members authorized adjustments in the 1992-93 budget to allow the administration to "invest in tomorrow."

Trustees approved reducing the funds provided from the operations budget from \$5.3 million to \$1.1 million. That budget encompasses net revenue and other income remaining after all product and operational expenses and contributions for Southern Baptist Convention support have been

deducted.

In requesting the change, Draper said it would help to accommodate expenses incurred in implementing a restructuring which includes creation of strategic business units and decentralization of marketing and numerous support functions.

In a related area, trustees learned both revenue and expenses were below budget for the first quarter of 1992-93. Funds provided for operations for the quarter were \$404,000. The board had budgeted a loss of \$1.5 million; funds provided from operations for the same quarter last year totaled \$557,000.

Sales of Lifeway products, a new publishing imprint, were the brightest spot of the financial report with sales of \$689,000, 14.8 percent above budget and 128.9 percent above 1991-92.

Sales of church literature were 3.7 percent below budget and 5.6 percent below last year. Draper said contacts with customers about the decline indicate primary causes are changes in buying patterns such as buying for attendance rather than enrollment and the economy. — Linda Lawson contributed to this story. □

## Daily prayer requests for Chile/Tennessee Partnership

February —



- 17 — Pray for the church construction project underway at New Hope church in Arica.
- 18 — Pray strength and endurance for Nelly Concha, a new believer in Rancagua, she has suffered one crisis after another.
- 19 — Pray for Betesda Church Mission, Graneros. They meet in a home and need a public place so the work may grow.
- 20 — Ask God to help missionaries Steve and Mary Jo Cooke and Josis and Erika Fonseca as they work together in a new mission in Santiago.
- 21 — Rigoberto Molina, a recent graduate from the Baptist Theological Institute in Concepcion, asks prayer as he seeks God's will for his life.
- 22 — Pray birthday blessings for Bill Geiger. Ask the Lord to grant him grace and stamina as he cares for the physical needs of his ailing wife and adjusts to retirement.

# Intellectual, spiritual evidences in schools

Arthur Walker, distinguished executive director of the Education Commission for fourteen years, plans to retire September 1.

He has served ably and competently, with Christian vision for higher education during his tenure.

Baptist Seminary, College, and School Day is being observed February 21 by many Tennessee Baptist churches. The Tennessee Baptist Convention's three colleges and academy have benefited greatly by Walker's stellar leadership. We may feel closer to him than those in other states because he is "one of us," but his tall shadow falls across the entire Southern Baptist Convention — and beyond.

As a creditable preface to this paper's remarks about Tennessee Baptists' educational institutions, we publish Walker's last public thoughts on this special occasion.

## Faith fosters growth

The theme "Faith fosters growth" emphasizes that the Christian believer seeks true maturity. This means that the believer must grow both intellectually and spiritually. It is the way to "love God with one's mind."

Southern Baptist educational institutions are committed to this dual growth. As the professors and staff members in these schools encourage intellectual growth they also encourage the students to become

believers and to develop spiritually.

Spiritual development results as both faculty and students integrate their personal faith with their professional and intellectual development. Concern for spiritual development is the value-added element in church-related education.

The close tie between faith and learning has long been evident in Christian experience. Early Christian teachers saw the need for Christian schools where this two-fold emphasis could be made. Throughout the history of Christianity a major force has been the development of schools which emphasized intellectual and spiritual pursuits.

In Baptist history, William Carey placed his greatest emphasis on organizing schools, teaching, and the translation of the Bible into the language of those he sought to win to Christ. He saw intellectual pursuits as a way to win persons to faith in Christ.

The earliest Southern Baptist state conventions each organized schools to foster intellectual growth and to provide religious leaders for a new generation. This led to the development of Southern Baptist theological education.

Southern Baptist higher education has stressed that the dual emphasis on intellectual and spiritual growth is a significant

way to fulfill God's calling in one's life. Many see higher education as a way to heed the admonition of Peter to "grow in the grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (II Peter 3:18). — Arthur L. Walker.

Tennessee Baptists are blessed to have three unique institutions of higher education and a sturdy academy.

Union University, Carson-Newman College, and Belmont University are geographically located to afford quality college degrees to all Tennessee Baptist students. But this is not their chief characteristic.

When the colleges began, they may have been provincial, catering mainly to students of the region. They have long exceeded that attribute. So has Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy, which has high school students from around the world. They all provide the kinds of education which young people need and want.

Having that superb classroom stimulus, as Dr. Walker has explained, is a great bonus to those students.

Tennessee Baptists, while expressing pride in the educational institutions, know the schools are exponents of intellectual and spiritual learning. Knowledge in the areas of study is enhanced and empowered by a standard of excellence founded on Christian values.

The schools and the churches combine to make it so. Honor them February 21. □

By Wm. Fletcher Allen, editor

■ one word more

By Wm. Fletcher Allen editor

## Facing up to life

I'm not going to tell the entire life story of Helen Thayer, though it's exciting. I only want to share a portion.

Five years ago she fulfilled a dream. She trekked 364 miles in 27 days to become the first woman to reach the North Magnetic Pole — alone.

A veteran climber of the tallest mountains, she knew something of the privations she would have to endure.

She made it. Conquering treacherous ice floes, searing winds, numbing cold, blinding snow, she made it.

The harsh and unforgiving Arctic was conquered by a lone woman and a huge husky named Charlie.

In a freak accident just seven days short of safety and return to civilization, she lost almost all her food and stove fuel, and suffered an injury to her eyes that severely hampered her progress.

She mustered up all her courage, divided the remaining food into seven handfuls of walnuts. And then the amazing part of her story began.

Short of fuel, she could not thaw a good supply of water on her stove. Short of food, she was on the edge of having to halt.

What did she decide to do? Well, she said, "I won't even think about the polar bears." And listen:

"It was the same with food and water," she writes. "I found it to be a decided advantage to accept what I had and feel grateful for it rather than wish I had more.

"Wishing only made me feel even more hungry and thirsty, whereas acceptance and gratitude allowed me to channel my energy into moving ahead at a good pace."

I believe that makes a good formula for the Christian life. We may feel shortchanged and wish for more goods for living, or desire for a different spiritual gift. There is advantage in feeling grateful.

Facing the situation and forging ahead is good for witnessing, doing, being. It's better than "hanging in there." □



ALLEN

# College enrollments continue to increase

By Tim Fields  
For Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — Southern Baptist colleges and universities showed an overall increase in fall enrollment for the 11th consecutive year, according to figures released to the Southern Baptist Education Commission.

Enrollment figures for the 1992 fall semester show 115,353 students attended Southern Baptist colleges and universities, a 1.8 percent increase over the 1991 total of 113,262.

The enrollment figures include both full-time and part-time students in college credit courses but do not include students enrolled in noncredit courses. Enrollment statistics were released to the commission by each school.

A compilation of the figures shows that 36 of the 53 colleges and universities had an increase in enrollment ranging from 23.3 percent to 0.1 percent.

In Tennessee, Belmont University reported an enrollment of 2,866, up 1.6 percent; Carson-Newman College, 2,022, down 4.5 percent; and Union University 2,337, up 2.9 percent.

North Greenville College in Tigerville, S.C., had the largest percentage increase with 23.3 percent followed by Missouri Baptist College, St. Louis, 22.8 percent; William Carey College, Hattiesburg, Miss., 21.5 percent; Mobile (Ala.) College, 19.7 percent; East Texas Baptist University, Marshall, Texas, 18.6 percent; Truett-McConnell College, Cleveland, Ga., 14.8 percent; and Wayland Baptist University, Plainview, Texas, 12.4 percent.

