

Baptist and Reflector

May 25, 1994

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STATEWIDE EDITION

■ this week's news

global —

- Missionary and Florida Baptist volunteers escape serious injury in wreck. — Page 3

national —

- Henry and Wolfe ready to make a run for the SBC presidency. — Page 2
- Dilday, trustees can't reach agreement over severance package. — Page 3
- Alcohol labeling bill fails to get committee vote. — Page 14

state —

- Tennessee youth set to meet True Love Waits goal. — Page 3
- Historic Valley View Church breaks ground for new building. — Page 6
- Paris church celebrates 25 years of ministry to the deaf. — Page 7

Union students raise record amount for missions

By Connie Davis
Baptist and Reflector

JACKSON — Students at Union University weren't bungee jumping or sky diving to meet the student ministries goal of Living Dangerously, but they did raise \$71,000 to help sponsor 104 summer missionaries, additional mission teams, and work in nursing homes, jails, and communities.

The record amount of gifts raised by the Baptist Student Union is up from \$57,300 last year and \$24,000 just four years ago, noted Bill Kisner, BSU director. He joined about 70 university staff and students in reporting ministries during the past year at the Religious Affairs/Baptist Student Union Banquet May 12.

The goal was "to get out of our comfort zones" to discover "radical obedience for him," said Stephanie Exum, a member of the BSU missions com-

mittee, during the banquet.

Organizing the efforts for the university's 1,800 students are Bill Kisner, with help from mission-sending agencies, and the students themselves who participate in the BSU, seven other Christian groups, and six fraternal organizations. The efforts are far ranging.

Christian organizations other than the BSU include Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Black Christian Fellowship, Baptist Young Women, Ministerial Association, Youth, Education, Music, Missions Association (YEMMA), and Mu Kappa, a group for missionary kids.

The organizations conducted such activities as a mission trip to New Orleans led by YEMMA and meetings for Jackson high school students led by FCA, student leaders reported. The Ministerial Association directed 58 teams to work in churches as far away

as Georgia.

The BSU leadership and its ministry groups also reported. The BSU includes the following groups — vocal ensemble, drama/ministry, clowning, sign language, Habitat for Humanity, and on/off campus.

Out-going BSU president, Jason Wilder explained his view of ministry. "Preaching, teaching, music, or whatever is not your ministry; that's your talent. The ministry is the life you live incorporating those talents." Adam Simpson, new president, also spoke.

The combined efforts of the groups resulted in a total of 262 teams working off campus, it was reported, of which 13 were missions teams which worked about a week and 51 which led revivals. As a result of the combined efforts, there were 604 professions of faith.

But these weren't the only efforts by Union students for others. Paul Williams, in-serv-

ice guidance director, noted 80 students serve on the staff of churches. Randy and Cindy Pool, missionaries-in-residence at Union, reported on their work on and off campus.

Additionally, six fraternal groups described their social and spiritual work. Their efforts raise and distribute funds in addition to the \$71,000 directed by the BSU, explained Kisner.

Fraternity and sorority leaders reported activities such as helping an ill adult, collecting gifts for a child abuse center in Jackson, and leading chapel on campus.

Jody Wysor of Lambda Chi reported its members collected 7,100 pounds of food for the needy during the school year. Sigma Alpha Epsilon worked with the Adopt a Highway Foundation and Special Olympics organizations. Darren Hicks said.

— See Union, page 2



Celebrating in Crab Orchard

Haley's Grove Church celebrated its 125th anniversary May 15. Special music was provided in the morning service by Tonya Pugh, flute, and her mother, Shelia. Pastor Russell Honeycutt gave the message which was prepared by former member Gary Fitzgerald, who was unable to be present because of the birth of his daughter in Nashville. Below, Roy Davis, director of missions for Cumberland Plateau Association, has just given a TBC historical plaque to Honeycutt, third from right. Others are Ira Sherrill and Jeff Sherrill. Church members filled the church house along with several visitors. A bountiful meal was served outside. The church, located in Crab Orchard, was founded by Dr. E. J. Haley. A school was built first. Two Baptist preachers preached in a revival there in 1869 and a Baptist church was formed. Dr. Haley, a Methodist, was the first person baptized into the church. This is Honeycutt's second stint with the church. — Photos by Wm. Fletcher Allen

Foundation president announces retirement

Earl H. Wilson, 66, president-treasurer of the Tennessee Baptist Foundation, recently announced plans to retire on or before April 1, 1995.

Wilson became president of the Foundation in 1983 when assets under management were approximately \$12 million. Assets under management now exceed \$60 million.

Since 1983, from funds under management, the Foundation has earned and distributed \$26,209,126 to Baptist and other Christian causes. Of that amount, more than \$2.9 million went to the Cooperative Program. Wilson is quick to give credit and glory to God for the Foundation's growth.

"I have enjoyed my work and I have been most honored to serve Tennessee Baptists, our churches, and institutions," said Wilson, who was pastor of several TBC churches, including City View in Knoxville, where he served 18 years before joining the Foundation. □



WILSON



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For SBC president

A look at the candidates

Editor's Note: The following is condensed from Baptist Press stories about Jim Henry and Fred Wolfe, both candidates for the presidency of the Southern Baptist Convention. The stories were written by Jack Brymer of the *Florida Baptist Witness* and Mark Baggett of *The Alabama Baptist*.

**Jim Henry, pastor
First Church, Orlando, Fla.**

Avoiding denominational politics and the term inerrancy, Jim Henry has offered himself as a candidate for SBC president, setting forth four "presidential principles" that would guide his efforts.

Henry, in an interview with the *Florida Baptist Witness*, offered an assessment of the state of the SBC and, asked if there is hope for reconciliation in the beleaguered convention, declared emphatically, "If I didn't, I certainly would not be available and doing everything I can to help us move ahead."

Since his March 27 announcement he would be a candidate, Henry has refused all speaking engagements that might promote his candidacy and is adamant the decision to offer himself is strictly his own and not the result of any group.

The former Tennessee Baptist pastor (Two Rivers Church, Nashville) noted he had received some calls to reconsider or run later but rejected any notion that it was an organized effort.

His four principles are:

(1) To be "uncompromising on the high view of Scripture as stated in our *Baptist Faith and Message* statement and

Peace Committee report. ... " Asked if that means inerrancy, Henry said "yes" but said other words could be used as well.

(2) To be "unapologetic of our historic focus on missions and evangelism and its strong support through the Cooperative Program." Asked if that excludes the Baptist moderates' Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, Henry responded: "If the CBF wants to give money to SBC causes without any strings attached, to me that's no problem. Now, if it had strings attached, then I would (have a problem). I would not receive them."

(3) To be "unselfish in including all whose hearts beat with our denomination in expanding the window of opportunity for service and input." He said it would include moderates and members of the CBF in certain conditions.

