

# Baptist and Reflector

March 17, 1993

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STATEWIDE EDITION

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## 15,000 brave weather to attend youth conference

For Baptist and Reflector

NASHVILLE — Despite the "Blizzard of '93" which wreaked havoc along the South and East Coast some 15,000 Baptist youth and their leaders came to Nashville for the state Youth Evangelism Conference.

And, more importantly, about 285 of those brave souls committed their lives to Jesus Christ through professions of faith.

The attendance for the Youth Evangelism Conference was about half of the 30,000 who normally fill Vanderbilt

University's Memorial Gymnasium each year, said Jerry King, director of evangelism for the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

King, however, was pleased with the turnout considering the weather that dumped more than a foot of snow in portions of East Tennessee. Nashville, on the edge of the storm, received about three inches of snow. Though driving conditions were dangerous on Saturday, roads in the Nashville area were passable.

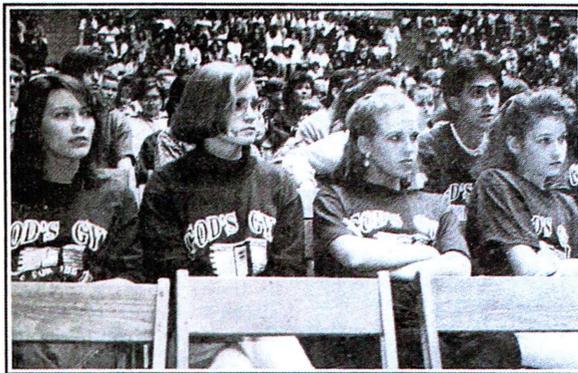
"I'm thrilled at the 15,000 who came with the forecast we had," King said, adding that the majority of the crowd were from Middle and West Tennessee.

Some East Tennesseans defied the weather forecasts and came anyway. Most had to remain in Nashville an extra day or two because I-40 and I-24, two major arteries leading from Nashville to East Tennessee were closed until late Sunday afternoon.

John Williams, a youth worker at Indian Springs Church, Kingsport, was among about 120 from that church who had to spend extra time in Nashville. He noted that when they left Kingsport, there was no snow, but as of Sunday there was about 13 inches of snow there.



**KENNY PRITCHARD, left, and Scott Watson of Bells Chapel Church, Seymour, enjoyed the snow prior to the conference.**



**LISTENING ATTENTIVELY** during the Saturday morning session of the Youth Evangelism Conference were, from left, Tabitha Sayre, Amy Farmer, Sara Medlock, and Gina Thomas of Point Pleasant Church in Paris Landing.

### For Lottie Moon Christmas offering

By Marty Croll  
For Baptist Press

RICHMOND — The Foreign Mission Board is projecting a 1.87 percent decrease, amounting to \$1.5 million, in giving to Southern Baptists Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions in 1992.

Projections released March 10 indicate Southern Baptists will have given \$79.84 million to the offering when the books close May 31. That will make it the third largest Lottie Moon intake in history. Still, if projections prove correct, it will fall \$4.2 million below the \$84 million the board expected when it planned the 1993 budget last October.

"Obviously it means we won't advance," said Don R.

Kammerdiener, the Foreign Mission Board's interim president.

The 1992 downturn marks the second time in three years receipts failed to reach the previous year's total. It comes as a new Southern Baptist mission program, part of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, reports financial growth. The CBF mission program got a jump start last year after two former Foreign Mission Board administrators, including the outgoing president, began working under CBF assignment.

Depending on how the FMB allocates funds, effects of the shortfall on existing missions work could be limited. Most affected will probably be capital needs such as new construction, equipment, and mission

vehicles. Trustees adopted \$7.6 million for capital needs in 1993.

"We are primarily a missionary-sending board," Kammerdiener said. "Some capital makes transportation and

housing of our missionaries possible. It will be an interesting exercise to try to fit spending to the realities of the income."

Until Lottie Moon offering — See Projections, page 2

### RFRA reintroduced with endorsement of Clinton, CLC, BJC, and other groups

For Baptist Press

WASHINGTON — The Religious Freedom Restoration Act, buoyed by the newly announced support of the United States Catholic Conference and the endorsement of President Bill Clinton, was reintroduced in both houses of Congress March 11.

RFRA, designed to return the free exercise of religion to its status prior to an oft-criticized

1990 Supreme Court decision, has the support of more than 55 organizations, including the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission and the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

At a press conference before introduction of the legislation, Senator Edward Kennedy read a letter from the president endorsing the legislation. During the election Clinton did not specifically support the bill. □

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## 15,000 brave weather to attend youth conference

— Continued from page 1  
use people and love things ... the price tags have been changed," Haynes said.

The Texas pastor noted Samson "bought into the values of his day." Samson was "a he man with a she weakness," he said, observing the story ended with Delilah betraying Samson and Samson losing his strength which he had received from God.

"Samson took God for granted over and over and Samson didn't even know God had left him," he said.

Haynes observed that "when you take for granted those resources and relationships which sustain you, you do so at your own detriment. If you take God for granted, God will say, 'have it your way.'"

Haynes told the young people they had been "engaging in daring dealings with Delilah" by living contrary to God's divine standards. He warned them to be careful about the "Delilah's you hang out with."

He reminded the youth that children of God sometimes have to stand alone and say no. Haynes urged them to "soar like an eagle," instead of "following the crowd like ducks and geese." The good news in that story, he said, is God gave Samson another chance and he will give anyone another chance who will ask.

"No matter how much you mess up, God loves you. He will pick you up ... God will forgive you of your sins. God will allow you to start over."

On Saturday Jack Millwood,

a pastor from Mobile, Ala., urged teenagers to "make the choice of a lifetime" — whether or not to accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

Millwood cited stories of youth he has encountered during his ministry, some of whom made the right choices, others who did not.

He challenged the Tennessee youth not to throw their lives away by "making stupid choices."

Millwood said he was tired

of Christian students being intimidated by non-Christian students. "We are not the weird crowd. They are the weird crowd," he said.

The Alabama pastor also urged the teenagers to be careful about their decisions regarding sex. Noting that some do not like to hear talk about that subject, Millwood said, "We better talk about it. Everyone else is, but they are talking about it wrong." He emphasized that God intended

sex for a husband and his wife.

He also encouraged the youth to make the right decisions about drugs and alcohol. "I never want to bury another teenager because of that stupid stuff," he said.

Millwood admitted, "I have talked hard to you, but I have done so because I care ... Don't throw your lives away with foolish choices," he pleaded.

— By Lonnie Wilkey and Connie Umstead □

## Belmont Heights aids stranded N.C. youth group

NASHVILLE — A group of 36 youth and adults from First Church, Saluda, N.C., were stranded by the weather in Nashville after attending the Tennessee Youth Evangelism Conference.

The group, who attended the conference last year, were forced to spend Saturday night in a motel after interstates were closed. Sunday morning they were completely out of money.

The sponsors got a telephone book and started calling Baptist churches.

Phones were not answered at many churches in the area, which canceled morning activities, or at least Sunday School. But when they called Belmont Heights Church, Lloyd Blackwell, minister of education, answered. He only hesitated a few moments before offering his and the church's help.

Soon members arrived at the motel to lead them to the church for the worship service. They joined about 90 members of the church's usual crowd of 400.

Those members gave \$435 for the group. Volunteers cooked lunch for them while others went home to return with sleeping bags, blankets, pillows, towels, and personal items for them.

The youth were able to enjoy the church's recreation center which includes facilities and equipment for basketball, roller skating, billiards, and table hockey. It also has showers and a washing machine. Other members took clothes home to wash them for their new friends.

That evening church activities were canceled but members led an impromptu retreat for the 28 youth to give the sponsors a break.

Interstate 40 opened to Asheville, N.C., on Monday, and the group left for home after the church provided breakfast from its benevolence fund.

"We just felt we had to do something," said Blackwell, who led the assistance in the absence of Pastor Perry Michel.

He explained he was surprised at the generosity of the small group of members, whose gifts nearly covered all of the group's expenses. The church would have used charge accounts at grocery stores rather than not help, he said.

The ministry also was reciprocal, Blackwell added. In the past, Belmont Heights youth have been stranded in Memphis by a broken-down bus. Leawood Church helped them in much the same way, he said. □ — Connie Davis

## Projections show \$1.5 million decrease in 1992 ...

— Continued from page 1  
gifts stalled during the past three years, the offering's growth had shown a fairly steady increase, even during periods of economic instability.

As it has grown, it has accounted for an increasing portion of support to Southern Baptists' foreign missionaries. But if projections prove correct, 1992 receipts will be less than both the 1991 and 1989 receipts.

Although Kammerdiener acknowledged many churches increased their giving to the missions offering last year, he said recent research shows "we have a larger percentage of people in the churches who are committed to things other than missions ... I think we have to expect that to show up in the offering."

Another factor in the decline is the formation of a mission board under the CBF, Kammerdiener said. "The support that goes to that board will be support that at one

time would have gone to the Foreign Mission Board, and we regret that," he said.

So far, the CBF has collected \$1.1 million through its mission offering.

It's uncertain how much of that money would have gone into Southern Baptists' traditional foreign missions channel had the CBF not been formed. A major question is "Will the churches that support the Foreign Mission Board make up the loss?"

Retired FMB President R. Keith Parks, who now leads the CBF's missions program, said the decrease did not result from a "one-year sudden difference because I left." He said it is part of a period of stagnation over the past several years. The Lottie Moon offering collected \$78.8 million in 1988, \$80.2 million in 1989, \$79.4 million in 1990, and \$81.4 million in 1991.

He said the stalled giving to the FMB results from several years of leadership in the SBC

by people who have not shown a history of commitment to supporting foreign missions through the FMB.

John Jackson, FMB trustee chairman, disagreed with Parks. "I believe conservative churches have always supported

missions and will continue to support missions," he said.

Many have increased their giving, he added. The California pastor acknowledged that Southern Baptist churches will need to "pick up the slack" from those now giving to the CBF. □

## Search committee seeks resumes for new Education Commission leader

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — A search committee of the Southern Baptist Education Commission has announced it will receive applications through April 8 for executive director of the agency which relates to 71 Southern Baptist seminaries, colleges, universities, Bible colleges, and academies.

Arthur L. Walker Jr., executive director of the commission since 1978, announced in January he will retire Sept. 1.

Jerry Henry, an Alabama pastor and chairman of the search committee, said the

committee met March 11 in Nashville to establish guidelines for the committee's work and to develop a profile for the executive director position.