Baylor University showed the largest numerical increase from fall 1991 to fall 1992, with 375 additional students followed by William Carey College, 360; Wayland Baptist University, 296; Mobile College, 278; Missouri Baptist College, 267; Truett-McConnell College, 242; and East Texas Baptist University, 189.

The last time overall enrollment in Southern Baptist colleges and universities decreased was in 1981, when enrollment was 91,602, a drop of less than one percent over the previous year.

The increased enrollment the past 11 years means 23,073 more students attended the 53 Southern Baptist colleges and universities during

the fall 1992 term than attended in fall 1982, for a net increase of 25 percent.

"The fact that a majority of the colleges and universities still experience growth in enrollment demonstrates the confidence that Southern Baptists have in their institutions of higher education even in an environment of change," said Arthur L. Walker Jr., executive director of the Education Commission.

"The faculty members and administrators of these institutions have demonstrated their Christian faith even as they have worked to strengthen the academic programs of these schools. With the national emphasis on education, we Christians must recognize that higher education offers a continuing opportunity for relating faith to all areas of knowledge and human endeavor.

"If the Christian faith is to impact experience, it must be related to the leaders, professionals, researchers, and scholars of society. The basic mission purpose of Baptist institutions is to equally emphasize personal faith and professional competency," Walker said. □

■ just for today  
By Fred Wood  
pastor emeritus  
Eudora Church, Memphis

## Start with a smile —

A man, viewing an artist's picture, said, "How realistic! It makes my mouth water!" The artist replied, "A sunset makes your mouth water?" He exclaimed, "Oh! I thought it was a fried egg!"

## Take this truth with you —

Things often are not what they seem! True wisdom is the ability to distinguish the things that are different and not be "swept off our feet" by every person who seeks to deceive us and lead us to adopt a false set of values or establish wrong priorities.

## Memorize this Scripture —

"Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you," (Matthew 6:33).

## Pray this prayer —

Lord, help me today to be keenly aware of the fact that some things are not as important as they seem to be and other things are far more important than they seem to be. Guide me to make wise decisions as I weigh the alternatives that I shall face today. □

## ■ Tennessee features

# Union missions team heals wounds, plants seeds in Honduras

By Tracey King  
For Baptist and Reflector

JACKSON — A team of 49 Union University students, faculty, alumni, and community volunteers traveled Jan. 15-22 to Honduras on a special mission — to provide healing for hurting bodies and troubled hearts.

The group, sponsored by the Honduras Baptist Medical and Dental Mission of Petal, Miss., spent five days in the remote mountain village of Reitoca providing health care and dentistry services as well as spreading the Gospel to the

people of the area.

"This trip was what I call 'religion in shoes,'" said Union President Hyran Barefoot, who served as a volunteer preacher for the week.

"We put our faith into practice and did something concrete to assist people in need," he said.

The team members consisted of four physicians, three dentists, an ocular surgeon, three pharmacists, five nurses, and a host of support personnel, including translators, cooks, and a mechanic. Fifteen students, who serve in a variety of ways, were on the team.

"My decision to study medicine was broadened this week," said Wes Brewer, a senior, who worked triage in the medical clinic. "I've always known I wanted to be a doctor, but now I realize it's more than my choice of profession. The Lord has called me to help the physical needs of others."

The medical clinic saw 2,155 patients and prescribed more than 9,000 medications. Three pre-med students, including Brewer, received firsthand experience as they assisted the physicians in treating the patients.

The dental team primarily extracted teeth. Over the five-day period the dentists saw 557 patients, extracted 1,108 teeth, and gave away 2,150 toothbrushes.

In addition to providing help for physical needs, the theme focused on the spiritual needs as well. Every patient was required to attend a tent service before entering the clinics. In each of the four or five daily services the Gospel was presented by one of the team preachers. Children were taught about Jesus' love through planned activities such as games and puppetry.



UNION PRE-MED students Matt Arant, Wes Brewer, and Kerry Ross record blood pressure, weight, and pulse stats from Honduran patients before they see the doctors in the medical clinic.



SOPHOMORE LEIGH ANN CARTER of Kentucky interprets for physician Tony Phillips, a cardiologist and member of First Church, Jackson, during a clinic in Reitoca, Honduras.

## Kingsport minister of music ends nearly 30 years of service

By Becky Whitlock  
Special to Baptist and Reflector

KINGSPORT — December marked the end of an era at First Church, Kingsport.

The last day of the month marked the last service at First Church for William Robinson, who has been the church's minister of music since 1963.

Robinson, 65, retired Dec. 31 and has moved with his wife Mildred to his hometown of Maryville.

"It will be sad," Robinson

said about leaving Kingsport. "You don't take off after three decades without mixed emotions. I'm glad I came. I'm glad I've stayed, and I'm glad its over as far as this phase of my work activity. The Lord has been good to me," he said.

Robinson accepted the call to come to Kingsport after serving as a minister of music in Clarksville. It is unusual, he said for a minister of music to remain at one church as long as he has. But he has his reasons: "the cooperative and talented people in the congrega-

tion, the agreeable people, the dedicated people, the ones who were faithful week in and week out, year in and year out. And I felt we were making progress musically," he said.

Among the highlights of his career were the formations of the handbell choir and the orchestra. The handbell choir is often used as a tool of ministry outside the church's walls. It has performed in Fourth of July and Christmas parades in Kingsport.

Robinson was a teenager when he decided to pursue a career as a minister of music.

"I feel that everyone has some opportunity for service to God and others through life, and I felt impressed that it was the Lord's will that I serve him through the ministry of music," Robinson said.

Robinson attended college in Maryville and then went to Union Theological Seminary in New York where he majored in church music.

He said he decided not to pursue a career as a professional musician in a symphony or other musical group because he did not possess the strong skills needed for such a life.

Robinson's best memories come from his first love — teaching others how to play music and then how to use it

in God's service.

"I feel my primary role in life is that of teacher. In the church I've had the freedom and the encouragement to teach people of all ages. It's probably my greatest earthly joy to see people learn and achieve and acquire a skill to be used in the worship of God," he said.

Williams has taught hundreds of classes during his 30 years in Kingsport. He was the first piano and strings teacher to all six of his children.



ROBINSON

In moving back to Maryville, Robinson plans to continue his work in music serving as an interim or short-term director for churches and to hold workshops and offer classes.

Though 65 is a relatively young age for retirement today, Robinson believes it is time to move on.

"I think I need a change of scenery and a little redirection from the rigid agenda you have to have to be involved in all the things I'm involved in at the church," he said, adding, "Church people need a little change, too." — Reprinted with permission from the *Kingsport Times-News* □



TENNESSEE REPRESENTATIVE Page Walley, center, recently received the Bill Bates Legislative Award from United Tennessee League for efforts in dealing with moral problems in the areas of substance abuse and gambling in Tennessee. Making the presentation were Waymon Jones, UTL executive director, left, and Bates, former TBC president from Jackson and public affairs consultant for the convention. Walley is a member of First Church, Bolivar.

## Fayette Association calls Campbell

Robert W. Campbell, former director of the Associational Evangelism Department of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, has begun duties as director of missions for Fayette Association, headquartered in Somerville.

The Sharon native retired from the HMB in December.

Campbell was a pastor for 26 years in Tennessee, Alabama, and Kentucky before he and his wife were appointed home missionaries in 1979. He later joined the staff of the

HMB. Campbell's Tennessee pastorates were First churches of Gleason and Rockwood.

Campbell holds degrees from Bethel College, McKenzie, and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He and his wife Ann have three daughters and six grandchildren. □



CAMPBELL

## State's oldest Baptist college committed to heritage

By Lonnie Wilkey  
associate editor

**JACKSON** — Union University, Tennessee Baptists' institution of higher education in West Tennessee, has an impressive past with a strong tradition of providing quality, Christian education.