(4) To be "untiring in our effort to build trust and love in our family of faith."

The native Tennessean discounted claims that his election would impede or change the direction of the "conservative resurgence." Henry noted he has "been a conservative and have been that ever since I've been in the ministry and so I haven't changed."

**Fred Wolfe, pastor
Cottage Hill Church,
Mobile, Ala.**

"I am called to be a pastor. I see my role to equip the saints, and I devote my energies to discipling and enabling Christians," Wolfe says.

Wolfe's attitude and his loyalty to the "conservative resurgence" in the SBC have placed

him as a consensus choice among most of the "conservative leadership" and past presidents for the SBC presidency this year.

Wolfe, 56, has paid his dues. Before 1979, he was active in the network of conservatives. Since 1987, he has been an influential member of the SBC Executive Committee, this year becoming its chairman.

At the same time his church has grown dramatically since he came as pastor in 1972, to a membership of 9,000, an average worship attendance of 2,600, and a budget of \$4.27 million.

Wolfe says Henry's candidacy does not mean there's a split among SBC leaders. Wolfe, who considers Henry a friend, said his candidacy was not a surprise.

The two candidates are similar theologically and their churches have been models of church growth, but Wolfe acknowledges a difference in CP giving. Henry's church gives approximately 13 percent of undesignated receipts to the CP and has led the SBC in CP giving the past three years, while Wolfe's church gives about 5 percent. He noted, however, that he made a commitment recently to increase "our giving by one-half percent per year."

Wolfe says he is satisfied with the progress of the conservative movement, believing that a theological course change has taken place.

Whatever the election results he says he is "at peace" with his decision to run. □

Preacher dies after urging people to 'get right with God'

Baptist Press

HARARE, Zimbabwe — Abel Nziramasanga preached a message urging people to prepare to meet God — then died.

The African Baptist preacher's invitation at the close of the May 15 worship service to "get right with God" motivated 50 university students and many others to respond.

Shortly after finishing the sermon at Harare Baptist Church in Zimbabwe, Nziramasanga welcomed those who came forward, shook hands with his deacons, walked out the back door, and fell a short distance away.

People in the choir saw him through a window and ran to help. He was dead by the time Southern Baptist missionary Evelyn Moss got him to the hospital.

The 69-year-old pastor had retired in 1992 from the church where he served 33 years. He was general secretary of the Baptist Convention of Zimbabwe when he died. □

Rice Foundation plans benefits

June 7 is the kickoff for the first of what promises to be a series of benefit programs for the Rice Foundation.

The foundation is the "brainchild" of Roger Rice, a Nashville Baptist who dreams of a facility to care for disabled or handicapped people. Rice, a member of Westwood Church, is a thalidomide "baby," born without arms because of medication taken by his mother when she was pregnant.

The June 7 benefit is scheduled at 6:30 p.m. at First Church, Joelton. The program will feature Peter Penrose, contemporary Christian artist in the Nashville recording industry, and Heidi Gillingham, Vanderbilt University senior and a women's collegiate All-American basketball player.

Penrose is known for his recording of "If You Love My Jesus, Say So."

Proceeds of the Joelton benefit will be used to develop the facility. The Rice board of directors hopes to locate the rehabilitation center in Middle Tennessee. Rice said, "We have a long way to go, but when this dream becomes reality, it will help many people."

Other host churches are needed for programs during the summer. □

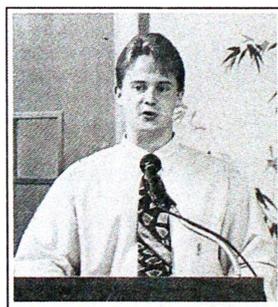
Union students raise record amount ...

— Continued from page 1

Another fraternity, Alpha Tau Omega, joined BSU members in building a house in cooperation with Habitat for Humanity. Students have built three such houses, Greg Beam of the BSU noted.

Next year, Kisner said, the fraternal organizations will be invited to work even more closely with student ministries efforts of the school. Their help is needed, because they reach students who are not Baptist, he explained.

To raise such an amount, fund-raising techniques have become creative, Terri Kozlowitz, assistant BSU director, said. One project offers parents of students a birthday cake and card delivered to a student for a small fee. Students have been asked to donate one textbook from those they resell at the end of the semester.



ADAM SIMPSON



BILL KISNER

Another project has been the offer to parents of a care package for a fee for students during exam week which includes coupons and gifts solicited from area businesses like restaurants, said Kozlowitz. And a dinner theatre was held to raise funds for the Habitat for Humanity house building project.

The 104 summer missionar-

ies include 25 going to foreign countries, 54 working in the United States, and 25 leading a Centrifuge program for youth at Union. Most of the missionaries are appointed through the Tennessee Baptist Convention, which works with the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board and Foreign Mission Board. □



Tennessee youth on target to reach 10,000 TLW goal

For Baptist and Reflector

Tennessee Baptist youth are expected to send more than 10,000 True Love Waits commitment cards to the Southern Baptist Convention in June, according to Don Mauldin of the Tennessee Baptist Convention's Discipleship Training Department.

Mauldin, who along with TBC Evangelism Director Jerry King, coordinates the True Love Waits program for the state.

True Love Waits is a sexual abstinence until marriage cam-

paign targeted at teenagers. It was initiated last year by the Baptist Sunday School Board using a youth group from Tulip Grove Church, Old Hickory.

BSSB officials hope to have 100,000 True Love Waits commitment cards on display June 14 at the SBC annual meeting in Orlando, Fla.

More than 3,000 cards already have arrived at the Baptist Center in Brentwood. "I'm confident we will reach our 10,000 goal by June 3," Mauldin said.

June 3 is the deadline for churches to send their True

Love Waits commitment cards in acrylic holders to the TBC. Mauldin will take those on hand to Orlando. Acrylic holders can be ordered from Innovative Acrylic Designs in Lebanon (615) 444-2263.

For churches that want to send the cards directly to Orlando, they can be mailed to: The Anderson Company — True Love Waits, 4352 34th Street, Orlando, Fla. 32811.

Cards displayed in Orlando will be shipped by the BSSB to Washington for the multidenominational True Love Waits celebration on July 29. Orga-

nizers anticipate that 20,000 Christian teenagers will assemble near the Capitol. Organizers also have a goal of 500,000 commitment cards.

Mauldin noted two events in conjunction with the July 29 event — a national television special and "White Ribbon Day."

The TV special will be aired the evening of July 29. It would permit the thousands of teenagers who have made the True Love Waits commitment to feel a part of the ceremony. It will feature a concert by Petra, DeGarmo and Key, and

Steven Curtis Chapman.