Henry said the committee wants the "broadest input possible" to find the person who will lead both the Education Commission and the Commission on the American Baptist Theological Seminary.

The committee encourages Southern Baptists to send recommendations along with a detailed resume to Jerry Henry, Search Committee, 901 Commerce Street, Suite 600, Nashville, Tenn. 37203. □

# Aid workers resume work in Somalia

By Craig Bird  
Baptist Press

MOGADISHU, Somalia — Southern Baptist relief efforts in Somalia have resumed after widespread fighting throughout the country shut down feeding stations.

Escalating violence has seen pitched battles in several Somali cities and increased sniper fire and grenade attacks on United States and United Nations troops.

The fighting forced one group of Southern Baptist volunteers to spend the day lying on the floor of their house, below the line of fire, and suspend aid efforts that were feeding 40,000 people a day.

Since then two volunteers have completed their two-month stint and left the country but another has come and two more will arrive soon.

Southern Baptists don't have their own relief operation but work with other aid groups.

Currently seven Southern Baptist mission volunteers assist in feeding programs and medical clinics throughout the country.

Not all mission efforts focus on hunger relief. In the past few months, media missionary Zeb Moss has helped coordinate efforts in introducing the Gospel to Somalis.

"We're taking a holistic approach to the work with Somalis," Moss said. "We're trying to take advantage of all the opportunities, while we intercede in the crisis."

To date, Somali outreach plans besides feeding include: 1) funding the reprinting of a small, compact Somali Bible; 2) funding the recording of the Bible on cassette tapes; 3) recording Christian radio pro-

grams on cassette tapes and distributing them; 4) distributing hand-cranked cassette players; and 5) funding the printing of Somali hymn books.

Moss also works with other mission personnel to build a network of Christian groups who help Somalis. To support this ecumenical effort, Southern Baptist missionaries have designed an orientation program for people planning to work long-term in Somalia.

The mission personnel plan to stick to their effort despite the dangers.

"We're keenly aware of how neglected Somalia has been through the years," Moss said. "We're committed to make sure that doesn't happen again. Eventually the world's attention will move away from Somalia, but we plan to be here to help for a long time."

"Christians have prayed faithfully that God would place a hedge of protection around us and that hedge is holding," said one Southern Baptist whose short-term stint in Somalia recently ended.

Another Baptist volunteer reached the very edge of that hedge recently when a young Somali man walking in front of him raised his rifle after being ordered by U.S. Marines to drop the weapon.

He was shot dead.

As the American wept over the lost life, Somali passers-by questioned his tears.

"Why are you crying?" they asked, barely pausing to note the burst of gunfire and the crumpled, bleeding body. "It is just the will of Allah." □

— Donald Martin contributed to this story.

## Memphis pastor explains statements on WMU views

By Herb Hollinger  
Baptist Press

A recent story used in other papers reported on a conversation between some FMB staff and Adrian Rogers recently when they visited his office while in the Memphis area. This later story gives additional information relating to the original conversation. The first story was not used by the Baptist and Reflector. — Editor

MEMPHIS — Adrian Rogers, former president of the Southern Baptist Convention, deplored Foreign Mission Board staff speaking on his behalf in an Associated Baptist Press March 2 story.

Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Church in suburban Memphis, said he was asked if the group, attending a meeting nearby, could come by the church Feb. 18 for a visit.

"It was a private conversation among friends," Rogers said.

Rogers said the "voodoo quotations" — other people quoting what he said — were unethical, and the least they could have done was to call him to ask permission to quote him.

However, Rogers told Bap-

### Hodges new address

Missionaries Al and Karen Hodges are on the field, having transferred from Zaire to Senegal.

Their new address is: Mr. and Mrs. Al R. Hodges, BP, 8417 Yoff, Dakar, Senegal.

Karen Hodges is the daughter of the Raymond Atwoods, Loudon County Association. □

tist Press, the "conversation with friends" did include an affirmation of Woman's Missionary Union, dismay at the new approach by the national WMU to broaden its work beyond SBC entities, and his conviction that if WMU no longer wants to be an auxiliary to the SBC but operate like a parachurch organization, it should no longer have a representative on the SBC Executive Committee or the Inter-Agency Council.

"I want to affirm what the WMU has done" in its 105-year relationship with the SBC, Rogers said, "in helping raise funds for the missionaries and for promoting mission education."

Rogers said men in the SBC were wrong in 1888 to exclude women, which led to the WMU organizing as an auxiliary. It is not that women have been wrong in leading out in missions in Baptist churches, Rogers said, but that men have not taken an interest in missions like they should.

"We need to put male leadership back where it belongs," Rogers said, in supporting, promoting, and leading out in missions. When men take their rightful place in supporting missions then women and children also will be involved, he said.

"Look at the SBC annual meeting time — when the pastors are in one place having a meeting and the WMU is at another having its meeting," Rogers said in explaining how the two groups are apart. "It's a shame."

On the other hand, Rogers said he is dismayed at the "new tack, the new approach"

voted by the national WMU in January. He said he would rather have the WMU continue to fully support Southern Baptist missions causes.

"If they (the WMU) are no longer going to be an auxiliary to the SBC, and the SBC has

### Rogers said men were wrong in 1888 to exclude women.

no control over them like other SBC entities, then they have become a parachurch organization," Rogers said.

If they have the "freedom" of a parachurch organization then they should not have a representative on the SBC Executive Committee, Rogers said. No other SBC agency or any other entity has a representative on the Executive Committee.

"I want absolutely no control over the WMU," Rogers said. They are free to do whatever they want, he said, but correspondingly the Southern Baptist Convention should have complete control over its mission programs to decide what it wants to do in supporting and promoting them.

Regarding the SBC Brotherhood Commission, Rogers said his comments were slanted in the ABP article because he told the group he felt Brotherhood had been unsuccessful in getting most men involved in missions in the local church. The ABP article implied Rogers said the missions promotion should be led by the pastors and Brotherhood and not the WMU.

The group met in Rogers'

church office and included FMB personnel who were attending a world mission emphasis Feb. 15-19 at Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary in Memphis. Listed as attending the meeting were three FMB vice presidents — Sam James, Harlan Spurgeon, and Bill Wakefield — and staff members David Cornelius, Irma Duke, Don Reavis, Herman Russell, and Kenn Shirley.

Reavis and Duke were quoted in the ABP story talking about what Rogers said but other information in the story was attributed to "participants." ABP writer Robert Dillard, associate editor of the *Religious Herald*, journal of Virginia Baptists, noted "attempts to contact Rogers for comment were unsuccessful." □

## Court refuses to hear case on last state ban on abortion

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court has confirmed what it already had made clear: State bans on abortion are illegal.

The court announced March 8 its refusal to accept an appeal involving a Louisiana law prohibiting abortion for most reasons. Louisiana's statute was the last of three such laws to meet its demise.

In November, the court also refused to hear an appeal of a decision rejecting a Guam law banning abortions. Earlier this year, Utah announced it would not appeal to the Supreme Court the overturning of its abortion ban.

The series of events was ex-

## Give air postage for newsjournal to missionaries

If you want to help a missionary family, step right up.

On the editor's desk are several letters dealing with a common topic. All the writers are interested in receiving the *Baptist and Reflector*. Will you help them?

Many of them are Tennesseans. Others are interested in the paper because they serve where Tennessee Baptist volunteers have worked — such as Burkina Faso, Venezuela, the Philippines, and Chile. They need help with postage.

The missionaries want the paper when it is "news," which means air mail postage — and that costs extra dollars — not in the paper's budget.

The staff urgently appeals to churches to sponsor a missionary. We have many Tennessee natives serving at home and foreign missionaries.

We suggest that churches, especially home churches, volunteer to underwrite the air mail postage for sending the *Baptist and Reflector* to one or more Southern Baptist missionaries.

A recent letter read: "Please send air mail copies; they are valuable to us. The news is current."

"Those copies mailed via surface mail take up to six months, thus they are of limited value."

The cost for sending the *Baptist and Reflector* air mail to a missionary for one year is \$93.

Please adopt a missionary family and send a paper by air mail. Just contact the *Baptist and Reflector* and sign on as a "missionary friend." — Editor

■ 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. □

■ Baptist beliefs

By Herschel H. Hobbs  
Baptist theologian

God's sovereignty: man's free will

"According to the good pleasure of his will ... after that ye believed" — Ephesians 1:5, 13

God's sovereignty means that God can act as he wills according to his benevolent nature without the advice or consent of anyone outside of himself. Man's free will means that, created in the likeness of God, he is a person with the right choice. Man can choose but is responsible to God for his choices. Some hold that it is impossible to harmonize these self-evident truths. In my understanding we can.

Stated succinctly, God in his sovereignty chose a plan of salvation (Ephesians 1-2) and a people to propagate the plan. But he left man free to accept or to reject either or both. But he is responsible for his choice in each case. This is an awesome responsibility! □



HOBBS

Moving north?

I am writing on behalf of my church, Northland, SBC, located in a suburb of Pittsburgh, Penn. We are a small group — six dedicated families. But with the assistance of the Home Mission Board we are working to build a new church congregation in an area of the city that needs a solid Christian witness with a strong Southern Baptist influence.

Thank you for publishing this letter to inform readers who are moving to this area and have an interest in helping us with this challenge. We need them. We are uplifted by the opportunity to serve Christ in this area as he builds a vibrant, loving, and Bible-centered church. Those who are interested should contact our Pastor, David Dorazio, Northland Church, SBC, P.O. Box 281, Wexford, Penn., 15090 — (412) 364-7349.

Richard B. Leggett  
Northland Church  
Wexford, Penn. 15090

Christian living

Christians believe there are two groups of people in this world, Christian and non-Christian.

To force our laws that are given of God on an unbeliever is impossible. This is a choice God gave the people of this earth. We must reach out and try to win people to the Lord. When a person's life has been changed through the power of the Holy Spirit then the laws will be reasonable to them.

Then we can say, you do not drink because it is legal. You do not have an abortion because it is legal. You do not wear immodest clothing, lie, cheat, steal, live an alternate lifestyle (man with man,

woman with woman) nor use your tongue to destroy another human being just because someone else does. Only after a life has been changed can this be done.

Mildred Bramlett  
Old Fort 37362

Experience counts

I am deeply concerned about the nomination of Dr. Albert Mohler Jr. as next president of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. His youth doesn't bother me at all. In fact, youth has many advantages.