And, says President Hyran Barefoot, he plans for that tradition to continue.

The university's promotional materials cites Union as the "oldest school in the Southern Baptist Convention." The school traces its roots to Jackson Male Academy, which was founded in 1823. It later became West Tennessee College. This institution continued until 1874 when it was offered to and accepted by Tennessee Baptists. It was chartered as Southwestern Baptist University in 1875. The name was changed to Union University in 1907.

In the fall of 1925 the university's board of trustees deeded all of the property of Union to the Tennessee Baptist Convention, and secured a new charter which vested all rights and authority in the convention, which elects trustees for the school.

Union moved to a new campus of 190 acres, located in north Jackson in 1975. Enrollment has grown from about 1,000 students to more than 2,000. Union also has an off campus center at and in cooperation with the School of Nursing of Baptist Memorial Hospital in Memphis.

Union can and will continue to grow, predicts Barefoot, who, except for a two-year period, has been on Union's staff since 1957. He served as vice president for academic affairs, before assuming the presidency in 1987.

One sign of growth is the need for new space. Trustees have voted to build 30 new

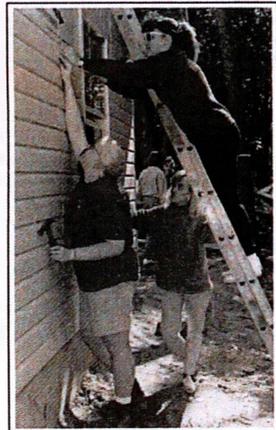
apartments, housing 120 students, which will be ready this fall. Also, construction is to begin this spring for a new student union building, to be ready by fall 1994, which will provide facilities for a cafeteria, post office, bookstore, suite of offices for student affairs and religious affairs, and much more.

The new building will free up about 25,000 square feet of space in the administration building which will be renovated for academic purposes, Barefoot notes.

Barefoot predicts that Union could have as many as 2,500 students on the Jackson campus within the next five to 10 years. In addition, the school has 421 students in the nursing program at Memphis.

Also, a graduate program in education was approved for accreditation last June, and the number in that program almost doubled, from 48 in the fall of 1991 to 81 last fall, Barefoot observes.

There are challenges which must be met, Barefoot acknowledges. Funding is a key



**MISSIONS** is a vital part of Union University. Last fall these Union students helped build a Habitat for Humanity house in Jackson.



**UNION PRESIDENT HYRAN BAREFOOT**, front center, is assisted by vice presidents, from left, standing, Larry Stewart, development; Gary Carter, business affairs; Howard Newell, academic affairs; seated, Maggie Nell Brewer, students affairs; and John Adams, religious affairs.

area. Our tuition and fees are modest when compared to other Baptist colleges, he said, but "we are going to have to find funding to do the things we are going to do."

Another challenge will be finding qualified faculty with advance degrees who will fit into a Christian college.

That is especially important because Union has no intention of straying from its Baptist heritage, Barefoot says. "I could not foresee Union wanting to cease becoming a Tennessee Baptist school. We are happy, blessed, and comfortable in being associated with Baptist churches," the Union president said.

Vice President for Academic

Affairs Howard Newell agrees. It is important to find a "niche" in the marketplace, he notes. "We are not the University of Tennessee or Memphis State University. We cannot be all things to all people. Our niche is a strong academic program ... and a commitment to Christian faith. We have both now."

That can continue by continuing to employ a faculty who have strong academic credentials and "who are unashamedly committed Christians," he says.

John Adams, the university's vice president for religious affairs, observes "there is no contradiction, but indeed a definite correlation between excellence in Christian education at its best and missions and

evangelism and meeting human needs." Union has been a leader in sending summer missionaries and in other areas of Baptist student work.

During the past year there were 712 known professions of faith as a result of students and faculty witnessing, Adams says. In January several Union faculty, staff, and students joined alumni on a mission trip to Honduras (see story on page 6). "We are getting more and more of our faculty involved in missions," Adams notes.

One faculty member who has served in a mission role is Louise Bentley, professor of English at Union for 12 years. In 1991 she taught conversational English in China under the auspices of Cooperative Services International, a Foreign Missions Board endeavor. "I was amazed at all kinds of things God allowed to happen," she says, adding that she came away with a new understanding of how desperately some people really want to learn.

Bentley has taught in both state and private schools. She appreciates the Christian goals and commitment of Union. She is convinced education and faith can coexist. "Christian faith rounds one's thinking," she notes.

And, Union is committed to that principle up front, Barefoot says. It is "on top of the table," he says, proclaiming. "We emphasize our religious heritage." — This article continues a series of stories on TBC departments and institutions. □

## A quick glimpse of Union University

**The College:** Union University is a private, four-year, coeducational, liberal arts college. Founded in 1823, Union is the oldest college in the Southern Baptist Convention. It is fully accredited and affiliated with the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

**Location:** Union is situated on 190 acres in Jackson, on U.S. 45 Bypass at Interstate 40. Jackson, a city of 50,000, is located 80 miles east of Memphis and 120 miles west of Nashville.

**Campus:** Facilities include 225,000 square-foot Penick Academic Complex and 30,000 square-foot Blasingame Academic Complex. On the grounds are men's and women's apartment villages and commons buildings as well as varsity baseball and intramural softball fields and tennis courts.

**Academics:** Union offers more than 40 fields of study in the arts, sciences, and social sciences. Union confers the bachelor of arts, bachelor of science, bachelor of music, bachelor of science in business administration, associate of nursing, and bachelor of

science in nursing degrees.

**Costs:** Union is one of the lowest priced four-year private colleges in Tennessee. The approximate total cost for 1993-94 for a full-time resident student including tuition, room and board, and books is \$8,000. For winter term, summer terms, and Evening Program costs, consult Union catalog or call the admissions office.

**Accreditation:** Union is fully accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, the National League of Nursing (for both associate and bachelor degrees in nursing), and the National Association of Schools of Music.

**Admissions:** ACT/SAT scores, academic transcripts, \$10 application fee, and Union application for admission are required.

**Financial Aid:** Financial aid includes scholarships, grants, loans, and campus work. Approximately 80 percent of Union students receive financial aid.

**For more information:** Call the admissions office at (901) 668-1818.



**LYNN GIBSON**, center, assistant director of admissions, visits with Tennessee Baptist students Heather Denton, left, of First Church, Bolivar, and Corey Meggs of First Church, Bruceton.



# Ray Maynard finds friends 'behind the wall'

By Connie Davis  
Baptist and Reflector

His first experience at teaching a Bible study in a correctional institution would have put many people off.

After driving 90 miles to reach Brushy Mountain State Penitentiary, Ray Maynard ended up in a janitor's training room with wall-to-wall inmates — 13 — vacuum cleaners, and no guard, he recalled. It was stifling and scary, but he was so emotionally moved by the turnout, he stayed.

Six months later at the end of the *MasterLife* study he had nine new friends — those who had completed the study. Lives were changed, and inmates in other correctional institutions because of that study, claimed the Tennessee director of missions who became Tennessee Baptist Convention's consultant for prison ministries because of the experience.



MAYNARD

## Robert Gibson finds freedom behind bars

When Ray Maynard first met Robert Gibson, he was a student in his *MasterLife* class at Brushy Mountain State Penitentiary, Petros. Gibson was the one who wouldn't read. When Maynard called on him, another student always spoke up first.

Maynard had almost figured out the mystery when Gibson surprised him during one class by presenting the lengthy *Disciple's Cross* presentation from *MasterLife* without hesitation.

After the class, Maynard couldn't control his curiosity. He asked one of Gibson's friends about the change in him.