The "White Ribbon Day" encourages Christian parents, educators, church leaders, government leaders, media personalities, and teenagers who have made the True Love Waits commitment to wear a white ribbon that day to show their support for sexual abstinence until marriage.

True Love Waits, originally intended as a one-time effort, now will not end with the July 29 effort, Mauldin said.

He noted that True Love Waits will be an annual emphasis in February. □

Dilday, trustee representatives discuss severance package, restrictions

By Art Toalston
For Baptist Press

FORT WORTH, Texas — No agreement has been struck to modify conditions in the severance package for Russell H. Dilday Jr. stipulating his supportiveness of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, which he led 16 years until his firing March 9.

The severance package was voted by Southwestern trustees as part of their March 9 firing of Dilday.

Trustee chairman Ralph W. Pulley Jr., a Dallas attorney, described the severance package as "generous," and noted to Baptist Press it was "adopted by the board of trustees ... (as) part of the motion to relieve Dr. Dilday of his

duties. This is not something that he has to agree to."

But the package nevertheless is troublesome, Dilday told Baptist Press, because it can be arbitrarily terminated by trustees.

At issue in the severance package — which Pulley estimated at \$400,000 in value and Dilday estimated as lower, without listing a specific dollar amount — are three conditions:

(1) "To keep as his primary and ultimate purpose the well-being and good of SWBTS as an institution for training men and women for ministry and will let this be the basis for conferences, interviews, speeches, lectures, etc., in which he may be involved while drawing benefits from SWBTS;

(2) "To refrain from any action or activity that may be deemed not in the best interests of SWBTS, specifically including (but without limitation) working with or promoting any entity not in harmony and cooperation with the Southern Baptist Convention, while drawing benefits from SWBTS; and

(3) "Should the Executive Committee of the board of trustees of SWBTS deem that Dr. Dilday has not acted in good faith with regard to this agreement, the committee may in its sole discretion terminate any benefits which have not been paid."

"There is no way I can move forward with plans for the future based on a provision that is so open to an arbi-

trary termination," Dilday said.

Saying the conditions affect decisions he must make about buying a house or securing new employment, he voiced hope that trustees would make revisions "to allow for fairness and some sense of security."

Dilday and Pulley confirmed two meetings have been held involving the severance package within a month after the firing between an attorney representing Dilday and Pulley and trustee vice chairman Lee Weaver, a Fort Worth businessman.

Pulley said the meetings and subsequent correspondence have not resulted in any agreement to recommend revisions of the conditions to the trustee executive committee. □

Jerry Vines boosts Wolfe; defends Dilday dismissal

Baptist Press

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Jerry Vines, co-pastor of First Church, Jacksonville, and 1988-90 president of the Southern Baptist Convention, has reiterated his support for Fred Wolfe for SBC president in a May 15 mailing of his church newsletter to 8,000 pastors.

Vines also stated Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary trustees "have made a decision which, in my per-

sonal judgment, was long overdue" in firing Russell H. Dilday Jr. as president of the Fort Worth, Texas, school.

Vines noted three other former SBC presidents had authorized him to share that they also support Southwestern's trustees: Adrian Rogers, Cordova; and Charles Stanley and Bailey Smith of Atlanta. Vines did not specify whether the three men were endorsing Wolfe as SBC president.

In the newsletter, Vines did

not review his reasons for supporting Wolfe, a Mobile, Ala., pastor who will be one of two nominees at the June 14-16 SBC meeting in Orlando, Fla. The other is Orlando pastor Jim Henry.

In an interview with Baptist Press, Vines said, "I believe that Dr. Wolfe can best serve at this time to help us continue the conservative resurgence which began in 1979. Dr. Wolfe and Dr. Henry are both personal friends of mine. It's not a

matter of personality. It's a matter of completing the job that was started in 1979," the year of the first conservative victory in an SBC presidential election.

Nor did Vines elaborate in the newsletter on his belief that the termination of Dilday was "long overdue."

He noted he believed in the trustee system and that the trustees are moving in the direction the denomination has set. □

CLC taps letter service to fight abortion in health care plan

Baptist Press

WASHINGTON — The Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission has enlisted a letter-writing service to help individual Southern Baptists campaign against inclusion of abortion in health care reform.

Under its arrangement with the Christian Life Commission, USA Letters, a Washington-based company, provides personalized letters addressed to President Bill Clinton and members of Congress expressing opposition to abortion coverage in health care proposals.

The letter to members of Congress urges them to work

against any health care plan which "includes abortion on demand or does not expressly forbid abortion coverage." The letter to the president asks him to remove abortion from his plan. The CLC already has announced its opposition to the plans proposed by Clinton, Rep. Jim Cooper, D.-Tenn., and Sen. John Chafee, R.-R.I., because they do not exclude abortion coverage.

The letters, with envelopes are addressed to each person's United States representative and two United States senators, as well as the president. Each letter contains room for a written postscript

as well as a signature.

The cost of the service, which includes four personalized letters with envelopes, is \$5.95.

With this effort the CLC is seeking to help Southern Baptists who want to participate but are too busy to write or feel intimidated by the idea of communicating with elected officials, said James A. Smith, the commission's director of governmental relations.

After three weeks of use, more than 240 calls had been received, Smith said.

For information about how to use the service, contact the CLC at (615) 244-2495. □

Baptist workers escape serious injury in Tanzania

Baptist Press

BUKOBA, Tanzania — Two Florida Baptists and a Southern Baptist missionary journalist escaped serious injury in a May 17 collision while returning from a Rwandan refugee camp in western Tanzania.

Their small pickup collided head-on with a 10-ton truck loaded with wet sand. The truck sped around a curve on the wrong side of the road. Both vehicles swerved the same direction toward an open field, where they hit.

Missionary Craig Bird, who was driving, was bruised on his chest, shoulder, and knee. He is the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's overseas correspondent for Africa. He was covering the refugee relief survey trip for Baptist Press.

With Bird, two Florida Baptist volunteers — Tom Harper and Hugh Cater. Neither was seriously injured. □

Retired TBC pastor Thurman Arnold dies

Long-time Tennessee Baptist pastor Thurman Arnold of Maryville recently died of an aneurysm. He was 83.

Arnold, a pastor for 50 years, served at Grove Heights, Piney Grove, Grove Hill, and Grove City churches in Knox County and Piney Grove Church in Blount County.

He is survived by his wife, Mary, three children, and seven grandchildren. □

Reminders for opinion writers

Letters to the editor are among the best-read items in the *Baptist and Reflector*. Ideas and feelings expressed by writers can be a vital part of open discussion.

Letters give vent to thoughts, ideas, pros and cons on a variety of issues facing Baptists and other Christians. Letters also give our readers opportunities to challenge views. But sometimes the rhetoric gets unnecessarily strident as debates and concerns are heated.