However, my concern is his lack of experience. He has held only two positions, one as coordinator of foundation support

and assistant to Dr. Roy Honeycutt and four years as editor of Georgia Baptists' newjournal, *The Christian Index*. He did serve as a pastor while a student at the seminary. I am sure the search committee had much information not known to me but on the surface, it would appear that both Dr. Richard Land and Timothy George were better qualified. This is purely a personal opinion since I do not know either of the three interviewed. My concern is totally for the future of Southern Seminary.

Vera Stooksbury  
Knoxville 37918

Check Scripture

I Corinthians 6:9-10, Gala-

Haywood volunteers lead 1,179 Filipinos to Christ

BROWNSVILLE — A team of six volunteers from Haywood Association recently served with eight churches and missions for two weeks in the Philippines.

The group served in Pangasinan Province about 200 miles north of Manila. They reported 1,179 professions of faith and 259 other church decisions. Charles Pratt, director of missions for Haywood Association led the team.

"Many people we met had never seen an American," stated Pratt. He served in one area where there was no electricity, running water, refrigeration, or any modern conveniences of any kind.

"The people had little by world standards, but I met many who were rich in their love for people and for the Lord Jesus," he added.

Jerry Foster, layman from Brownsville, led a host of Filipino workers in constructing a church chapel in a remote area

where no church existed. Foster designed the church several months ago and sent blueprints to the workers to begin with the foundation before his arrival.

This was the fifth construction project that volunteers from the Haywood Association have built in the Philippines during the past four years of mission service.

The materials were purchased with donated funds from churches, individuals inside and outside of the Haywood Association.

Donations from individuals and Tennessee churches helped purchase New Testaments for Filipinos, especially to the new converts to Christ. Hundreds of Bibles were distributed by the volunteers. They led evangelistic crusades each night to reach the heavily unchurched communities, did street visitations, and addressed large gatherings of youth at public high schools.

"The school administrators always welcome us to preach the Gospel at the school assemblies," said Pratt. "I only wish we had the freedom to speak in schools in America like we do in the Philippines," Bill Presley added.

Local pastors made prior arrangements with the school officials so that the students could hear the Gospel and receive Christian literature about how to become a Christian.

Ralph McKenzie of Paris, World War II veteran in the Philippines, told the Filipino people that "my first trip to the Philippines was with the U.S. Army, but my second trip is with the army of Christ on a different mission." McKenzie served 18 months in the Philippines. The large crowds of Filipino people often gave McKenzie loud ovations as he spoke and shared his testimo-

nians 5:19-21, Ephesians 5:3-6, Colossians 3:5-9, Revelation 22:15, list the lifestyles that are prohibited from heaven. Why do so many classify the homosexual lifestyle terrible while they omit the other prohibited lifestyles that are also listed in the Bible?

We should prayerfully consider John 8:3-10 before we make strong comments. We may find out that our lifestyle is not perfect either.

If we use the Bible to justify the "ban" on gays in the military would we have a military if we used all the "prohibited" lifestyles in the Bible as being banned from the military?

John H. Baskette  
Chattanooga 37421

ny of how God spared his life during the war in the Philippines.

Foster, who has served on four missions teams, said he was impressed with the spiritual strength of the new Christians in growing in the Lord by studying God's Word, giving to their church, and bringing new people to the churches.

Presley, who has served on three mission trips to the Philippines, said "the Philippines has become my second home and I feel like I have a family there with the Blessed Baptist Church near Villasis."

One Brownsville family paid for the printing of 5,000 pieces of literature used at the crusades, explained Pratt.

Career missionaries Terry and Michelle Buford from Bells, who serve in Pangasinan Province, helped to coordinate the trip for the Haywood volunteers. They assisted the Filipino pastors and churches in arrangements for lodging, food preparation, and speaking assignments for each volunteer. Other volunteers were Tad Mathews and Danny McSpaddin.

On the final Saturday, the team traveled with church workers and guests to 100 Islands, a coastal resort off the western coast of Luzon Island. Several new Christians were baptized in the South China Sea by the Tennessee volunteers. □ — Information for this story was provided by Charles Pratt.

Daily prayer requests for Chile/Tennessee Partnership



March —

- 18 — Pray for missionary Richard Bray as he continues to work with the mission in Esmeralda.
- 19 — Pray for David and Martha Miller and their daughters as they begin their ministry in Puerto Montt.
- 20 — Pray for national pastor Domingo Moris as he seeks to lead the Parque Apoquindo Church in Santiago to reach into the community to meet needs.
- 21 — Pray for Dr. Jo Sweet of Knoxville, and Carolyn Ann Boyd of McMinnville as they continue their term of volunteer medical service in Concepcion.
- 22 — Today is the beginning of the Week of Prayer for Home Missions in Chile. Pray for the effectiveness of this emphasis.
- 23 — Pray that the home missions offering goal of \$7,800.00 (American dollars) will be reached by Chilean Baptists as they experience this observance.
- 24 — Pray as our medical team travels from Concepcion to return home today.



TENNESSEE, APRIL 2-3, 1993  
Belmont University and Belmont Heights Baptist Church

# Life-changers in a world that needs change

One of the popular dreams of young people not long ago was that of changing the world. Many claimed for themselves the sobriquet of "world changer."

Before they knew it, the world was wallowing them.

It's hard to change the world if by living in the world, you become like the world.

For the young or old, the vision of changing the world will never die. Christians will always be striving to improve the spiritual lives of people even as they attempt to deal holistically with every person.

It is the grace of a loving, living Lord that leads one person to bear witness to another, despite differences.

"We barely tip the ball, but somehow he arranges for us to make it home," says one pastor in the language of baseball.

When the angry, spiritually-starved mob confronted the adulterous woman, they seemed to ignore the equally guilty man. So intent they were to bruise and batter her body, that they also side-stepped several of God's own imperatives. You shall not kill, love your neighbor as you love yourself, and love one another.

The Lord Christ dealt with the woman with a justice tempered with compassion and forgiveness. He asked for the chief stone-throwers to step up and try their aim. But only if they were sinless. He gave ample opportunity for some spotless soul to come from the ranks and take charge.

Then he drew in the sand and dust. Did he write some admonition? Did he portray the woman as a prostitute and re-

buke her unrighteousness?

The vicious crowd already had drawn a circle that shut out the woman, scorned, shamed, separated from the church folks.

It could not be that Jesus chose that moment to scratch some idle chatter on the ground. No, he did not characterize the woman in crude and callous marks on the earth.

He must have drawn a circle that took her in. In his eyes, his face, his words, the one afflicted with sexual misconduct saw it more important to be included in his circle than excluded from theirs.

Christ's was a circle that vaulted over the senseless customs and took into account the soul-value of a sin-weary person. Theirs was a circle, all too familiar, that championed a pitiful brand of piety. That circle cried out to vacillating listeners a list of all the laws she had broken, and insisted on the correctness of their observances.

World-changers, we are back to that. Every Christian operates under Christ's command to be a world-changer. Oh, it is not said just that way, but leading someone to choose salvation is changing a world.

It is said in the Bible, however, that the first-timers, those wonderful witnesses who did not mind dying for Christ, were guilty of "turning the world upside down." They were world-changers. They barely

tipped the ball with their ineptness, but he arranged for them to make it home.

World-changers seldom are those who want to promote their personal image. The shakers and movers of the marketplace are remembered for just that, changing the marketplace.

As Baptists, we should be moved by the aspirations of the ordinary missionary. This kind of Christian is everywhere. You will find them at Mukoma Station, Rubura, Puerto Varas, Detroit. They are living in squalor in the barrios of Manila, on the back streets of Nashville or Memphis. They walk the snows of Moscow, New York, and Cheyenne.

The dream of every Christian sees lost people through the eyes of Christ. And with the heart of Christ, they share the Good News.

It is doubtful that such witnesses consider themselves world-changers. But Christ called all Christians, every Baptist, to be a follower and that means assisting in the great work of changing the world.

This world-changing has immediate effect on present life; it also affects eternity. Those who selfishly set out to gain fame, fortune, or followers may temporarily cause change. The soul that is changed is changed forever.

Tennessee Baptists must touch the lives of more than a million lost Tennesseans in order to change our world. That won't happen next week or next year. But witnesses one to one, we surely can change the world and shed Light in a dark world.

First step is one changed person. □

## one word more

By Wm. Fletcher Allen  
editor

### Old as the stars

I think we had been outside that still, cold, starry night, enjoying the feeling of God's omnipotence in the grandeur of the eternal.

We had stood, eyes bent heavenward, absorbing the majesty of clear, crisp country air. What are the stars, I asked. Someone had answered that they belonged to God and he had put them there a long time ago.

That was enough for a lad of six or seven.

And now we were inside, basking in warmth supplied by the glowing "pot-belly" stove.

Some of the sisters were helping our father with notices about an upcoming meeting.

They came upon a familiar name on the list and someone asked, "How old is Mr. Paul?"

Our father answered, and then came the sudden outburst from one of the girls, "Why that's ancient!"

"So it is," replied the bronzed farmer, "so it is. And it's my age too."

Burning with embarrassment, the sisters tried to get out of it.

You know, it really didn't bother my dad. He must have been comfortable with the assessment, and pleased to be compared with something as permanent as the stars. "They are ancient too," he might have said to us.

I have often thought of that stove-side encounter with the finiteness of life, and the simple comparison to the timeless expanse of a star-studded creation.

Our parents taught us by their living, their being, of the infinite worthiness of life. We met it each day on the farm — each day was new, but each day was the same. The hours were like a packaged gift from God himself.

Ancient? Eternal? What's the correct estimate of that kind of time?

Life is the beginning of eternity for us, and the more we store up along the way, the wider and longer it will be. The stars are our silent witnesses. □



ALLEN

By Wm. Fletcher Allen, editor

## just for today

By Fred Wood  
pastor emeritus  
Eudora Church, Memphis

### Start with a smile —

Talking with her 14-year-old boy about his first girl friend, a mother asked, "What does she like about you?" He said, "That's easy. She thinks I'm handsome, fun, talented, and real cool." Mom inquired further, "What do you like about her?" He said quickly, "That's easy, too. She thinks I'm handsome, fun, talented, and real cool."

### Take this truth with you —

The best way to get people to like you is to like them.

### Memorize this Scripture —

"A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly," (Proverbs 18:24).