The friend explained he and others taught Gibson the assignment and they were teaching him how to read.

Maynard was so impressed by Gibson's effort, he tried to be a friend. He learned Gibson as a boy experienced little family support and no spiritual training.

Gibson's background — similar to other inmates — impressed this Tennessee director of missions of the importance of discipleship for such new Christians — exactly what *MasterLife* promotes.

The result for one man was that he changed during those six months, said Maynard. "I

Maynard doesn't refer to his impact on inmates in other institutions. He explained. After the study, God dispersed most of those men to other state institutions to teach just like the believers cited in Acts 1, said Maynard. (See separate story about one student, Robert Gibson, on this page.)

When they aren't teaching studies, which is allowed in

only a few of the state's correctional institutions, noted Maynard, those original students are supporting studies and personally discipling other inmates. Exponentially, the number affected by that one study three and a half years ago is great, he added, which motivates him.

But because of the restrictions on inmates teaching oth-

er inmates, more volunteers are needed, stated Maynard. Only 28 volunteers are currently teaching discipling courses to Tennessee's 15,000 inmates. Only 240 are enrolled in one of the courses, he reported.

Maynard recommends the use of discipling courses or the Life courses produced by the Baptist Sunday School Board. He said he has met too many inmates who became Christians when children or youth who weren't disciplined and thus, left their faith. He has met some who have even turned from Christianity to Satanism, he noted. Other Life courses besides *MasterLife* are *PrayerLife*, *Experiencing God*,

and *Making Peace with Your Past*, all produced by the Baptist Sunday School Board.

The groundwork for more classes has been laid by Maynard. Of the 16 state institutions where inmates stay more than six months and one federal institution in Millington, 14 have the groups.

It is for both practical and spiritual reasons that Baptists should disciple Christian inmates, said Maynard. It costs a taxpayer about \$25,000 a year to provide for each inmate, he noted.

"We're saving money if we help them now and help them stay out when they get out." — Maynard

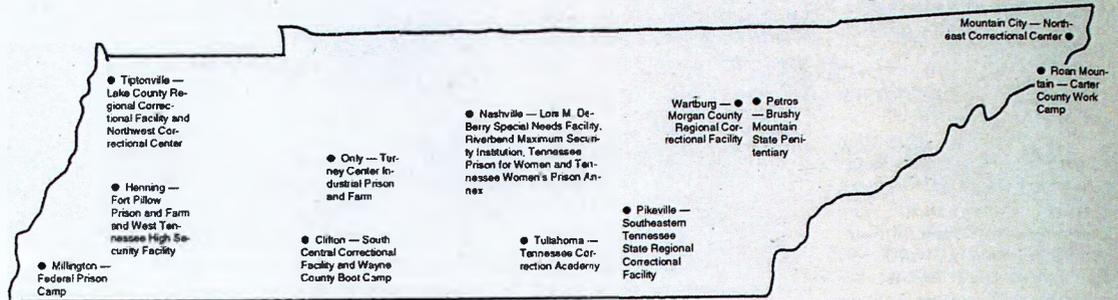
and *Making Peace with Your Past*, all produced by the Baptist Sunday School Board.

The groundwork for more classes has been laid by Maynard. Of the 16 state institutions where inmates stay more than six months and one federal institution in Millington, 14 have the groups.

It is for both practical and spiritual reasons that Baptists should disciple Christian inmates, said Maynard. It costs a taxpayer about \$25,000 a year to provide for each inmate, he noted.

"We're saving money if we help them now and help them stay out when they get out," he said, referring to the high rate of recidivism.

## Prison Ministries in Tennessee



State and federal correctional institutions are listed except service centers and reception centers where limited stays restrict ministry. The institution in Only lacks any Baptist ministry. Ray Gilder, Missions, Tennessee Baptist Convention, coordinates the ministry.

## Baptist chaplains in correctional institutions for adults —

- Charles Christopher Southeastern Tennessee State Regional Correctional Facility Pikeville
- Joseph Crichton Brushy Mountain State Penitentiary Petros
- Roy J. Fullilove Memphis
- Richard Kenyon Lake County Regional Correctional Facility Tiptonville
- Terrell L. Walker West Tennessee High Security Facility Henning
- Randall Runions South Central Correctional Facility Clifton

schoolteachers to Vietnam veterans, said Maynard. Many have served for many years at correctional institutions. He recruits others through directors of missions in the state's 68 associations. He also trains volunteers.

Assistance for volunteers also comes from chaplains, five of whom are Baptist, added Maynard.

Does he still drive 180 miles each Monday evening to teach a study at Brushy Mountain Penitentiary after three years? Yes. □

The volunteers range from

# TenneScene ■ the people, their work

## ■ the associations

■ **Copper Basin Association** will hold an evangelism conference Feb. 26-27 at Mine City Church, Ducktown. Ron Owens of the Home Mission Board prayer and spiritual awakening department, will lead worship.

■ The evangelism conference of **Cumberland Association** will be Feb. 25 at Hildale Church, Clarksville. Sunday School Board President James Draper Jr. will be guest speaker.

■ **Morris Chapman**, president of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, will speak at the **Riverside Association** evangelism conference March 2. First Church, Livingston, will host

the 7 p.m. conference. Music will be provided by First Church's sanctuary choir and the Heightsmen Quartet of Belmont Heights Church, Nashville.

■ **Ray Newcomb** will be evangelist for the **Dyer Association** evangelism conference Feb. 23 at Southside Church, Dyersburg.

## ■ the churches

■ Members of **Cross Bridges Church, Columbia**, will celebrate the church's 98th anniversary Feb. 21. Dan McDaniel will be guest speaker. Lunch will be served, followed by a music service in the afternoon.

■ **First Church, Hendersonville**, will host a Spring

Women's Conference, "Come Together with Joy," March 13. Kay DeKalb Smith will be guest speaker.

■ Revival will be March 7-10 at **Indian Ridge Church, Blaine**. Evangelist will be Hollie Miller.

■ **Paul Phillips** of Southwestern Seminary, will lead a youth revival Feb. 26-28 at **Southside Church, Dyersburg**. Phillips will use art and drama in his presentations dealing with the topic of "Creating Christianity for Critical Times."

■ Members of **Fellowship Church, Allons**, recently made the final church parsonage payment and burned the note.

■ The congregation of **Mount Zion Church, Alexandria**, participated in a groundbreaking service for a new fellowship hall Feb. 7.

■ The new sanctuary for **Allen Church, Brownsville**, was dedicated Jan. 31. E. B. Bowen was guest speaker.

■ **First Church, Nashville**, will host a winter Bible study Feb. 21-24. The lesson on Matthew 5-7, the Sermon on the Mount, will be taught by Frank Staggs.

## ■ the leaders

■ **Harry Neal**, Hamilton, Ohio, is the new pastor of First Church, Byrdstown. He began his duties Jan. 17.

■ **Roger Beshears** is now serving New Prospect Church, Lawrenceburg.

■ **Calvary Church, Mooresburg**, called **Ted Trent** as pastor Jan. 10.

■ **Ellendale Church, Memphis**, has called **Glen Putman**, as pastor. He was on the staff of Lakewood Church, Birmingham, Ala. He has served churches in Mississippi, Louisiana, and Alabama and taught at Samford University. Putman is a graduate of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Mississippi State University.

■ **Siam Church, Elizabethton**, elected **Andy Price** as interim music director.

■ **Bethel Church, Troy**, has called **James Franks** as pastor.

■ **Michael Newberry** of Arkansas is serving as pastor of Cottonwood Church, Ridgely.

■ **Mount Moriah Church, Obion**, has called **Bobby Barnett** as pastor.