Tennessee Baptists are not reticent about free expression. We have a lively forum and believe it is good for all when used properly.

Here are some guidelines which will enhance the page, not by governing what readers write, but perhaps how they say it.

1. We print regularly on the letters page a list of standard guides. Read them before writing. These basics are the *standard* rules for letter writing.

2. For some writers it is difficult to make the point in 250 words or less. This is a generous amount. It allows more letters to be used. Stick to that total. Short, concise letters have a better chance for publication without editing for length.

3. The *Baptist and Reflector* is not obligated to use letters but the staff feels this forum is helpful to readers who might not have other ways of expression short of paid advertising. The privilege is precious.

4. Read your letter carefully before submitting it. Think it through. Is this the best way to say it? Does Christ approve of my words? Would he use them in a letter?

5. Be careful with language. Don't use cruel, cutting, accusatory, sarcastic, un-Christian words. Find the decent way to say it. We will not use letters that attack other people. We all know the difference. The case is lost when anger is verbalized.

6. Remember that letters may be edited for length, abusive language, or insensitive remarks. No matter how vital the issue or how bitter the debate may seem among us, letters on these pages must be Christlike.

Be sure to read the standard printed guidelines on the letters page before writing. This list is intended to augment the standing rules and to remind us of Christian courtesy. □ — Editor

Women not included

In reference to the May 4 *Baptist and Reflector* listing of Tennessee nominations from the SBC Committee on Nominations for the upcoming Orlando SBC meeting, there was not one woman on the list.

In reference to the same issue a Mr. Anderson's letter, regarding Russell Dilday's firing, stated, "It's hard for me to believe that 26 or 27 Southern Baptist men of God could be so callous and uncaring as to perform an act as low as the news media has depicted it." I'm shocked as well.

Is the Southern Baptist Convention a male religious order? Women make up more than half of the SBC, yet they have little or no representation. Can this be one reason the SBC is in the mess we're in now?

Loretta Denson
Seymour 37865

Vice and virtue

I do not rejoice that Dr. Russell Dilday was removed from office under such circumstances. However, I want to voice my approval of the action of the trustees. There are times when such measures are necessary.

I received the master of divinity and doctor of philosophy from SWBTS. I believe Dr. Dil-

day has an inadequate view of the Scripture. That is also true of many professors at that institution. They are sympathetic to the liberal viewpoints and show animosity to those who hold to the complete integrity of Scripture. Our churches once flourished under the ministry of men who would point people to Scripture and say, "Thus saith the Lord." The men whom we train for the Gospel ministry at home and abroad must have that confidence in their hearts.

Judging from some of the letters, many Southern Baptists think that Christian behavior is to "go with the flow." I fail to find that in Scripture. We are enjoined to "speak the truth in love" (Ephesians 4:15). We are to be loving in speaking the truth, but the manner of our speaking it does not cancel our mandate to speak the truth.

Unfortunately, those who have the solemn responsibility of being "stewards of the mysteries of God" (I Corinthians 4:1) in our seminary classrooms have not been good stewards. Moreover, they are critical of those who are seeking to do just that. It's a sad day when faithfulness to Scripture is viewed as a vice and not a virtue.

Larry Spargimino, pastor
River Bend Church
Bristol 37620

Thanks for prayers

My family and I want to express sincere and heartfelt appreciation for remembering us during my time of illness. Had it not been for your prayers we would not be doing as well as we are.

We still have a way to go and we hope you will continue to pray for me. I am working about six hours a day and seem to be getting a little stronger every day.

Only our Lord knows how many churches across Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Kentucky, and other states were praying for me. A week doesn't go by that I don't hear a fellow Christian say that their church has been praying for us.

My association has been wonderful. The people have pitched in and helped us get ready for a World Mission Conference and other things that needed to be done.

Our work has not missed a step. It has gone on despite of my sickness.

My friends in the TBC and fellow directors of missions have also been wonderful. They have called, sent cards, and dropped by to comfort us.

We love and appreciate all of you. Please come by and see us.

Ken McMillen
director of missions
Riverside Association
Livingston 38570

About school prayers

Thank you for the insightful article in the May 11 *Baptist and Reflector* about school prayer. I have long admired you and your staff for including, in both news items and editorial pages, various sides of issues that face us.

As a public school teacher for 32 years, and a "Baptist before birth," I have found this matter perturbing. I am especially disturbed by prayers at graduation that are done as protests. The screeching and caterwauling at the heart of such "praying" is revolting to me. It is as out-of-place as the air horns, tank tops, spandex shorts, and wearing of caps that have infiltrated what used to be a dignified occasion in any community.

I was proud of our 2,000-student school's "prayer-leader" last year. A Baptist girl, she read a meaningful meditation that added depth to the evening.

Now, "petitions for prayer" are being circulated through the school. There's a certain hysteria that I cannot fathom. Even students who profess no religious beliefs have taken up the cause. As I said to a class not long ago, "Get to praying now. Pray for me as I teach this period." No one had ordered them

not to pray. But let us each do so as to respect others and their faiths. There's one sure way to bring an end to this discussion in any class. I simply mention the fact that one of our Moslem students may wish to be the person in charge. Have we come so far to know so little, and to be so insensitive toward others?

Steve Cates
Murfreesboro 37130

Praises trustees

It amazes me to read the letters from all those non-judgmental, nice Christians who condemn the Southwestern trustees and anybody else they don't agree with. How can they "get after" the conservatives for disagreeing with them or doing something they don't like, and then condemn the conservatives in our SBC for being condemning?

Furthermore, didn't the Lord praise and commend many of the churches in Revelation 2 and 3 for keeping their churches pure from those who would spread false beliefs? Didn't Paul encourage the churches to stay away from the teachings of the gnostics and other "prophets" who went against the teachings of the Bible? Didn't Jesus use a whip to drive out a temple full of people who were perverting the true faith? Did that mean that he wasn't nice?

I have prayed for this day in our SBC for many years, where things really get turned around like they are today theologically. Praise God for the victory! It's a good day when professors who believe in ordaining women and who call God, "She," and who cuss in the classes of our seminaries leave. It's a good day when professors leave our seminaries who believe that anybody who holds to the literal, physical resurrection of Christ are

crass and stupid. It's a great day in the life of our convention when godly men like the trustees of Southwestern stand up for the Word of God, even though they get persecuted with verbal attacks and threats by nice, non-judgmental moderates for doing so. May the Lord continue the turn around in the years to come for his glory.

David Worley
Dresden 38225

First love

Your editorial comment about "Conventionitis" deserves applause.