### Pray this Prayer —

"Lord, help me to be as interested in the other person as I am in myself. More so, if possible. I know it's not easy, but help me to try." □

## Teenage alcohol use is alarming, report shows

By Lamar E. Cooper Sr.  
Christian Life Commission

The Surgeon General's report on teenage use of beverage alcohol is alarming. Our nation already has in excess of 18 million alcoholics, 4.5 million of whom are teenagers. The current generation of drinking youths has the potential to more than double that number.

Of the 20.7 million teenagers in grades 7-12, 50 percent reported that they drink beverage alcohol and 35 percent reportedly did so with parental consent. Even though the sale of alcoholic beverages is prohibited to anyone under 21 years of age in all 50 states, teenagers report no difficulties in obtaining these drinks.

Liquor industry standards have created pitfalls for young people. An array of products such as fruit-flavored wine coolers appeal to teenage consumers. These coolers are packaged like fruit drinks and contain little or no alcohol taste but are high in alcohol content.

Liquor industry officials

claim they have no interest in marketing to junior and senior high school students even though 35 percent of all wine coolers are sold to that age group. More alarming are the 5.4 million youths who admit to "binge" drinking five or more consecutive drinks at least once a week. The average "binger" is 16 years old, in the

cause of the fatal fall of another person. Second, we are not to obstruct the Christian course of another life by setting an example which might ensnare weaker believers.

Third, we are not to use our liberty in Christ in any way that weakens another so that they are unable to handle what we by self-discipline and strength can handle. This covers anything that would knowingly affect others adversely.

Believers have a moral and spiritual responsibility as well as a biblical mandate to abstain from anything which would constitute a stumbling block for another person.

If one ignores their responsibility, especially to teenagers, they are liable to Jesus' warning of Matthew 18:6-7: "But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea." No wonder the apostle warned: "It is not good to drink wine." (Romans 14:21, NIV) □

## Sunday, March 21, is Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Sunday

10th grade, and began drinking at age 12.

Paul enunciated the principle that we are to guard carefully our actions because of our influence. Whether an action is right or wrong is to be judged by its impact on others.

Anything that injures the conscience, health, or life of another human being is wrong. Voluntary surrender of such actions is an appropriate behavior for believers.

There are three aspects of the admonition from the apostle Paul in Romans 14:21. First, we are not to be the

## State shows gains in key statistical areas during past church year

For Baptist and Reflector

**BRENTWOOD** — In 1992, membership in Tennessee Baptist churches exceeded 1.1 million people. In addition, Tennessee Baptists gave more than \$52 million for missions causes, according to statistics from the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

Church membership and missions expenditures were two of seven key denominational reporting areas which showed increases in Tennessee in 1992. The other six are number of churches, ongoing Sunday School enrollment, ongoing music ministry enrollment, Brotherhood enrollment/participation, and total tithes, offerings, and special gifts.

Declines were witnessed in three areas — baptisms, Discipleship Training enrollment/participation, and ongoing WMU enrollment.

Membership increased from 1,096,548 in 1991 to 1,103,411 last year, an increase of 0.6 percent. The number of churches in the state increased by 12, from 2,816 to 2,828, an increase of 0.4 percent.

Brotherhood enrollment-participation showed the largest gain, increasing from

33,123 to 36,556, a 10.4 percent rise.

TBC Brotherhood Department Director Cameron Byler observed there is a "renewed interest in Brotherhood work across the state.

"We are doing things, such as volunteer construction, that our men want to do," he said.

He noted churches are continuing to show an interest in beginning Baptist Men units. "Our people have a sense of missions and want to get organized to do a better job," he said.

Ongoing Sunday School enrollment increased by 1.9 percent, from 568,875 in 1991 to 579,463 in 1992.

According to TBC Sunday School Department Director Greer Ruble, the TBC ranked second with net increase in enrollment of all state conventions (behind Georgia).

The increase of 10,588 based on total Southern Baptist Convention increase of 78,720 gave Tennessee 13 percent of total Southern Baptist Sunday School enrollment for the past church year.

Ruble noted the state has recorded six straight years of

significant Sunday School enrollment increase.

"We are grateful to God for this enrollment gain. It challenges us to work harder to reach our goal of 600,000 persons enrolled in Bible study in churches and missions in the

ministries," said Archer Thorpe, director of the TBC Cooperative Program/Stewardship Department.

The number of baptisms decreased by 5 percent from 27,280 in 1991 to 25,903 last year.

The decrease was not as bad in Tennessee as it was SBC-wide. Sunday School Board figures

show a 7.3 percent decline in baptisms across the Southern Baptist Convention.

Though the state's major metropolitan areas (Nashville, Memphis, Knoxville, and Chattanooga) showed declines, many of the smaller associations experienced increases, said Billy Hines, program associate in the TBC Evangelism Department.

He also attributed the decrease to a banner year in 1991.

That year, there was a convention-wide emphasis on witness training and simultaneous revivals, Hines said. He noted that in Tennessee that year the state had a 15 percent gain in baptisms. A decrease

after such a high increase is normal, Hine said.

Discipleship Training enrollment/participation experienced a 1.6 percent decline, from 164,105 to 161,406 while ongoing WMU enrollment decreased by 0.8 percent from 79,527 to 78,986.

TBC Executive Director James Porch viewed the statistical report as good news, but mixed with some concern.

"Looking back over 1992, Tennessee Baptists celebrated the addition of 12 new churches, more than 10,500 new people enrolled in Sunday School, in excess of 1,200 more people enrolled in music ministry programs, more than 3,400 new people in Brotherhood activities, and an increase of \$3,217,231 in mission expenditures.

"For this advancement, we give the glory to God.

"At the same time, we must notice that in 1992 we baptized 1,377 fewer people than the previous year. This statistic is a call to prayer.

"Through an openness to God's spirit may we in 1993 recapture a new dimension of witness that the lost may know the Christ who saves," Porch said. □

*In 1992 more than 1.1 million people joined Tennessee Baptist churches. In addition, Tennessee Baptists gave more than \$52 million to missions.*

Tennessee Baptist Convention by Sept. 30, 1995," Ruble said.

Ongoing music ministry enrollment jumped by 0.9 percent, from 140,705 to 141,906.

Tennessee Baptists gave more in 1992. Total tithes, offerings, and special gifts to Tennessee Baptist churches in 1992 were \$347,366,380, a 6.7 percent gain over the 1991 total of \$325,483,540.

Mission expenditures by Tennessee Baptists in 1992 totaled \$52,806,983, a 6.5 percent gain over the 1991 figure of \$49,589,752.

"It is encouraging anytime we see churches grow in their commitment to world missions through the Cooperative Program and other missions

### Tennessee Top 30 churches Percentage increases in SS enrollment Oct. 1, 1991-Sept. 30, 1992

Association	Church	Pastor	Net Inc.
Campbell	Eagan	Ralph Harvey	700%
Knox	Tazewell Pike	Steve Merritt	525%
Holston Valley	Beech Creek	Dale Cook	150%
Knox	East Sunnyview	Kirk Wallace	139.53%
Knox	New Salem	Bill Laroy	129.41%
Union	Grace	Boyd Roberts	126.53%
East Tennessee	Mannings Chapel	Charles Evans	125.93%
Union	Laurel Creek	Jerry Womack	125%
William Carey	Molino	John Bass	118.75%
Loudon	Mountain View	Harrison Hill	113.95%
Campbell	Hillcrest	Paul Heatherly	109.78%
Loudon	Pioneer	Thomas Compton	105.13%
Judson	Parkers Creek	Joe Estes	100%
Sequatchie Valley	Cold Springs, First	Paul Cummings	99.07%
Midland	Emory Valley	Albert Womack	98.95%
Lawrence	Five Points	Robert McCafferty	96.15%
Beech River	Fellowship	Harold Weatherford	95.24%
Holston	Midway	Edgar Pierce	93.75%
Shiloh	Chapel Hill	Frank Bell	90.48%
Shiloh	Pleasant Site	Larry Lancaster	90.32%
Shelby	Sky View	Keith Smith	90.28%
Madison-Chester	Pleasant Plains	Norman Culpepper	88.10%
Hamilton	Pilgrims Rest	Neal McGill	88.67%
Cumberland Gap	Forge Ridge	Randy Rowe	85.71%
Nashville	Lakeview	James Palmer	83.22%
Knox	Victory	Don Turner	81.08%
Beulah	Willingham Mem.	Larry Clark	79.41%
Cumberland Gap	Brooks Memorial	Darrell Turner	79.41%
Sweetwater	Williamsburg	Dennis Atkins	79.31%
Shiloh	Counce, First	Bill Wolfe	76.36%

Figures supplied by Sunday School Board, Nashville

### Tennessee Top 30 churches Net increases in SS enrollment Oct. 1, 1991-Sept. 30, 1992

Association	Church	Pastor	Net Inc.
Shelby	Germantown	Kenneth Story	480
Shelby	Bellevue	Adrian Rogers	444
Nashville	Nashville, First	Dan Francis	376
Big Emory	Kingston, First	Ronald Murray	373
Sevier	Sevierville, First	Charles Liner	347
New Duck River	Shelbyville, First	Drew Hayes	342
Holston	Skyline Heights	Kenneth Kyker	329
Nashville	Franklin, First	Richard White	320
Knox	Beaver Dam	Terry Taylor	312
Nashville	Brentwood	Michael Glenn	305
Nolachucky	Manley	Richard Emmert	295
Knox	Grace	Ronald Stewart	274
Chilhowee	Dotson Memorial	Morris Anderson	251
Concord	Smyrna, First	Kenneth Hubbard	233
Duck River	Grace	Jerry Tidwell	226
Knox	Sevier Heights	Hollie Miller	203
Chilhowee	Alcoa, First	no pastor	184
Holston	Midway	Edgar Pierce	180
Hamilton	Brainerd	Frank Crumpler	168
Shelby	Bartlett	Jackie Kay	157
Knox	Corryton	Rocky Ramsey	145
Nashville	Long Hollow	Gerry Claybrook	145
Cumberland Plateau	Central	Roland Smith	140
Madison-Chester	Englewood	Philip Jett	138
Concord	Murfreesboro, Third	Murray Mathis	137
Nashville	Radnor	Paul Durham	135
Watauga	Elizabethhton, First	Brent Seals	135
Clinton	Calvary, Oak Ridge	Steve McDonald	134
Shelby	Kirby Woods	Robert Pittman	134
Nashville	Tulip Grove	Ken Clayton	133

Figures supplied by Sunday School Board, Nashville

**And church will grow**

**Give people a vision and something to do, pastor says**

By Lonnie Wilkey  
Baptist and Reflector

CRAWFORD — Columbia Hill Church in this tiny community about 15 minutes from Monterey is not a typical church growth story.