■ **New Salem Church, Kenton**, has called **Ed Marbury** as pastor.

■ **Tom Griffin** is serving Reelfoot Church Troy, as pastor.

■ **Don Robinson** is serving Samburg Church, Samburg, as pastor.

■ **Willingham Memorial Church, Ridgely**, is being led by **Larry Clark**, pastor.

■ The associate pastor/youth outreach director of Fellowship Church, Knoxville, is **Charles (Chuck) Webb**, effective Jan. 24.

■ **David and Tina Sam-**

ples have been called to serve First Church, Monterey. David, a graduate of Harrison-Chilhowee Academy, Seymour, and Union University, Jackson, is assistant pastor. Tina is minister of music. She graduated from West Texas State University, Canyon, Texas.

■ **Steve Carpenter** is the new pastor of Russwood Church, Springville. He recently graduated with a



CARPENTER

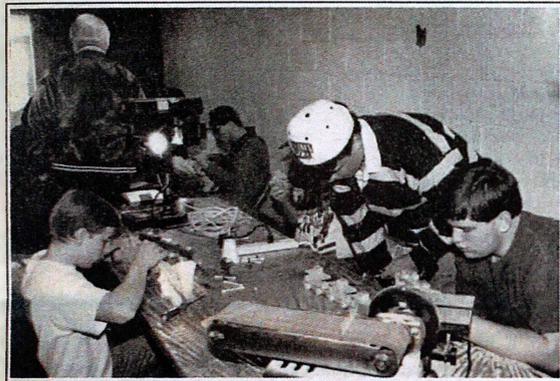
master of divinity degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth. His experience includes service as associate pastor, First Church, Azle, Texas; youth pastor, Summerwood Church, Olive Branch Mississippi, and youth minister, Bellevue Church, Memphis.

■ **James Abbitt**, pastor, Maranatha Church, Humboldt, since 1975, began serving Idlewild Church, Idlewild, Feb. 7.

■ Serving as minister of education, Colonial Church, Memphis, is **Steve Wisner**, formerly minister of education, Ardmore Church.

■ Members of Forest Hill Church, Germantown, recently welcomed **Jeff Taylor** as the new pastor. He moved to Tennessee from the pastorate of North Avenue Church, Whitesboro, Texas.

■ North Carolina native **Desi Ginn** is the new pastor of Shaw's Chapel, Brownsville.



ABOUT 60 YOUNG MEN assembled a dozen toy trains from hand-crafted wood parts for Gatlinburg area churches during the High School Baptist Young Men's Rally Feb. 5-7. Plans were used from the "Mission Blueprints" feature in *Missions Today* magazine for Baptist men. The hands-on missions project was directed by M. B. Howard, Covington, the Brotherhood Commission coordinator for volunteers on construction projects.

# Tennessee Sampler ■ views, insights

The article by the late John Pippin was one of the last columns he wrote as director of missions for the Shiloh Association newsletter. What he said is appropriate to the lifestyle of Baptists who are missionaries. Pippin died of cancer Jan. 30. Like all missionaries, he lived it.

—Editor

## Missionary or mission field?

John Pippin

"If you are not a missionary, you are a mission field." That statement was made by a missionary giving a personal testimony during a World Missions Conference. That sounds good and even looks good, but have you received a "call" to be a missionary? God does "call" persons to be missionaries, but just because he has not called

you should not make you a mission field. Should it?

That seems to be the perception of multitudes of followers who should be out in the harvest field, but instead are waiting for a strange feeling or looking for signs in the sky. A child of God does not need to have a "call" to say, "Here I am; send me, Lord."

God has plainly called every believer to "go" and "be my witnesses." Those orders are in black and white recorded under the direction of the Holy Spirit from the lips of the Savior. His orders are not suggestions, but commandments; nor are they one of several lifestyles from which we choose. So for the child of God, it is either go and be a witness or be a mission field to whom God will send another.

If the command isn't enough to make you a missionary, look at the need. This nation becomes more pagan each day.

Millions die daily who are already dead in sin. They are your family, neighbors, friends. What are you waiting for? If you don't go, no one may go!

The Bible says that the love of Christ constrains or compels you. Having experienced the forgiving, redeeming love of God in Christ, you just can't keep it. Born again children of God are missionaries. You have the command; don't wait for the "call." When you wait for the "call" you are a mission field. □

## Sin is the main controversy

Dona L. Fachman, pastor Meridian Church, Knoxville

A question was voiced to me the other day about controversial issues of our day. From my perspective there is no controversy on most of the so called

controversial issues of the day. God said, "Know ye not that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God" (1 Corinthians 6:9-10).

I don't believe God ever repealed the Ten Commandments. In fact, Christ expanded the implications of the Mosaic Law in the Sermon on the Mount.

The only controversy is how long will God allow a so-called Christian nation to continue in sexual perversion, avarice and greed, murder of the unborn for personal gratification and abhorrence of moral righteousness? From my perspective there is no debate. Sin is still sin and mankind is still mankind, inclined toward sin

and the flesh.

The answer is not preaching against sins but preaching to saints that they begin to look less and less like sinners. Christ never said the world would be changed by condemning sin but converting sinners into saints.

It will take saints that closely resemble Christians of New Testament days, to save a world that looks amazingly like the New Testament world of sin.

Homosexuality, immorality, perversion, murder, greed, and the like are not peculiar to our day, but it will take a peculiar people to make a difference today. God said, "For I am the Lord your God; ye shall therefore sanctify yourselves, and ye shall be holy; for I am holy" (Leviticus 11:44). It is time to start standing out in the crowd and making a difference in this old world. And it needs to begin with us! □

# HMB report — bivocational churches strong in baptisms, missions giving

By David Winfrey  
For Baptist Press

ATLANTA — Although smaller and less affluent than other Southern Baptist churches, congregations with bivocational pastors have a higher

rate of baptisms and hold their own in other key statistics, according to a report by the Home Mission Board.

"It's encouraging for those bivocational pastors, particularly in new work areas, that the church doesn't necessarily have to suffer because they're working another job," said Steve Whitten, author of the report and associate director of the HMB program research department.

More than 25 percent of all Southern Baptist churches have a bivocational pastor, but some question whether their work is valued as much as their fully funded counterparts. This report, church-starting leaders say, proves the effectiveness of pastors who work a secular job to support their ministry.

The study, based on 1991 Uniform Church Letter reports from constituted churches, found congregations with bivocational pastors have 4.1 baptisms for every 100 resident members. Churches with non-bivocational pastors have a baptism rate of 3.8.

"Because the pastor is bivocational, there may be broader

lay involvement in doing evangelism," Whitten said.

The study also found bivocational churches compare favorably to non-bivocational churches in other categories, including the percentage of budget going to missions and the percentage of resident members attending Sunday School.

At least 9,470 Southern Baptist churches have bivocational pastors, according to the study. While that is 30 percent of churches reporting to have pastors, those churches have only 12 percent of the resident members.

The actual number of bivocational churches is probably higher, HMB church extension leaders said. African-American and ethnic churches, which have a high percentage of pastors working a secular job, often don't fill out the Uniform Church Letter, leaders said.

Willie McPherson, HMB director of black church extension, estimated more than 50

percent of black Southern Baptist churches have bivocational pastors.

The term "bivocational" does not translate well into other languages, often suggesting the pastor's secular job is more important than the ministry calling, ethnic church starters say. Instead, they use the term "messengers of the Word."

More than 40 percent of ethnic Southern Baptist churches are led by such pastors, said Rodney Webb, HMB director of language church starting.

Bivocational churches are not as strong in average resident membership, total receipts per resident member and enrollment in Discipleship Training, Woman's Missionary Union, and Brotherhood, according to the report.