"Tiredness" is an excellent description of the feelings of many Southern Baptists (and probably others) who have watched the push for power over the years. The underlying principles for which the battle was begun may have been worthy, but along the way the bandwagon has become overloaded with self-serverers, zealots, publicity hounds, revengers, and a great number of people who do not know what is going on but would not miss the parade.

Charles Caleb Colton said, "Power will intoxicate the best hearts, as wine the strongest heads. No man is wise enough, nor good enough, to be trusted with unlimited power."

Even in the darkest hours of history, there have always been those faithful few who have kept the faith until the dawn was come. We pray that the Lord will be patient with us until we realize how we are hurting his work and return to our first love, the love of Christ.

My reason for writing was to thank you and commend you for the incisive message of your editorial. Keep up the good work.

Lanier Ferguson
Martin 38227

Daily prayer requests for Chile/Tennessee Partnership



May -

- 26 — A youth evangelism team is scheduled to go to Temuco, July 15-27. Volunteers are needed to serve on this team whose goal is to reach 100 youth for Christ and preach the Gospel to 2,000.
- 27 — Raymond Atwood is team leader for an Evangelistic Crusade planned for Aug. 6-15 in Vina Del Mar. He is in the process of recruiting and preparing team members.
- 28 — Missionary Jackie Bursmeyer is preparing to move to Santiago temporarily in June.
- 29 — Missionary Robert Bates is in the states because of illness.
- 30 — TBC President Ray Newcomb who will serve in Chile this summer.
- 31 — Missionary candidates are seeking God's will and direction for their lives. Pray the Lord would send more laborers for his work in Chile.

June -

- 1 — Tarsis Guajardo has become minister of music in First Church, Talca, and is studying in Chillan. She must travel home on the weekends to work in her church.

Religious liberty is precious and priceless

If you think about it, June 5 would be a great day to celebrate. It is Religious Liberty Sunday, and let's not ignore it.

How could a Tennessee Baptist not think about this special day?

When the world is turning topsy-turvy and millions of people are living in constant crisis, it is time to call on Christians to praise God for religious liberty.

Though it is part of Southern Baptist heritage, religious freedom is yet awesome and fearless. It was bought with the blood of our Baptist parents, and it is purchased with a high cost.

Think about John Bunyan preaching from the jail. Think about Elijah ridiculing Baal on Mount Carmel while calling on his own God to strike the sacrifices with fire.

Think about Peter and John and their response to the Sanhedrin after the miracle of healing the lame man. "Judge for yourselves whether it is right in God's sight to obey you rather than God. For we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard." (Acts 4:19-20).

Go back and read slowly and carefully the Baptist Faith and Message statement on religious liberty.

Here is the entire section:

"God alone is the Lord of the conscience, and He has left it free from the doctrines and commandments of men

which are contrary to his Word or not contained in it. Church and state should be separate.

"The state owes to every church protection and full freedom in the pursuit of its spiritual ends. In providing for such freedom no ecclesiastical group or denomination should be favored by the state more than others.

"Civil government being ordained of God is the duty of Christians to render loyal obedience thereto in all things not contrary to the revealed will of God. The Church should not resort to the civil power to carry on its work. The Gospel of Christ contemplates spiritual means alone for the pursuit of its ends. The state has no right to impose penalties for religious opinions of any kind. The state has no right to impose taxes for the support of any form of religion.

"A free church in a free state is the Christian ideal, and this implies the right of free and unhindered access to God on the part of all men, and the right to form and propagate opinions in the sphere of religion without interference by the civil power."

Has anyone physically stopped you from worshiping in church lately? Chalk up that freedom to religious liberty.

Has anyone recently decreed that your church cannot open its doors on

Sundays? That is religious liberty.

Have you been barred legally from talking about Christ to someone seated beside you on a plane or in a shop?

Has state or national government specified a state-sponsored church to which you must pay taxes?

Does any group force you to attend a church or religious function not of your choice. Thank God for religious liberty.

Our thanks must be expressed in at least three ways. First, Christians must be on constant guard for any infringement on religious liberty rights. Never be afraid to speak out. We must not be reckless with this priceless freedom.

Second, help governments understand the God-given blessing of religious liberty for everyone. This is a right and privilege not to be abused or neglected.

Third, explain the tenets of religious liberty to people of faith. Help them realize the vitality of such freedom depends on its use. Demonstrate its strength by exercising the blessings. While some nations bar religious freedom, our weakness must become our strength, or Christian witness will fail.

Historian Walter Shurden says all believers must have freedom from the state, and participation in the affairs of the state. "All citizens should have freedom of religious expression," he says, "and the priesthood of believers shouts that conscience cannot be repressed." □

one word more

By Wm. Fletcher Allen editor

Starting a paper

On my recent survey trip to Chile, I saw many evidences of work done as Tennessee Baptists cooperated with Chile Baptists and our missionaries.

I saw enough evidence of Spirit-blessed accomplishments to last for years.

I heard enough true stories of spiritual serendipities to write a best seller.

Richard Poe and I saw enough missionaries, Chile pastors and laypeople,

churches, and Tennessee mission volunteers to know that God is blessing the partnership.

I will be telling the stories all along, and the memories will last even into the blessings of possible partnerships with the four western provinces of Canada and Poland.



ALLEN

just for today

By Fred Wood pastor emeritus Eudora Church, Memphis

Start with a smile

Zeke: "My dad can't decide whether to buy a cow or a new tractor for his farm."

Zach: "He ought to buy a tractor. He'd look silly riding around on a cow."

Zeke: "But he'd look sillier trying to milk a tractor."

Take this thought

Sometimes when we face a choice, either decision poses a problem. We're doomed if we do, and we're doomed if we don't. Look for a third choice. Ask yourself, "What would Jesus do in this situation?" If you honestly make your choice in that light, God will not allow you to go wrong.

Memorize this Scripture

"Christ ... suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps" (I Peter 2:21).

Pray this prayer

Lord, help me to take seriously my daily walk. Let me realize the great argument for Christianity to the secular world is one who practices his profession of faith in Christ. □

Forgiveness brings reconciliation

families matter

By Paul Barkley, counselor and professor

One of the most difficult issues with which to deal in families trying to forgive is this matter of reconciliation.

How much do I have to do with someone in order to truly forgive?

Paul, in speaking with the believers in Corinth about the love of God which has ability to remake the believer, reminds them "all things are from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and he has committed to us the word of reconciliation" (II Corinthians 5:18-19).

God does not forgive people who refuse to confess their sin, repent of it, and place their faith in Jesus. There were two thieves crucified with Jesus. One was forgiven and reconciled, the other was not.

Jesus prayed for the Father to forgive those who were crucifying him. I do not believe that everyone on that hill called Calvary found forgiveness. God is willing to forgive everyone, but God only gives forgiveness to the repentant sinner.

I am afraid that I see in some today the expectation that they have to be more for-

giving than God. For instance, consider families where abuse has taken place.