The church is located on a "main road" that fell victim to a newer, better road almost 40 years ago.

And, were it not for a sign that informs the traveler the church is two miles ahead, some would turn back after starting down a long, winding, dirt, graveled road toward "nowhere."

Unlike many Tennessee Baptist churches, which are located within numerous houses, there is not a home within about two miles of either side of Columbia Hill Church.

In the words of Pastor Raymond Phillips, it can be "troublesome to come down the mountain at times, but it's a joy when we get here."

And, God is blessing that little mountain church in Riverside Association as people

travel down that "mountain," some from Cookeville about 13 miles away and others from Clarkrange, almost 18 miles away.

On Sunday, March 7, about 140 people crowded into the new sanctuary for the first service.

During the past 14 months the church averaged 91 people in worship in a 35 x 60-foot building. Several Sundays saw attendance exceed 100 people, said Phillips.

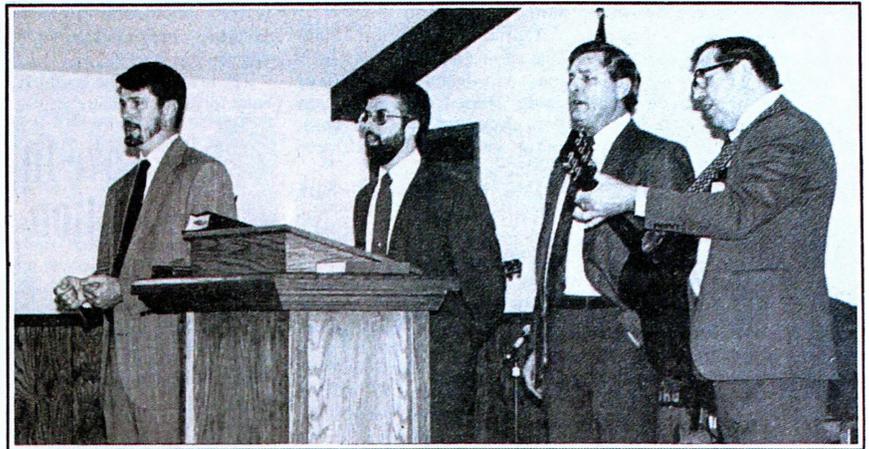
The church has come a long way since Phillips became its pastor 10 years ago when he was only 17 years old. He recalled the church had about 35 people in attendance when he first came.

It has been a "growing experience," he said.

Phillips, a bivocational pastor, is a motivator. Everyone has a job, he said. When people have something to do they get excited, he added.

Phillips is the first to admit that his 10 years at the church has had its ups and downs.

In fact, he left the church



PASTOR RAYMOND PHILLIPS, far left, and three men from Columbia Hill Church, from left, Chris Phipps, Sam Looper, and Donnie Welch, lead the congregation in singing "Victory in Jesus" during the first service in the church's new sanctuary March 7.

for about seven months about two years ago.

But during that time both he and the congregation felt the Lord wanted Phillips to return.

He told them he would return if the church would build a new sanctuary. Phillips knew that Columbia Hill Church could not grow because it had long exceeded the principle that a church stops growing when attendance reaches 80 percent of its space.

"I knew it would take a new building to give us potential to grow," he said.

After he returned the church held a special meeting to discuss the idea. Phillips, a contractor, had plans ready for the church members to view.

Some of the older members were not entirely for the idea at first.

Sam Looper, a deacon, admitted he was reluctant at first, but soon caught a vision

for the task as did other members in the church.

"If it had not been for the congregation we have this would not have happened," Looper said.

One month after the special meeting the church voted to move forward. And, on March 7, 1992, the footings for the new sanctuary were poured.

For 34 Saturdays, men of the church, led by their pastor, constructed the new facility.

Looper noted Phillips showed the men what to do. "He was patient with us," Looper grinned.

One of the concerns about beginning the new venture had been funds.

The church had about \$4,000 in the treasury when they started, Phillips said.

"The people did not think we could do it, but if God thinks we can do it, we can," Phillips affirmed.

Phillips noted offerings rose from about \$300 a week to an average of about \$1,100. For one year offerings ranged between \$900 and \$1,300, he said.

On the Sunday morning of their first service in the building church members had spent about \$38,000 on the building, which more than doubled its existing space and could hold up to 210 people — and it was debt-free.

"Our people saw what was happening and got excited about it," the pastor explained, adding, "You cannot live in the past. God wants us to use the best of our abilities. It causes you to step forward," he said.

And, the church has.

The church offers several activities for its youth and children and has an active

visitation program.

Members range from young couples with small children to senior adults.

During the dedication service on March 7, two of the participants included Elo Phillips, a member of the church for 58 years, and Lee Evans, a member for 63 years.

Both had mixed feelings. They were happy for the new building, but a little sad about leaving the building they "had grown up in."

During the dedication service Phillips reminded the congregation they had worked hard and trusted God.

As part of the service the church dedicated the altar, a Bible, and the offering separately to signify the importance of all three.

Reminding the people that for years a Bible had always been displayed in front of the pulpit, Phillips noted that "unless we build a church on the Word of God, it will never last."

He noted it takes the altar, the Bible, and the offering to build a church.

"These are the things that have made you and I what we are today," he said.

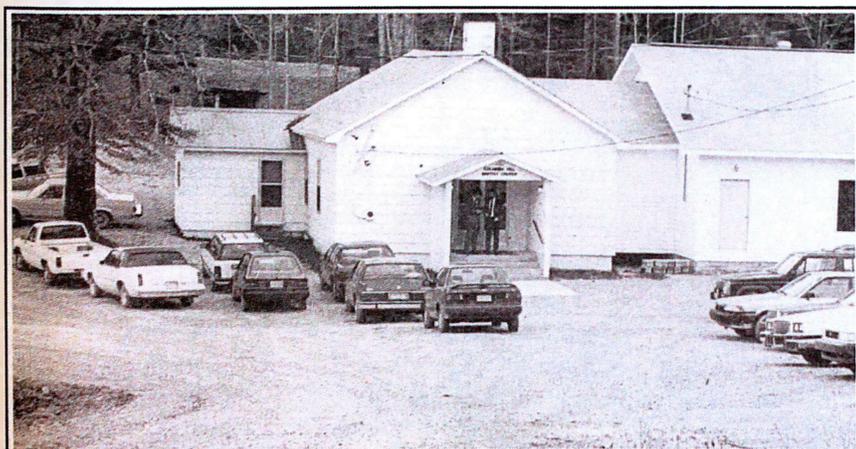
Reminding the members that they stepped out on faith, Phillips said, "If we give God our lives and hearts, he can do something with it."

And, the church is not through. There are still finishing touches to complete on the sanctuary. The church also plans to remodel the old sanctuary for education space.

Phillips reminded his congregation Satan "will fight harder and harder against us." But, he promised, "Our church is not going to do nothing." □



RAYMOND PHILLIPS was joined in the dedication ceremony by his wife, Angela, daughter Christie Mychelle, and long-time members Elo Phillips, right, and Lee Evans. Elo Phillips and Evans cut the first ribbon.



LOCATED IN THE BEND of a dirt, graveled road, Columbia Hill Church in the Crawford community is two miles from a house on either side. Yet, week after week people come to the church. Pastor Raymond Phillips credits the "loving spirit" of the congregation as a primary reason.

# Superwoman cape not answer for busy women, Gray says

By Susan Doyle  
For Baptist Press

SAN ANTONIO, Texas — Putting on a red cape boasting the letter "S" is not the solution to the busy woman's schedule, a Woman's Missionary Union leader said.

Women who try to do everything find themselves experiencing stress, self-neglect, guilt, burnout, and resentment, said Charlene Gray, program associate for Tennessee Woman's Missionary Union.

Women receive conflicting messages in today's world, Gray told participants in a "Superwoman Syndrome" seminar during the first National Christian Women's Enrichment Conference in San Antonio, Texas, March 5-7.

More than 800 women from 20 states attended the conference, which was co-developed by the Sunday School Board's Discipleship and Family Development Division and

Woman's Missionary Union.

Women struggle with the conflicting philosophies they bear — you can have it all or do it all and you can live by faith, Gray said.

On the one hand, "I hear God saying be all you can be in me — in Jesus Christ," Gray said. "Then I hear others say you should do this or that, never with a sense of affirmation for who you are."

However, women can have relief from the conflict, she said, using the word "relief" as an illustration.

"R" is for "rest." Rest is most often the last option in the busy woman's life, she said. "But it is as important for us to rest as it is to worship. They are tied together. We cannot worship God unless we are still and quiet," she said.

"E" is for "expect your best."

"L" is for "learn." Women should be lifelong learners, learning from successes as well as failures, Gray said. "Most of all, learn from God's Word. Memorize it and make it yours," she said.

"I" is for "identify stress points." Many times women have not identified what it is

that stresses them, just that they are stressed, she said.

"E" is for "enjoy life." Women have a hard time doing things for themselves without feeling guilty, she observed. "Women are nurturers by nature," Gray said.

"F" is for "fear the Lord." It's easy to read the description of

a godly woman found in Proverbs 31 and get stressed out, Gray said. "But as I read this, I find there is not so much an emphasis on what she does as there is on who she is — how she chooses to live out her faith."

In America today, a greater emphasis is being placed on

what women accomplish than on who they are, she said.

"We're so caught up in what you (are)," she said. "If you think success in this material world is found in what you are, you are sadly mistaken. But as you discover who you are as a woman of God, you can take off the cape," she said. □



GRAY

told participants in a "Superwoman Syndrome" seminar during the first National Christian Women's Enrichment Conference in San Antonio, Texas, March 5-7.

## Changes planned for SBC day camp

Baptist Press

HOUSTON — A number of changes will mark this year's

## Stoneway Acres plans new unit in Lebanon

BHEP

NASHVILLE — Baptist Homes for Exceptional Persons is ready to begin building another group home at Stoneway Acres in Lebanon. The first group home was delivered debt-free to the Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes in a presentation at last year's annual meeting in Gatlinburg.

"Stoneway Acres Unit Two Day" will be held April 17 at Lincaya Hills Church, located at 3143 McGavock Pike in Nashville. Fund-raising events include a car wash, donations only; garage sale, doughnut sale, barbeque box lunch sale, church bake sale, and a babysitting service, by reservations only. Donations will be accepted for the babysitting service.