Charles Chaney, HMB extension vice president, said he believes comparisons of equal-size churches would show bivocational churches are

just as effective as non-bivocational. These pastors were instrumental in the growth of the convention, he said. □

Convention	Total churches with pastors	Churches with bivocational pastors
Montana	53	31 (49%)
Wyoming	51	21 (41%)
Utah-Idaho	82	33 (40%)
Tennessee	2,384	943 (40%)
Alabama	2,646	1,022 (39%)
Missouri	1,620	615 (38%)
Kentucky	1,872	687 (37%)
Dakota	50	18 (36%)
Arkansas	1,126	405 (36%)
Illinois	750	269 (36%)
Iowa	54	19 (35%)
Michigan	178	62 (35%)
New England	73	25 (34%)
Georgia	2,581	865 (34%)
Kansas-Nebraska	210	70 (33%)
Indiana	251	82 (33%)
Minnesota-Wisconsin	71	23 (32%)
Alaska	42	13 (31%)
Mississippi	1,738	506 (29%)
Northwest	275	79 (29%)
Oklahoma	1,235	354 (29%)
Louisiana	1,163	320 (28%)
Ohio	426	116 (27%)
New Mexico	211	55 (26%)
West Virginia	102	26 (26%)
Texas	3,532	892 (25%)
Puerto Rico	37	9 (24%)
California	831	199 (24%)
North Carolina	3,010	708 (24%)
New York	86	20 (23%)
Pennsylvania-S. Jersey	83	18 (22%)
Florida	1,471	311 (21%)
Virginia	1,322	256 (19%)
Hawaii	42	8 (19%)
Arizona	237	42 (18%)
South Carolina	1,564	276 (18%)
Colorado	160	28 (18%)
Nevada	63	10 (16%)
Maryland-Delaware	223	34 (15%)
District of Columbia	1	0 (0%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>31,916</b>	<b>9,470 (30%)</b>

Source — Compiled by the Home Mission Board's research department from 1991 Uniform Church Letters of constituted churches.

Areas studied	Churches with bivocational pastors	Churches with non-bivocational pastors
Total number	9,470	22,446*
Percentage of total	29.7	70.3
Number rural	7,332	11,747
Number urban	2,138	10,699
Baptisms per 100 resident members	4.1	3.8
Churches organized in 1980 or later	1,035	1,866
Average resident membership	122	373
Average resident membership - rural	106	213
Average resident membership - urban	178	548
Percentage of resident members attending Sunday School	36.4	37.1
Percentage of church budget to missions	13.9	14.7
Total receipts per resident member	\$307	\$500
Percentage of members enrolled in Discipleship Training	17.9	21.6
WMU	9.5	11.6
Brotherhood	4.7	5.9

\* This does not represent all Southern Baptist churches because 6,305 either did not have a pastor or did not complete the information needed on the 1991 Uniform Church Letter.

## Ad for youth incorrect

The date for dinner at Belmont University prior to the Youth Evangelism Conference was incorrect in the ad in last week's *Baptist and Reflector*. The conference is March 12-13. Attendees are invited to dinner at Belmont on Friday, March 12. The university regrets any inconvenience the error may have caused.

**A&O CHURCH FURNITURE**  
4871 HARVEY RD. • P.O. BOX 1853  
JAMESTOWN, NORTH CAROLINA 27222

— PEW —  
**UPHOLSTERING**  
1 800 521 7958  
N 1 800 222 7875  
REUPHOLSTERING

## Classified

Schedule your week or weekend retreats at Camp Carson or Linden. For details, write or call Grace Darden, Tennessee Baptist Convention, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, Tenn. 37024-0728 or (615) 371-2013.

**Classified**

**USED PEWS (46)**, like new, fully upholstered in red with med. oak fin., mostly 8' & 9' lgths. Call John at (615) 754-5448.

Get Free BROCHURE

**BAPTISTRIES HEATERS, PUMPS FACTORY DIRECT**  
TOLL FREE NATIONWIDE  
1-800-251-9679

FIBERGLASS BAPTISTRY CO  
3111 HANSON PIKE • CHATTAHOOCHEE, TN 37415

**BOWLING UNITED INDUSTRIES**  
Lights Baptismal Signs Steeples

Box 2250 • Danville, VA 24541  
FAX: 804-822-2210

**CHURCH FURNITURE**  
by LINDSEY

DIRECT FROM THE FACTORY—PEWS, PULPIT TABLES, CHAIRS, FIBRE GLASS BAPTISTRIES AND CLASSROOM EQUIPMENT

PHONE 615-762-2249  
BOX 429  
LAWRENCEBURG, TENN. 38464

Pews, pulpits, baptistries, steeples, chairs, tables, lighting, stained glass, folding doors, carpet

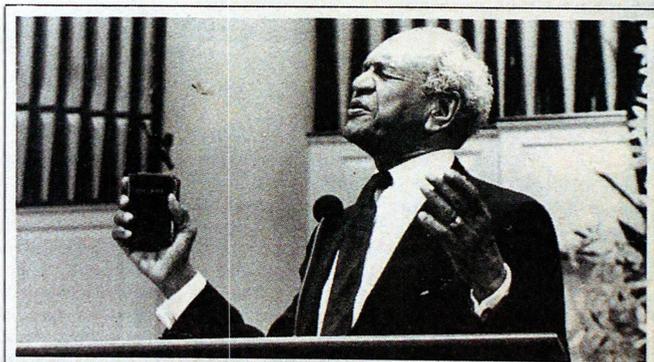
**VAN WINKLE CHURCH FURNISHINGS & PEW UPHOLSTERY**

Box 501, Fulton, MS 38843  
In MS TOLL FREE 1-800-624-9627  
Outside MS TOLL FREE 1-800-821-7263

**Career Services**

Belmont University, whose vision is to be a premier teaching university bringing together the best of liberal arts and professional education in a consistently caring Christian environment is seeking an Associate Director for an Innovative Total Quality Management Career Services Team. Preferred qualifications: master's, career services experience, dedication to TQM. Letter, resume, 3 references by 3-15-93 to: Ms. Charisie Matthews, Office of Career Services, 1900 Belmont Boulevard, Nashville, Tenn., 37212-3757.

## Beeson Divinity School presents



**GARDNER C. TAYLOR**  
Pastor Emeritus, Concord Baptist Church, Brooklyn, NY

INAUGURAL LECTURER  
William E. Conger, Jr., Lectures on Biblical Preaching  
MARCH 9-11

For information write: Dr. Timothy George, Dean, Beeson Divinity School, Samford University, Birmingham, AL 35229. Telephone Toll Free 1-800-888-8266.

**Samford University**  
Birmingham, Alabama 35229

Samford University is an Equal Opportunity Institution and welcomes applications for employment and educational programs from all individuals regardless of race, color, sex, handicap, or national or ethnic origin.

# ■ Sunday School lesson commentary

## □ Affirmation of faith — Bible Book Series for February 21

By Bill Wolfe, pastor, First Church, Counce

What is an "affirmation?" Perhaps we understand what it means to affirm our faith by looking at others. John Knoz said, "Give me Scotland or I die!" D.L. Moody, upon hearing the world had yet to see what God could do with one man totally committed to God, said, "I'll be that man!" Peter affirmed his faith when he said, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God!" Affirming one's faith requires commitment to Christ, a willingness to submit to him and his will.

In this lesson, the psalmists are encompassed by problems and enemies. Can you think of a better time to affirm your faith than during times of trial and facing enemies?

### Psalm 23

It is wonderful to be able to

say, "The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want." He is not "a" shepherd, but "the" Shepherd. This one statement lays the foundation for what is to come. In this psalm we have life, death, and eternity.