I hear some saying that the victim must forgive the abuser whether the abuser ever repents or not. That kind of forgiveness seems to me to diminish and further victimize the victim.

The goal for all believers is to be reconciled to each other as we are reconciled with our heavenly Father.

The fact that we live as "fallen" people in a "fallen" world among "fallen" people sometimes limits the ability to achieve the perfection which we seek.

I am not saying that we should not aim high, but I am inviting each of us to remember that we probably will not hit the target every time. We should, however, "press on toward the goal ... of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:14).

When I repent of my sin, I

am forgiven by God and reconciled with him. He justifies me through Jesus, just as if I had never sinned.

On the basis of that forgiveness, I know I am pleasing to and totally accepted by God.

That is my goal when I seek to forgive others as I have been forgiven. I may not always be able to hit the mark, but I must always be aiming for it.

We were taught to pray by our Lord in the Model Prayer, "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who have trespassed against us."

It is a sobering thought to realize that I will be forgiven in the same manner in which I forgive. That's some motivation. □

Readers are urged to write or call Dr. Barkley with questions or comments. These articles are for family benefit. If you have any word to share with readers about family living, please let us know. Appropriate comments can be printed in the Baptist and Reflector. Dr. Barkley can be reached at Union University, BMH Campus, 999 Monroe, Memphis 38104, or at the Counseling Center, 6385 Stage Rd., Ste. 1, Bartlett 38134. — Editor



BARKLEY

Sevierville Church reviews history of 125 years

Some changes in the past 125 years have been good and some have been bad the members of Laurel Grove Church, Sevierville, discovered as they reviewed the church's history on its 125th

anniversary May 15.

They learned in 1908 if a member of the church was deemed "delinquent," the person was about to get a visit from a church committee which would report back to the

church the reason determined for the delinquency.

Another fact of history spoke of the influence of the church. When the county school met across the street from the church, students were brought to daytime revival meetings at the church.

Would the wives of deacons today make bread for the Lord's Supper observance? In 1913 at Laurel Grove they did.

The congregation worked hard in other ways. In 1933, 51

members were sent to organize nearby Mountain View Church.

The historical facts reported by Barbara Helton, church clerk, were believable as they were presented in the 86-year-old building. They rang true, just as the church bell which was rung by Pastor Jack Bailey to announce the Sunday morning service.

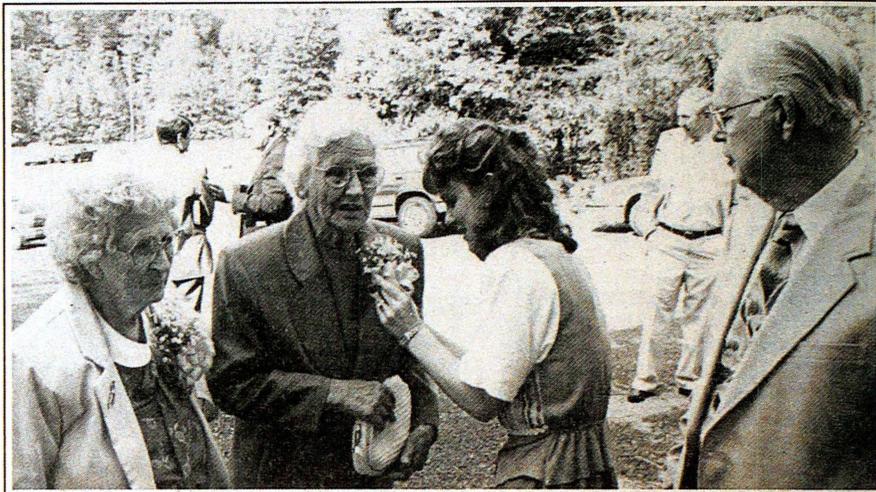
Bailey, who has served the church twice for a total of 20 years, recognized during the service Bill Atchley, a former

director of missions of Sevier County Association for 22 years. Frank Proffitt, current director of missions, presented the church with a plaque noting the anniversary from the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Former member Trula Cardwell Tarberry of Knoxville told of bringing students from the school to revivals when she taught there. She said she thanked God for providing her spiritual foundation at Laurel Grove. □ — Connie Davis



FORMER MEMBER Roger Rule and his wife, Frances, now of Kingsport, look at memorabilia which include a flag of stars bearing the names of men killed in war.



HONORED GUESTS OF THE ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION of Laurel Grove Church, Sevierville, from left, Retta Suttles and Reba Helton, receive a corsage from Natalie Sims as Jack Bailey, pastor, watches. Suttles, 88, has been a member for 60 years and Reba Helton, 82, has held membership for 71 years.

Valley View Church, Sevierville, has park, family ties

By Connie Davis
Baptist and Reflector

When his uncle Lemuel Ownby was given the choice in 1932 of moving from land which would become the Great Smoky National Park or staying, he stayed. Uncle Lem, one of the most notable relatives of Euel Ownby, became the longest living resident of the Great Smokey National Park.

Euel's father, Baus, decided to take the payment offered for his land, which was near Uncle

Lem in Elkmont, and moved his family. Many other members of the Ownby clan did the same.

They moved to Wear's Valley outside of Sevierville. Because most were Baptist, they joined First Church, Wear's Valley.

By 1938 the Ownbys, Bryans, and Whaleys, who farmed in one end of the valley, decided a church was needed in that area. They began meeting in an abandoned store building.

The congregation organized Valley View Church that year and Euel's father donated part

of his land for a building site.

The leaders of the church learned Elkmont Church, which they had attended before the move, had been abandoned because of the exodus from the park. They decided to request the building.

The timing of their request for the building was fortuitous. The former pastor of Elkmont Church had moved to Oldham's Creek and had asked for the building. Historians speculate the friendship of John Ownby, brother of Baus, with a superintendent of the lumber company with jurisdiction, influenced his decision. Valley View got the building.

Euel Ownby, 15, made the first trip by truck over the mountains to pick up the materials of Elkmont Church, which had been built in 1910.

He served as the first janitor of the rebuilt church, building a fire in the furnace each Sunday morning. He's still an active member.

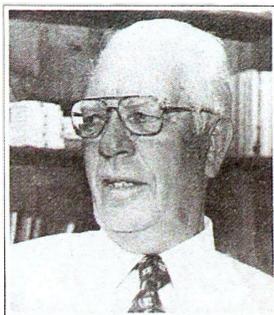
Today Valley View Church still meets in that building, but May 15 the congregation broke ground for a new sanctuary. The original building will continue to be used, said W. A. Galyon, pastor, by the about 160 resident members. □

All Nations Camp set July 18-22

The All Nations Camp, directed by the Tennessee Baptist Convention Missions Department, will be July 18-22 at Camp Linden, Linden.