Funds raised during the day will go toward the building of the second group home in Lebanon.

For information or to donate items or to reserve the babysitting service, call the church office at (615) 883-7111. □

SBC Missions Day Camp for children of messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-17.

Children will be able to visit two Houston attractions, the NASA Space Center Houston and the Houston Children's Museum, said Tim Seanor, SBC Missions Day Camp coordinator.

Another change is pre-registration, which is being offered for the first time. To pre-register a child, parents should write SBC Missions Day Camp, Brotherhood Commission, 1548 Poplar Ave., Memphis, Tenn., 38104, or call (901) 272-2461. Parents will receive a registration packet. Pre-registration forms must be received by the Brotherhood Commission no later than May 1.

Parents or guardians of children who attended the 1992 day camp in Indianapolis will receive registration packets automatically.

Cost for the day camp on Tuesday is \$19 and includes admission to Space Center Houston, plus transportation, accident insurance, lunch, snacks, learning materials, and a day camp T-shirt. Cost for Wednesday and Thursday is \$9 per day, plus a T-shirt purchase of \$5 is required.

Missions Day Camp will be offered during all daytime sessions of the convention. □

## Love In Action

Since I've lived at the Children's Home, I've found a friend in Jesus.

-Jane... (Age 13)

Tennessee Baptist Children's Home resident

"The Tennessee Baptist Children's Home has protected me from some problems in my family.

Mamaw and Papaw, my houseparents, are always there for me when I wake up from a bad dream. They make me feel better just by talking to me.

When I first came here, going to the Baptist Church was something new for me. I've since accepted Jesus as the center of my life and I've been baptized.

Being a Christian means everything to me. It means I can trust God and that he won't let me down. I didn't know that before coming to the Children's Home.

Mostly though, I talk to God. I talk to Him every night.

Since I've lived at the Children's Home, I've found a friend in Jesus."



Children



TBCH Central Office  
5001 Maryland Way • Brentwood, TN 37027  
615-371-2000  
1-800-624-8591

Dr. Gerald L. Stow, President/Treasurer

(The subject's name and photo have been changed.)

# TenneScene ■ the people, their work

## ■ the leaders

■ **Charles Earl**, director of missions for Holston Valley Association, based in Rogersville, was elected president of the state directors of missions organization when they met recently at the Baptist Center, Brentwood. Other officers elected were **Bennie Creel**, Sweetwater Association, vice president; and **Roy Fowler**, McMinn-Meigs Association, secretary.



EARL

■ **Jerry B. Wood, Parsons**, is the new pastor of Milledgeville Church, Milledgeville.

■ **Hickory Grove Church, Moscow**, called **Charles Jeter** as pastor.

■ Members of National Avenue Church, Memphis, recently welcomed **David Bock** as minister of education and youth, and **Linda Gafford** as minister to children.

■ **Mickey Basham**, pastor of North Jackson Church, Jackson, and **Donna Benson**, Monte Vista Church, Maryville, are not participating in a medical mission team to Chile

as was reported in last week's *Baptist and Reflector*. The staff regrets this error.

■ **Jimmy Wilbanks** is interim pastor of Rocky Springs Church, Bolivar.

■ **Cohulla Church, Cleveland**, called **Jack Epperson** as pastor.

■ **Ramer Church, Ramer**, Pastor **Don Wann** has resigned to accept a pastorate in Hickman, Ky.

■ **Greg Baker, Halls**, has been called as minister of youth to First Church, Trimble. He is a student at Union University, Jackson.

■ **New Bethel Church, Middleton**, will hold a youth revival April 16-18.

■ Spring revival will be March 22-26 at **Porters Creek Church, Middleton**. **David Shepard** will be speaker.

■ **Tom Madden** will lead revival services March 21-24 at **Holly Grove Church, Bells**. **Tommy Lane** will lead music.

■ Members of **Miston Church, Bogota**, will be led in revival March 22-28 by **Neal Chatham**.

■ **Bill Ross** will lead revival March 21-24 at **Signal Mountain Church, Signal Mountain**.

■ **Jerry Drace** will be evangelist and **Ken and Lois Holland** will lead music for revival services March 21-24 at **First Church, Humboldt**.

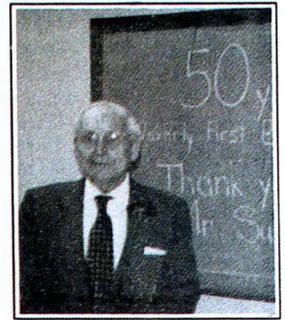
■ **Calvary Church, Jackson**, will hold revival services led by **John Laida** March 21-24. **Laida** currently serves as interim pastor of First Church, Owensboro, Ky.

■ **Drew Hayes** will be evangelist for revival March 21-24 at **First Church, Troy**.

■ **Mary's Chapel, Ripley**, will be led in revival March 21-24 by **Bob Hamblin**.

■ **Mansfield Church, Mansfield**, will hold revival services March 22-24 with evangelist **Buck Morton**.

■ **Noel Edwards** will be evangelist for revival March



**LOY B. SUMMAR** was honored recently by **First Church, Waverly**, for 50 years of membership in the church. *Summar*, the oldest member of **First Church at 91**, helped organize the church 50 years ago, and borrowed money and sold bonds to build the first church building. Homecoming will be April 18.

21-23 at **Pine Grove Church, Wildersville**.

■ Revival will be March 28-31 at **Range Hills Church, Memphis**. **John Bramlett** will preach during the services. Music will be led by **Range Hills Church's** music director, **John Shamblin**.

■ Registration for a seminar, led by **Evelyn Christenson** March 20, beginning at 9 a.m. at **First Church, Mount Juliet**, has been extended until 8 a.m. that day. The seminar is sponsored by the church's women's ministry.

■ **First Church, Bolivar**, will hold revival April 4-7. Evangelist **Steve Hale** will lead the services.

## ■ the churches

■ The following churches in Shiloh Association will hold revivals in March. **Falcon Church, Selmer**, March 28-31, evangelist **Johnny Parrack**, Corinth, Miss.; and **Hopewell Church, Savannah**, March 21-24, **Bill Stafford**.

■ Members of **Dalton Pike Church, Charleston**, will begin revival March 21 at 7:20 p.m.

■ **Donald Owens** will lead revival services and **Harry Brooks** will lead revival music March 22-26 at **First Church, Decherd**.

■ **Jerry Winfield**, pastor of First Church, Bolivar, will be evangelist for revival March 21-24 at **Hickory Valley Church, Hickory Valley**.



**MEMBERS OF French Broad Church, Dandridge**, recently dedicated their new educational/fellowship building. The 7,000-square-foot building includes six classrooms, a library, restrooms, a fellowship hall, and kitchen facilities. Former pastor **James Kinser** delivered the dedication message. **Don Frazier**, former missionary to Nigeria, is pastor. Pictured front row, from left, are **Johnny Edmonds**, contractor; **Kolner Burress**; **Frazier**; **Pat Williams**; and **Doug Lane**, building designer. Back row, from left are **Greg Williams**; **Susie Delozier**; **Catheline Hurst**; **Jerry DeZeam**, Jefferson County Association director of missions; **Herman Drinnon**, and **Roy Williams**.

# Tennessee Sampler ■ views, insights

## How to handle the lemons

**Larry W. Fields**, pastor Central Church Bearden, Knoxville  
My parents recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. My father did not understand the significance of this event since he has been confined to a nursing home for the past five years suffering from Alzheimer's Disease. My mother's love and care for him have never waned. When she promised, "For better or worse, in sickness and in health," she meant it!  
Her four children worked with several of her friends in Ferriday, La., to have those friends take her to Natchez, Miss., for a special anniversary luncheon on the 23rd. Later that afternoon friends from the community and First Church, where he served as pastor from 1960-71, came by his room to visit them both.  
I will visit with her when I am in route to a meeting at

Louisiana College. That will be my time to wish them a happy anniversary.

Like you, I sometimes ask, why? My father would have been an outstanding supply and interim preacher. His keen sense of humor and his amazing knack of making people feel at ease around him would have kept him in demand. But the disease robbed him of his mind, and he never got the chance.

Somehow my mother manages to talk about the fact that all four children are college graduates; all three sons are seminary graduates; two sons serve as Baptist ministers; the other son and daughter are very active in their churches; all four children married well; all nine grandchildren are healthy and happy.

Her philosophy has always been, "When life gives you lemons, make lemonade." The main source of strength through the whole process has been the one who said, "I will never leave you nor forsake

you." We were taught early in life to trust the Lord in good times as well as bad. Perish the thought of facing the future without him. □

## Giving and commitment

**James Robertson**, pastor Sharon Church, Knoxville

In the beautiful sermon from the mount, our Lord instructed the disciples about being Kingdom people. In Matthew 6:19-21, Jesus said, "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through to steal: For where your treasure is, there will be your heart also."

During this time of year many business firms will be taking an inventory and evaluating last year. Maybe it is time for us members to take an inventory based on our Lord's instructions. Many members know their earthly balance,

but have no clue about their heavenly balance.

Jesus said that where our treasure is — that's where our heart is. It appears that many Christians have their treasures in homes, cars, vacations, etc. I know some Christians spend more on the lottery than they contribute to the church. Most Christians only give to the Lord's work when they go to church and they don't even tip God like they would a waiter in a fine restaurant!

Is a person's giving record a good indication of their commitment to Christ? I have come to believe that it is. Giving with the right spirit and right motives is a praise to God. People who love God have no trouble giving to his work. They are laying up treasures where their heart is. □

## Let down your net

**Paul Durham**, pastor Radnor Church, Nashville  
"And He saith unto them, 'Follow me, and I will make

you fishers of men,'" Matthew 4:19.

As we think about being fishers of men, we must pause to thank God for the promise of eternal life. We must be ever thankful for our blessings and thereby increase our willingness to serve him.

With the support of the Lord behind us, we can take advantage of every opportunity to speak out for God. Are we truly concerned for lost souls? Are we concerned enough that we visit, teach, or work in various parts of our church programs?

Often we do not praise his name. With his strength, and guidance, we will know the right words at the right time if we are willing to let the Lord use us.

If we truly depend on the Lord for power and courage, we can lead many lives to find the eternal life and joy of salvation in Christ. How's your Christian witness? When is the last time you cast your hook or let down your net to gather them in? □

# Church youth leaders face 'good news, bad news' scenario

By Karen Benson  
For Baptist Press

WACO, Texas — When it comes to youth work in churches in the 21st century, there's some good news and some bad news.