### Life — vv. 1-3

A shepherd knows how to care for sheep and wants the best for them. In these verses we see what makes life so wonderful. We have relationship in the statement, "The Lord is my Shepherd," contentment in "I shall not want," rest in "He maketh me to lie down," refreshment in "He leadeth me beside the still waters," restoration in, "He restoreth my soul," and direction in "He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name sake." This life can be ours because of the Good

Shepherd who said, "I lay down my life for my sheep."

### Death — vv. 4-5

There is absolute confidence in David's writing in verse 4. He said, "I will fear no evil."

### Basic Passage: Psalm 23; 27; 118

Death is an enemy, and comes because the wages of sin is death. But David said he would go through the valley to be at home with the Lord. You have no need to fear death when you are a Christian. There is nothing wrong in going through the valley, as long as you can see the light of the Lord's presence on the way out.

### Eternity — v. 6

We can have the assurance of a never-ending stay in the

Lord's presence because of all the Good Shepherd has done for us. Read Isaiah 53.

### Psalm 27:1-4, 10-14

There is no statement so revealing as that in verse 1: "The Lord is my light and my salvation." David found his light and salvation in a person, Jehovah himself, not in any institution or program. This light and salvation are also his strength. All of these are ours because of Jesus Christ. Light, salvation, and strength are the themes of the Bible and the Christian life.

In the second part of this psalm, verses 10-14, the theme changes to the hope of the world. The psalmist takes the position of a child seeking leadership and instruction from another. These verses reveal the goodness of God. In a world of

chaos and disappointment, we can find peace and calm in the goodness of God.

### Psalm 118:28-29

Psalm 118 begins with an affirmation of faith by issuing a call to praise. The psalmist wanted no praise or rejoicing in himself, but in Jehovah. He said, "Thou art my God, and I will praise thee; I will exalt thee." We affirm our faith in giving praise to the one who is worthy of it. This enables us to see God in the right light.

The Psalmist closes with thanksgiving to the Lord. He calls on all those who have heard to give thanks unto the Lord. We give him thanks because of his enduring mercy.

Affirm your faith in Jesus Christ. He is a friend who sticks closer than a brother. □

## □ Serve and honor — Convention Uniform Series for February 21

By Terry Bradshaw, pastor, Zion Hill Church, Sevierville

We start today's lesson with a verse from Romans 14: "Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another." This is what I call a principle of harmony in the New Testament church. To reach the desired end of "peace" and "edification," one must exercise mutual understanding and corporation under the lordship of Jesus Christ.

The world constantly challenges us to think all that really matters in life is ourselves. The world has successfully taught that self gratification should be our top priority.

In our text, Paul calls for us to consider the consequences of our actions. He knew claiming certain rights and privileges

without considering fellow Christians could damage the fellowship and hinder the testimony of the church. For Paul, this meant there are times when we should sacrifice privilege for the sake of edification and peace in the body of Christ.

### Choices — vv. 1-4

Paul's words in verses 1-2 call for us to make a choice regarding those weaker in the faith. He said the "strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak" (v. 1). The word "ought" in the text means to be under obligation to help the weak bear their "infirmities" (weaknesses).

He further suggested it should be a Christian's desire to "please his neighbor for his good to edification," (v. 2). Hu-

man nature teaches that if we are to please someone, it should be ourselves, not others. The Bible teaches the opposite. A true Christian should be concerned with more than himself. The Word says it is imperative to consider the spiritual well-being of others.

Paul offered two examples. Christ was the first: "For even Christ pleased not himself," (v. 3). The second example was Christ's willingness to sacrifice and the many examples of selflessness in the Old Testament (v. 4). As Christians look at these examples of selfless living from the past, they can find hope for the future.

### Choices that build fellowship — vv. 5-13

It was Paul's prayer that

God grant to them to be "like-minded" (v. 5) as they lived and worshiped together. Working for unity and harmony is a responsibility all need to take seriously. A unified body accomplishes far more than one fragmented and divided.

Paul mentioned the goal we should work for as we seek to unify the body, "That we may with one mind and one mouth glorify God," (v. 6). Paul knew unity would enhance fellowship and open doors of opportunity that otherwise would be closed. But foremost, it would bring honor and glory to God.

So, he challenged them once again to, "receive ye one another, as Christ also received us to the glory of God," (v. 7). The word "receive" is translated "ac-

cept" by the New International Version and might be easier to understand in today's time. Both words point us to our Christian obligation to consider the spiritual well-being of others.

### Basic Passage Romans 15:1-13

In closing, Paul prayed for joy, peace, and hope for all (v. 13). These three grow strong in an environment where there is mutual understanding and unity. It is our Christian responsibility to work to create such an environment, a place where we not only serve and honor God, but also each other. □

## □ Reunion and reconciliation — Life and Work Series for February 21

By Toby Everett, pastor, Walker Memorial Church, Franklin

I was in the seventh grade when my pee wee football team was playing the Cross Town team in a heated contest. My best friend played for the rival and was having a great game. I also was playing better than usual and on an end run my friend delivered a vicious hit and I had to leave the game for a couple of plays.

Upon returning to the game, I was determined to get even with him. I called the same play I was injured on and again it was my friend and me in a crash. This time he left the game for two plays. For the rest of the contest, we exchanged cheap shots and hard licks to accomplish only one thing — a severed friendship.

For about a week, we didn't speak to one another at school. I remember how happy we were

when we swallowed our pride and admitted our regret for the way we behaved in the game. Friends again!

Jacob had been gone for 20 years and the relationship with his brother Esau had been on dismal ground when he left to find his bride. Esau had even vowed to kill him because of his deception and conniving.

Jacob had also gone through much during that time, but he dearly wanted to go home and be reconciled to his brother. From this experience we see the "struggling" patriarch give us four guidelines to reunion and reconciliation.

### Face failed relationships ch. 32:9-11a

Most of us are so stubborn we won't face up to those with whom we are angry. A pastor was struggling with a church

member. It affected everything he did. Finally one day he was determined to make it right. He went to her home and knocked on the door, but there was no answer. He went to the back door because he knew someone was home. He knocked and again nothing happened. Then he dropped to one knee to peep through the keyhole and saw another eye peering back at him. The door opened and there was reconciliation between the two. Their closing comment was, "We had to get on our knees to see eye to eye."

We face failed relationships by seeking divine guidance for restitution, as Jacob did. In doing so, he discovered he was "unworthy of all God's loving-kindness." This realization helped him know he needed to reconcile with Esau.

### Demonstrate developed selflessness — ch. 33:1-3

After his urgent prayer, Jacob had an unusual experience. He "wrestled" with a man in the night and his thigh was dislocated. This again gave Jacob a humbling experience. Even when he went out and met Esau, he still tried to devise his

### Basic Passage: Genesis 32-33

own plan. It was then he learned of God's faithfulness and his own need of selflessness. It took time for him to come to this point, but the wrestling match enabled him to be the first to meet the angry brother and his "400 men."

### Embrace earnest brokenness — ch. 33:4

It was not the one who is

recorded to have prepared himself spiritually who "ran" to the other. I have known individuals who, once they broke through their pride, experienced emotional reconciliation. The beauty of sincere desire to mend fences long torn down is such a wonderful thing. Both brothers, unknown to the other, wanted to reconcile. Someone had to take the first step.

### Reject restitutionary compensation — ch 33:8-10

Esau would not be bought. Jacob, in chapter 32, had devised a plan to "make it all better." Esau would hear nothing of it. Before many will reconcile, they demand something to make up for the pain. Reconciliation, full reconciliation, can only come when we are willing to not be in it for gain. □

## Georgia church sponsors new work in Moscow

Baptist Press

AUGUSTA, Ga. — Volunteer mission trips to the former Soviet Union have become almost routine as the region has opened to Christianity, but Curtis Church in Augusta is taking its commitment one step further.