Children and youth, ages 8-16, with ethnic backgrounds will participate in drama, music, puppets, swimming, canoeing, and Bible study.

Some scholarships are available. Registration deadline is July 5. For more information, contact the missions department at (615) 371-2031. □



EUEL OWENBY



LEADERS OF VALLEY VIEW CHURCH, SEVIERVILLE, from left, W. A. Galyon, pastor; Jack McFall; Arthur Hatcher Jr.; Curtis Clabo; W. B. Bryan, construction supervisor; Willie Bryan; and David Howard Huskey, assistant construction supervisor; break ground May 15 for a 200-seat sanctuary to be built on land adjoining the current property.

Deaf ministry still going strong after 25 years at FBC, Paris

By Lonnie Wilkey
Baptist and Reflector

PARIS — God's answer to prayer 25 years ago at First Church, Paris, has blossomed into a thriving ministry today.

In 1968 Emily Daniel Cox, during a revival meeting, went to the church daily to pray for God to send an interpreter to First Church.

In addition, another member, Mrs. W. J. Miller, had been praying the same prayer for many years.

At the same time, one of the church's deaf members, Ena Watkins, was praying and

asking God to give her the ability to hear so she could be the interpreter.

Watkins' prayer was not answered the way she wanted. Instead, she taught Cox the language of signs.

The ministry has grown tremendously since 1969. Only three other churches in West Tennessee have older ministries to the deaf — First churches, Memphis, Dyersburg, and Parsons.

On May 14-15 the congregation celebrated its heritage of ministering to the deaf with a full weekend of activities.

Jerry Seale, pastor of the

deaf congregation of First Church, Knoxville, the largest deaf congregation in the state with about 300 members, led the morning worship. The "Hearts for Jesus" signing choir from Union University were guest musicians.

For 25 years First Church, Paris, has provided prayer, financial support, and training through the deaf ministry, Cox said, noting "God has touched lives in our church, in West Tennessee, Kentucky, Michigan, and Puerto Rico through people nurtured by this church."

Through the years more than 20 hearing-impaired adults and three children have been class members at First Church, Paris. Several have come to know the Lord and have been baptized, said Cox, who was director of the ministry for the first 18 years.

Cox said the ministry has reached beyond the walls of First Church. "Literally hundreds of people have been taught through local sign language classes, through classes taught at other towns and churches, through classes taught at BSU at the University of Tennessee at Martin, through the UTM continuing education program, through a government grant of sign language as a second language, and through one-to-one in-



PASTOR JERRY MASSEY of First Church, Paris, recently presented plaques to Dianna Maddox, left, director of the church's deaf ministry and Emily Daniel Cox, founder and former director.



JARVIS HEARN, TBC Partnership Missions director, second from right, and a former missionary to the deaf, and Jerry Seale, pastor of the deaf congregation of First Church, Knoxville, far left, recently presented "Talking Hands" awards to David and Marsha Mitchell and Ena Watkins, right, at First Church, Paris.

struction," Cox said.

In addition, Cox and current deaf ministry director Dianna Maddox have worked at the Michigan Conference of the Deaf. Workers also served at the Puerto Rico Deaf Mission, staffed by David and Marsha Mitchell, Mission Service Corps volunteers from Tennessee. The Mitchells participated in the Saturday festivities connected with the celebration.

Cox credits the ministry to Ena Watkins who taught her how to sign. "Although Ena's hearing was not restored so she could hear the human voice, she heard a much more

important voice. In her heart she heard God's call and, as a result of her answer, souls have been saved, families have been given the skills to communicate with their hearing-impaired members, and many churches and lives have been changed," Cox said.

Watkins and the Mitchells were presented the "Talking Hands" pin for their work in deaf ministries over the years.

In addition several members of the church, including charter members of the "Silent Class," were honored.

Cox and Maddox also received special presentations for their work with the ministry. □

Little Hope Church proves skeptics wrong



LONG-TIME MEMBERS of Little Hope Church are, from left, Alfred Slate, 65 years; Margaret Grant, 49 years; Eugene Grant, 58 years; and Fletcher Brothers, 54 years. — Photos by Lonnie Wilkey

Tradition has it that Little Hope Church in Clarksville got its name from skeptics who believed there was "little hope" a Baptist church could survive in a Methodist stronghold. Those skeptics were not good prognosticators.

On May 15, 125 years from its founding, the congregation celebrated its storied heritage.

The day's festivities included a sermon by former interim pastor James Harvey. Members also received a copy of the church's history. Michael Madewell is pastor. □



CUMBERLAND ASSOCIATION Director of Missions Wesley Pitts, left, presented a plaque to Pastor Michael Madewell, right, and Minister of Education Russell Oldham.



87-YEAR-OLD Susan Brothers co-teaches a fourth-grade Sunday School class with Bernice Peacher, center. Brothers is the daughter of W. H. Vaughan, who served as pastor at Little Hope from 1909-1918.

Great for class projects

An easy way to help a missionary

If you want to help a missionary family, now is a good time. It's a matter of postage costs. Frequently we get letters of appreciation from missionaries. All are grateful for free subscriptions to the *Baptist and Reflector*.

Wouldn't it be great if they could read the paper while the news is current? Many of them are Tennesseans. Others are interested in the paper because they are serving where Tennessee Baptist volunteers have worked — such as Burkina Faso, Venezuela, the Philippines, and Chile. They serve in many countries around the world. We all like to read about their work.

They need help with postage. The cost is about \$95 a year for air mail 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.

We issue a special appeal for missionaries in Chile because of our Tennessee/Chile Partnership Mission. Churches and associations are needed to sponsor a missionary family. We have many Tennessee natives serving as home and foreign missionaries. Others have ties with Tennessee.

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

Missionaries don't "beg" and they shouldn't have to — this is a call for affirmation and assistance.

Call your local post office to find out the air mail cost for mailing the paper to the missionary you select. Or you can allow us to pair you with a missionary family.

Share the *Baptist and Reflector*. 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

Note: The following report is presented in a format consistent with the directives approved by the Executive Board on May 10, 1994. The first column, "CP," lists the amount contributed by each church to the Cooperative Program. The second column, "Designated," lists the amount given by the church to all designated gifts including: Lottie Moon, Annie Armstrong, Golden State, and gifts to TBC and SBC boards and agencies.