That's the conclusion of some consultants in youth and children's work from the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union, Brotherhood Commission, and Baptist General Convention of Texas at a March 5-6 conference on "Youth Ministry in the 21st Century" sponsored by Baylor University.

First, the bad news:

(1) There is an "ominous shift" toward the devaluation of children and youth in society, according to Tillman Rodabough, professor of sociology, social work, and anthropology at Baylor. He also co-directs the Baylor Center for Community Research and Development, which just completed a study of youth programs in Southern Baptist churches.

(2) There is a vacuum in adult leadership of youth programs. In fact, leadership problems surfaced as one of the major reasons leading to the demise of some youth programs in Southern Baptist churches, said Larry Lyon, a Baylor sociology professor and director of the Baylor Center for Community Research and Development.

(3) There are frightening trends in issues affecting youth and children, ranging from school dropout rates to

teenage pregnancy, drugs, violence, poverty, and absentee parents.

But alongside the bad news is some good news as well, claimed the consultants in youth and children's work from WMU and Brotherhood.

(1) The missions spirit is "very much alive" among Southern Baptist young people, said Tim Seanor, director of Royal Ambassadors for the Brotherhood Commission.

"This is a hopeful sign for the future," Seanor said. "We feel that involvement of youth in mission-action projects around the world gives them opportunities to link response to human needs with the need to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

As youth are involved in these kinds of projects, Southern Baptists are being seen "as a caring, committed people of God," Seanor said.

(2) There are organizations available to Southern Baptist churches that provide for relationship-building between children and youth and adults that can affect positive change in society, the WMU and Brotherhood representatives said.

Brotherhood and WMU offer a full range of missions organizations for Southern Baptist churches. Brotherhood's organizations are Lad Royal Ambassadors for boys in grades one through three, Crusader RAs for grades four-six, Pioneer RAs for grades seven-nine, High School Bap-

tist Young Men for grades 10-12, Baptist Young Men for ages 18-34, and Baptist Men for ages 35 and up.

WMU's organizations are Mission Friends for preschool boys and girls, Girls in Action for girls in grades one through six, Acteens for grades seven through 12, Baptist Young Women for ages 18-34, and Baptist Women for ages 35 and up.

These established programs offer "weekly opportunities to create meaningful relationships which change lives," Seanor said.

In a sense RA boys become

the counselor's "own," Seanor said. "This bonding is what brings the smile to the volunteer's face when one of his boys accepts Christ or decides to go into full-time Christian service. It is this kind of relationship that is so rare and valuable today. I view the RA programs as a structure where this relationship is encouraged and takes place."

GA organizations offer a similar opportunity for bonding between the leaders and the girls, said Sylvia DeLoach, GA specialist for WMU. "Such bonding is important, especially when you realize that

these are not all just 'church girls,'" DeLoach said. "Some of these girls are the victims, the abused ... They need the love and encouragement that GA leaders have to offer."

In fact, child advocacy will be receiving more and more of an emphasis in GA programs and materials, she reported. Even GAs themselves, will learn how to become advocates for other children, as they become part of a "children's brigade" whereby children learn about issues affecting their peers and learn what they can do to affect change," DeLoach said. □

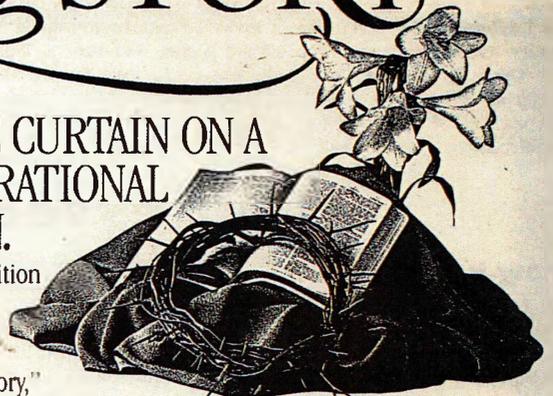
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# ■ Sunday School lesson commentary

## □ God's assurance for his anointed king — Bible Book Series for March 21

By Bill Wolfe, pastor, First Church, Counce

To "anoint" means to pour oil on the head of a person to set him apart for special service. We are most familiar with anointing in the Old Testament. We recall the anointing of David as king. It was God's way of setting David apart as his chosen vessel to follow Saul on the throne.

### Psalm 2

Psalm 2 falls into that large group of psalms called "Messianic Psalms," concerning the Messiah. The writer is not speaking about himself. He is recording the language of the Messiah. This is a prophetic psalm. In this psalm, which begins with a question and ends with a blessing, we have the resurrection of the Messiah proclaimed. We also have a description of his coming in judgment against the nations and their rulers and their kings.

This psalm can be divided into four sections with three verses in each one. A different speaker is heard in each group. In verses 1-3, the speaker is David. God the Father speaks in verses 4-6. God the Son speaks in verses 7-9, and God the Holy Spirit in verses 10-12.

In the first section we see a question being raised: "Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing?" "Rage" means tumultuously assembled. "Imagine" is the same word as meditate we read in Psalm 1. A godly man uses his imagination to meditate upon things of God. Godless nations use their imagination to rid mankind of God.

In verse 4 the scene changes from earth to heaven. It is a heavenly scene, but tranquil. It echoes with decrees and declarations providing a picture of

God laughing in mockery against the attempts of wicked man to do away with him.

Jesus is the speaker in verse 7. A statement is made concerning the dominion of Jesus. Before the Lord enters into his millennial reign, he must first break his enemies with a rod of iron. This speaks of judgment.

The last scene is in verses 10-12. If we have confidence in the Lord, we are happy. The Word describes the man who has confidence in the Lord as being "blessed" or happy.

### Psalm 20

Psalm 20 is a preparation for battle. Throughout history God has used war to punish nations that rebel against him. One would only need to read the Old Testament to see how much time God's people spent in warfare with other nations.

God's people were never called to depend on anyone except him. The people tell their king what kind of leader they want him to be in a time of war. They want a leader who: 1. is prayerfully in touch with God (v. 1); 2. has power with God (v. 2); 3. is more than religious (v. 3); 4. and listens to God (vv. 4-5).

### Basic Passage: Psalms 2; 20; 110

Assurance is important! As they went into battle they wanted assurance of the Lord's help for their king. Their faith was based in the name and the power of the Lord (vv. 6-9).

### Psalm 110

The 110th Psalm is quoted more frequently in the New Testament than any other. There is no question about the

authorship of the psalm. It was written by David. Jesus said so! David is the king and the writer, but he was talking about the Messiah.

Verse 1 is the Father's testimony to his Son and it was given upon his resurrection from the dead when he was exalted to the right hand of God — the hand of authority. In the third verse we have a picture of a people who were not willing at one time, but who became willing.

We have a different scene in verses 4-7. Melchizedek is mentioned. His name means, "My King is righteous." The battle continues in verses 5-6. Verse 7 closes the Psalm on a note of peace.

Remember God always provides for His anointed — whether it be in times of war or peace. Trust in Him! □

## □ Light of the world — Convention Uniform Series for March 21

By Terry Bradshaw, pastor, Zion Hill Church, Sevierville

While searching the pages of God's Word, I am amazed at how frequently the truth was rejected by the religious community. The religious establishment often criticized and held in contempt anyone who would follow the teachings of Jesus. So is the case in today's lesson.

John 9 reveals to us a story of miraculous proportions. It deals with the healing of a blind man, while revealing the spiritual blindness that permeated his world.

This spiritual blindness has been a part of every age. It has been around since the fall of man and will remain until the Lord comes again. But, thanks to God, there is a light that shines in the darkness. Jesus is the light for all those who find themselves trapped in spiritual blindness.

### The blind man's healing vv. 1-7

In John 8:59, Jesus had left the temple after being threatened. It was upon his leaving that he ran across the blind man in our text. This may seem as though it is just another case of a blind man being healed. Not so. In John 8:12, you find Jesus had made the claim to be the "light of the world." In chapter 9, he took this truth one step higher. He not only proclaimed to be the light, but he demonstrated it to the world. So, the blind man became the avenue used to demonstrate this heavenly truth and manifest the works of God (v. 3).

John 9:1 explains this encounter and shares with us the depth of this man's blindness. According to the text, the man had been blind from birth. Je-

sus, leaving the temple, noticed the blind man's condition. The disciples, also noticing the man took the opportunity to ask an important spiritual question. "Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?" (v. 2). To the disciples this man posed a theological problem. They believed all suffering could be directly traced to a particular sin. They based this belief on Exodus 20:5, which speaks of God visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon future generations.

In response to the disciple's question, Jesus said, "Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents," (v. 3). This in no way contradicts the universal sinfulness of man. Jesus was simply saying the blindness of this man could not be traced to a particular sin. Furthermore, our Lord would use this situa-

tion to manifest the works of God (v. 3).

### The neighbor's reaction vv. 8-12

Such words are astounding, amazing, and unbelievable and help us understand the reaction of his neighbors. Some could not believe this was the same man (v. 9). Using your imagination you can see them pointing, whispering, and confronting the healed man concerning this miracle. He told them all he knew; simply that a man named Jesus had given him sight. Still puzzled and amazed, they consulted the Pharisees.

### The Pharisee's reaction vv. 13-41

The reaction of the Pharisees is in verse 16. "This man is not of God, because he keepeth not the sabbath day." The sabbath observance was of top

priority to the Pharisees. The original law (Exodus 20:8-11) had been shored up with a number of petty restrictions that were often very burdensome to keep. It was out of this type of mindset that the Pharisees concluded this miracle could not be from God. They questioned the man and his parents and had so determined

### Basic Passage John 9

that if anyone attributed this act to Christ he would be put out of the synagogue (v. 22). In anger, the Pharisees expelled the man who had been healed from the synagogue (v. 5).

In closing, the healed man may have been rejected by the Pharisees, but he was accepted by Jesus into the family of God (vv. 35-41.) □

## □ When planning for the future — Life and Work Series for March 21

By Toby Everett, pastor, Walker Memorial Church, Franklin

How do we move into the future? In the vocations we have we are moving toward retirement years and setting aside funds to make those years comfortable. We also look to the future by entering the Publisher's Clearing House Sweepstakes with hopes the future holds a windfall profit providing a secure and easy life. Many individuals just simply say, "Whatever will be, will be," and make no plans for future days.