In an arrangement coordinated through a Louisville travel agency owned by former Southern Baptist Convention president Wayne Dehoney, the church is sponsoring a new church in Moscow.

The project, which has been endorsed by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, will include financial support, a commitment to regular partnership missions trips, and prayer.

John Bryan, pastor of Curtis Church, said the involvement grew out of a series of trips he has led to the region, most recently in October when he led a team of 34 people to assist in preparation and follow-up for the Moscow Billy Graham Crusade. During the crusade, 45,000 professions of faith were recorded, Bryan said. □

## Physicians needed to work in Yemen

Baptist Press

JIBLA, Yemen — Southern Baptists need permanent and short-term physicians to reinforce their medical staff at Jibla Baptist Hospital.

Two Southern Baptist physicians recently left Yemen permanently to come back to the United States and marry,

said Gerry Volkart, the Foreign Mission Board's associate area director for the Middle East. Both were on their first term.

With others on furlough, only one Southern Baptist is currently working at the hospital. Southern Baptists try to keep at least three to four physicians under appointment to work at the Yemen hospital, with short-termers available as needed, Volkart said.

The 77-bed hospital, opened by Southern Baptists in 1967, treats up to 40,000 people a year and performs an average of 400 surgeries monthly. It offers Yemenis one of their few opportunities to have contact with Christians. □

## Louisville association drops invitation to retired FMB president

Baptist Press

LOUISVILLE — Long Run Association, which encompasses metropolitan Louisville, has rescinded its invitation to Keith Parks to speak at its annual meeting next fall.

The association's annual meeting committee made the decision, committee members reported.

Parks was president of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board until his retirement last Oct. 31. About a month later, he was named missions coordinator for the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

Associational leaders declined to elaborate on the decision to disinvite Parks. "It was a decision made by the committee. I personally would rather not talk about that," said Jim Carpenter, pastor of Woodland Church, Louisville, and chairman of the annual meet-

ing committee.

Russell Bennett, the association's executive director, did not attend the committee meeting, but confirmed the committee chose to rescind the invitation after Parks' announcement he would join the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, which some people see as competing with traditional Southern Baptist causes. □

## BWA sends medical supplies to Bosnia

Baptist Press

WASHINGTON — More than 15,000 blankets and \$200,000 in medical supplies and hygienic items have been sent to Bosnia in a cooperative effort by the Baptist World Aid arm of Baptist World Alliance, Brother's Brother Foundation, Mercy International, and Church World Service.

Much of the aid will be channeled through My Neighbour, a Croatian humanitarian organization. □

## SBC agencies affirm work with Christian schools

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — Southern Baptist Convention agencies affirmed Christian schools and home schooling and will develop materials and provide support for them, according to a plan adopted by the Inter-Agency Council Jan. 20 in Nashville. The Inter-Agency Council is comprised of all the heads of the 20 SBC institutions, boards, agencies, and commissions.

IAC officials said the action should not be interpreted as a move to abandon public schools.

The IAC affirmed "the thousands of excellent Southern Baptist public school teachers, administrators, and parents in their critical spiritual and educational tasks with the public school system."

The report added the ac-



SANDY ROGERS, a Southern Baptist nurse swept over a 20-foot waterfall in Yemen last November, plans to return to Yemen this month. Rogers, a representative to the primarily Muslim Middle Eastern nation since 1983, failed to recover from fatigue and weakness after the accident. She was sent to her parents' home in Texas to rest and was diagnosed with hepatitis. She is shown here on rounds at the hospital before the flash flood occurred last year. — Photo by Don Rutledge

tions "are in response to the thousands of Southern Baptists who desire to have their children educated within a highly Christian context inappropriate to public school."

The Baptist Sunday School Board will serve as the lead agency in service and staff support to coordinate the SBC effort which includes providing curriculum and support material for Christian schools, home schoolers, and released time programs. □

## Carter to speak at CBF assembly

Associated Baptist Press

ATLANTA — Former President Jimmy Carter, a Southern Baptist from Plains, Ga., will give the keynote address May 13 at the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's general assembly in Birmingham.

Pat Anderson, co-chairperson of the committee planning the assembly, said Carter and his wife Rosalyn were invited "because of their well-known commitment to the work of Christ, to working out their faith by seeking justice and peace, and to the South-

ern Baptist heritage.

Carter expressed support for the CBF, noting a common goal is "to work and pray for an ultimate healing among presently divided Baptists." □

## Middle Tennessee chapter of TBHS to hear Methodist

TBHS, Middle Tennessee

NASHVILLE — The Middle Tennessee chapter of the Tennessee Baptist Historical Society will meet Feb. 24 at 11:30 a.m. in the Nashville Room of the Baptist Sunday School Board, adjacent to the cafeteria. Members and guests are invited to the luncheon meeting.

The speaker will be John Gooch, editor for youth curriculum resources for the United Methodist Publishing House.

He will discuss Methodists and their relations with Baptists. □

## Union hosts West Tennessee pastors

Union University

JACKSON — The West Tennessee Pastors Conference will meet March 2 at Union University.

Jim White of the Baptist Sunday School Board's Church Administration Department will be guest speaker.

Pastors are invited to a fellowship time at 10 a.m. in the foyer adjacent to the university's chapel. The program begins at 10:45 a.m. A complimentary lunch will be served at noon.

The Ministers Wives Fellowship meets during the conference. Their program begins at 10:30 a.m. □

## Penn/Jersey Baptists elect David Waltz

Baptist Press

HARRISBURG, Pa. — The Baptist Convention of Pennsylvania/South Jersey's executive board unanimously elected David C. Waltz as executive director-treasurer during a Feb. 6 annual meeting in Harrisburg.

Waltz, 40, will become the convention's fifth executive director, succeeding Wallace Williams, who resigned last year to join the faculty of Samford University, Birmingham.

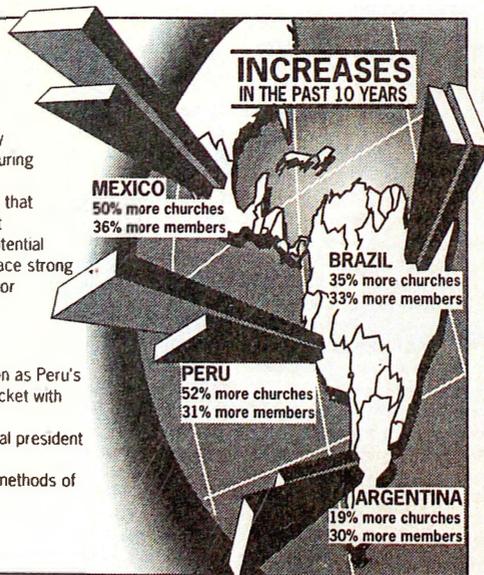
Waltz has been the interim executive director since mid-August of 1992. He was evangelism/brotherhood director. □

## Harvest time in Latin America

Baptists in Latin America show steady growth. Bars at right indicate gains during the past decade. These gains were reported by Baptists in four countries that relate to the work of Southern Baptist foreign missionaries. Despite their potential for growth, Latin American Baptists face strong competition and recognize the need for better discipleship of new members.

### Evangelical stigma dissolves

- In June 1990, a Baptist wins election as Peru's second vice president running on ticket with a Roman Catholic.
- In January 1991, the first evangelical president is elected in Guatemala.
- Roman Catholics begin trying new methods of evangelism.



(BP) GRAPHIC By Marty Croll