Also, there is the approach of "why bother" because, "The best laid plans of mice and men often go a wry." Should we plan for tomorrow even though tomorrow holds no guarantees for us?

This is an interesting ques-

tion that is addressed in our study this week from the life of Joseph. But the question is better answered by asking it this way: What should we remember when planning for the future?

### Foundation for planning vv. 28-31

Success rarely just happens. It takes careful planning and consideration if the "tomorrows" of our life are to have peace. Joseph had a difficult past. This instance marks a turning point in his life. He could afford no mess-up. When called upon to interpret the dream of Pharaoh, he wanted it understood perfectly that God was the foundation of all he did. His God was the interpreter of the dream and no

plans for the future should leave God's hand out. When we decide to look ahead, our Lord should be the foundation of those plans, and he should receive the glory for what we attempt to do. Abundance will occur.

### Recommendation in planning, vv. 33-36

It is important to note God does not object to planning. As he reveals his will, we must plan to accomplish that will. The dreams of Pharaoh reveal potential disaster, but they did not say sit back and let it happen. Joseph's recommendation was first to find God's overseer of the plans, one who was "discerning and wise;" then, select those who would work with that individual to secure prop-

er results. Egyptians were used to plenty of wealth. The thought of seven years of famine must have struck a fearful chord. But Joseph recommended they manage the resources available, not the resources anticipated. When the

### Basic Passage: Genesis 41

lean time came, they would have plenty, not only for Egypt, but for all who were suffering from the famine.

### Elevation of planning, v. 37

Those who had heard the plan must elevate the plan. Sometimes, when an individual comes with a workable plan for the church, we need to respond favorably. It may

come from the person least expected to come up with the plan. Pharaoh and his leaders had to look past the Hebrew slave and recognize divine intervention. God's revealed plan must be followed to the letter. This Egyptian chose to follow the plan completely.

### Implementation of plan vv. 38-40

The logical choice to implement the plan was the one through whom it came, and that someone was Joseph. As we search for plans to be put together for successful steps in the future, the individual who makes the plan would be the best choice to administrate the plan. God gives you revelations not only to share, but to be involved in doing. □

## Nigeria honors Baptist missionary

Foreign Mission Board

EKU, Nigeria — Nigeria's Ministry of Health recently gave Southern Baptist medical missionary Martha Hagood its distinguished service award for her work at Eku Baptist Hospital.

Hagood, a physician from Oxford, Ala., has worked in Nigeria since 1966 as a staff physician and consultant in obstetrics and gynecology.

"This is a celebration of excellence in service," said S. I. Onwuka, awards chairman for the Ministry of Health in the state of Delta. He noted her "hard work, dedication, and diligence" has not gone unnoticed.

This was the first award given by the state's health department. Hagood and four other missionary doctors, along with two nurses, work at the 150-bed hospital in southern Nigeria. □

## Richmond paper refuses request from FMB trustees

Baptist Press

RICHMOND — A Richmond newspaper has refused a request by Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board trustees to send another news reporter to attend FMB meetings.

FMB trustees, after a Feb. 8

dialogue with Woman's Missionary Union leaders, were angered over the reporting by *Richmond Times-Dispatch* writer Ed Briggs. In addition to sending the letter and request about Briggs, the FMB supplied a videotape "to evaluate" Briggs' story "as to fairness."

Alf Goodykoontz, the newspaper's senior vice president and executive editor, in a letter to an FMB official, dated March 2, responded Briggs' reporting "was accurate and fair."

In the letter Goodykoontz observed, "We don't often have the opportunity you provided to compare our coverage with a videotape of the whole event. Having done so, we see no reason to assign a different reporter to cover the Foreign Mission Board." □

## SSB promotes Alford to design editor

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — Chip Alford, feature reporter in the Sunday School Board's office of communications since 1991, has been promoted to design editor for *Facts and Trends*, a monthly news and information publication for 60,000 church staff and other denominational leaders.

Rearred in Gadsden, Ala., Alford holds degrees from Auburn (Ala.) University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth.

While at Southwestern he was a newswriter in the seminary's public affairs office. □

## Baptists aid Fiji typhoon victims

Foreign Mission Board

SUVA, Fiji — Southern Baptist missionary Mark Wakefield of Jackson has coordinated Foreign Mission Board relief efforts on the Fiji Island of Viti Levu.

A typhoon swept across the Pacific island in early January. "This has been the worst hurricane Fiji has seen in 20 years," Wakefield said.

Wakefield has used about \$5,000 for emergency hunger relief in the mountain village of Nadovu, where local Baptists suffered the loss of crops, homes, and severe damage to a church building. □

## 18 AIDS patients accept Christ in Buenos Aires

Foreign Mission Board

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina — An entire ward of male AIDS patients recently accepted Christ as Savior when Esteban Cardozo, an Argentine seminary student, visited a

hospital in Buenos Aires at the request of a patient's mother.

He shared his faith with the patient who prayed to receive Christ. (The patient has since died). As Cardozo was leaving, a patient in the next bed asked him to pray with him. He also accepted Christ.

In the course of Cardozo's stay, all 18 men in the ward became Christians, said Southern Baptist missionary Stanley Clark, rector at the International Baptist Seminary in Buenos Aires where Cardozo is a student. □



WAKEFIELD

## RTVC announces new TV programs

Baptist Press

FORT WORTH, Texas — The Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission has launched two new television programs — "Capital News" and "Talk to Me."

"Capital News" is a half-hour daily news show that began on FamilyNet in late February. It features national and international news events from a conservative Christian perspective. Lisa Digiavani is news anchor. Syndicated columnist Cal Thomas will give a commentary twice a week.

"Talk to Me," hosted by Jim Cantelon, provides a "coast-to-coast" "meeting place" for callers to talk to Cantelon and each other about a wide range of issues, opinions, fears, and concerns. The show is based in Chicago. □

## Baptist women honored as mentors

Baptist Press

SAN ANTONIO, Texas — Southern Baptist women from four states were recognized as women of excellence during the first National Christian Women's Enrichment Conference held March 5-7 in San Antonio.

Chosen from more than 300 nominations, the four were selected and introduced as "mentors, as role models for us today," said Morlee Maynard, manager of the preschool program section in the Church-Growth-Sunday School Division of the Sunday School Board. The board co-developed the conference with Woman's Missionary Union.

Criteria for nomination included: a leadership position in a Southern Baptist church; support, but not necessarily a member of WMU; exemplifies love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control; and a growing relationship with Jesus.

Those cited were Edna Hill, Lawton, Okla.; Miriam Owens, Pueblo, Colo.; Daphne Strickland, Jamestown, N.C.; and Mary Broyles, Milan, Mo. □

## Annuity Board v.p. honored by HMB

Baptist Press

DALLAS — Frank Schwall Jr., senior vice president of the Southern Baptist Annuity Board, is the 1993 recipient of the Mosaic Missions Award, presented annually by the Home Mission Board for contributions to language missions by someone not directly involved in language missions work.

The Home Mission Board presented the award to Schwall in February at a leadership conference in Detroit.

"Frank is an unassuming leader who is concerned with the retirement welfare of ethnic pastors and has brought about the publication of annuity program in various languages by working with various ethnic leaders," said Oscar Romo, director of the HMB's language church extension division.

During the past year he helped produce retirement plan brochures in Spanish, Korean, and Chinese.

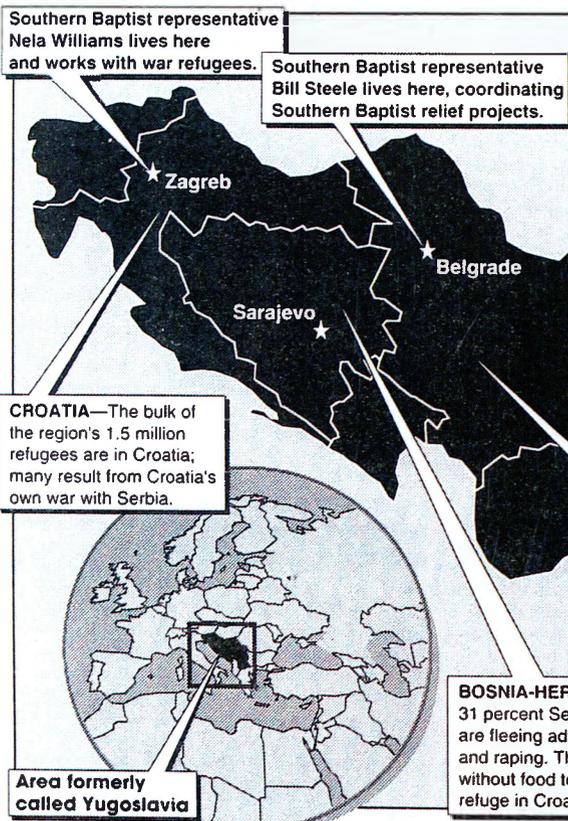
"This award highlights the Annuity Board's commitment to reaching all people in the SBC," Schwall said. □

## Baptists feed refugees in former Yugoslavia with World Hunger funds

Southern Baptists have just released \$250,000 to buy food and \$27,000 to transport seed for former Yugoslavia. With a \$225,000 release last fall, these gifts bring Southern Baptists' total aid for the region to \$502,000. Groups of Croatian, Bosnian and Serbian Baptists distribute the food, sometimes risking their lives. A history of bitterness triggered war last year after ethnically controlled republics declared themselves free nations and Serbs resisted. Baptists have been told they might be most able to help after fighting ceases because they are unrelated to the violence. The people associate the Orthodox with Serbia, Catholics with Croatia, and Islam with Bosnia-Herzegovina.

**SERBIA**—Serb leaders control most of what was the Yugoslavian central government. As Croatia and Bosnia have broken away, Serbs have waged war against them; many Serbs living in those areas have sought safety by fleeing back to Serbia.

**BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA**—The country is 44 percent Muslim, 31 percent Serb and 17 percent Croat. Reports say Muslims are fleeing advancing Serbs, who are flattening villages, killing and raping. Thousands of refugees brave deep snow and go without food to find safe places to resettle. Many have found refuge in Croatia. Food from Baptists has reached Bosnia.



The map and diagram show that Southern Baptists are attempting to help meet human needs in the war-torn areas of what formerly was Yugoslavia. Tennessee Baptists should continue to remember the people and Southern Baptist workers in this area in prayer.

(BP) MAP GRAPHIC By Marty Croll