Treasurer's Report Second Quarter November 1, 1993 — April 30, 1994

GIFTS AND OTHER INCOME

Cooperative Program	\$12,792,627
Cooperative Program from TN Baptist Foundation	134,153
Designated to SBC/TBC Institutions	1,488,444
SPECIAL MISSION OFFERINGS	
Lottie Moon Offering for Foreign Missions	6,117,919
Annie Armstrong Offering for Home Missions	1,635,231
Golden State Offering for State Missions	349,593
Other Income (from Annuity Board, Home Mission Board, Baptist Sunday School Board, Camps, Earned interest on daily deposits and refunds)	<u>1,172,681</u>
	\$23,690,647

Allocations

	COOP PROGRAM	DESIGNATED	TOTAL
SBC GIFTS			
Foreign Missions	\$2,319,329	\$6,280,627	\$8,599,956
Home Missions	906,858	1,685,276	2,592,134
World Hunger	0.00	239,709	239,709
Six Seminaries	940,256	26,436	966,692
Radio & TV Comm.	185,546	5,214	190,760
All other SBC gifts	<u>286,669</u>	<u>8,333</u>	<u>295,002</u>
TOTAL SBC	\$4,638,658	\$8,245,995	\$12,884,253
DISASTER RELIEF & UTL			
	\$0.00	\$12,863	\$12,863
TBC GIFTS			
Belmont University	\$1,010,422	\$56,611	\$1,067,033
Carson-Newman College	1,010,422	157,468	1,167,890
Union University	1,010,422	222,757	1,233,179
Harrison-Chilhowee Academy	152,536	27,054	179,590
CRV Scholarships	37,358	1,414	38,772
Children's Homes	554,727	339,951	894,678
Hospitals	0.00	0.00	0.00
Adult Homes	112,127	6,363	118,490
Foundation	152,626	5,775	158,401
Audits for Institutions	37,190	1,407	38,597
Convention, Administrative Services	372,343	14,088	386,431
<i>Baptist & Reflector</i>	147,081	5,565	152,646
Central Administrative Departments	479,727	18,150	497,877
Church Programs Departments	464,038	17,557	481,595
Convention Ministries Departments	280,211	10,602	290,813
Annuity Office & Programs	300,346	11,364	311,710
Missions Programs	929,972	35,186	965,158
Student Campus Work	435,830	16,490	452,320
Woman's Missionary Union	243,716	9,221	252,937
All other TBC gifts	<u>0.00</u>	<u>354,630</u>	<u>354,630</u>
TOTAL TBC GIFTS	\$7,731,094	\$1,311,653	\$9,042,747
Preferred (Annuity)	<u>557,028</u>	<u>21,075</u>	<u>578,103</u>
TOTAL GIFTS CHURCHES	\$12,926,780	\$9,591,186	\$22,517,966
OTHER INCOME	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,172,681</u>	<u>1,172,681</u>
GRAND TOTAL	\$12,926,780	\$10,763,867	\$23,690,647

PERCENTAGE OF GIFTS FROM CHURCHES ALLOCATED TO:

SBC	—	57.22
WW	—	.06
TBC	—	42.72
		100.00

Treasurers, please compare your church's listing with your records for gifts received by Tennessee Baptist Convention for period Nov. 1, 1993, through April 30, 1994.

If there is a question please contact James

Porch, treasurer, Tennessee Baptist Convention.

This report reflects gifts received by Tennessee Baptist Convention and items reported by Tennessee Baptist institutions.

Church	CP	**Designated	Church	CP	**Designated
Foundation	134,153.49	15,131.95	Childs Mem	2,541.00	1,510.00
			Historical Clax Gap Bo	290.70	1,865.00
			Clymersville	3,653.00	1,322.69
			Coal Hill	386.82	500.00
			Crab Orchard	1,189.75	380.00
			Dayville	479.23	517.00
			Deer Lodge, 1st Manr	1,364.00	571.00
			Dyllis	326.17	1,070.00
			Eureka	587.00	2,060.00
			Fairview	484.87	628.73
			Faith Msnr	141.33	.00
			Kellytown	2,449.45	4,315.38
			Kingston, 1st	33,876.35	21,872.76
			Lakeview	1,784.00	1,000.00
			Laurel Bluff	787.11	75.00
			Lee Village	4,586.53	.00
			Liberty	5,154.19	6,238.84
			Middle Creek	3,484.28	3,749.74
			Mossy Grove	963.42	1,672.60
			Oakdale, 1st	1,887.83	437.00
			Orchard View	652.59	300.00
			Petros	3,673.40	591.00
			Pine Orchard	2,772.93	1,209.21
			Pine Ridge	2,534.00	2,076.00
			Piney	8,750.19	3,416.87
			Piney Grove	1,266.33	737.00
			Pleasant Grove	5,682.19	1,924.59
			Pond Grove	474.19	53.52
			Riggs Chapel	944.00	235.00
			Riverside	7,991.43	2,884.76
			Rockwood, 1st	21,087.31	18,506.49
			Rockwood, 2nd	206.95	180.00
			Shiloh	14,098.16	4,394.47
			South Harriman	21,536.81	23,613.14
			Sunbright, 1st	2,430.18	1,855.75
			Trenton Street	11,831.70	4,681.53
			Union	1,578.00	562.61
			Union Chapel	1,076.51	1,000.00
			Walnut Hill	4,054.00	1,854.95
			Wartburg, 1st	4,044.40	2,010.00
			Whites Creek	1,217.83	1,063.09
			Association	.00	4,705.00
			Big Hatchie		
			CP Chair: Royce Wilson		
			Ashport	1,233.50	353.55
			Beaver	3,061.35	1,000.00
			Brighton	23,168.67	5,077.26
			Calvary	3,301.00	1,052.72
			Calvary Hill	246.54	492.38
			Charleston	6,317.86	3,832.02
			Covington, 1st	33,756.35	30,858.34
			Durhamville	358.00	632.65
			Eastland	1,585.47	1,852.39
			Elim	292.08	219.06
			Faith	2,749.98	1,367.41
			Fellowship	9,367.58	3,912.28
			Fulton	521.57	558.58
			Garland	5,024.83	3,243.74
			Gateway Miss	2,591.78	1,724.84
			Grace	2,925.31	2,637.50
			Henning, 1st	708.14	647.69
			Keeling	2,270.00	140.00
			Liberty	7,133.83	4,174.00
			Mason, 1st	240.76	438.00
			Mount Lebanon	1,403.79	1,597.18
			Munford	7,697.09	2,300.56
			Oak Grove	17,419.00	7,946.93
			Olive Branch	329.80	378.35
			Pleasant Grove	4,533.72	2,931.29
			Rialto	608.00	150.00
			Ripley, 1st	12,612.75	7,623.61
			Ripley, 1st Indian	.00	.00
			Salem	71.44	.00
			Smyrna	12,521.17	6,406.66
			Trinity	1,600.49	374.50
			Walnut Grove	2,734.54	1,794.81
			Western Valley	225.00	.00
			Woodlawn	150.00	1,370.00
			Bledsoe		
			CP Chair: Ed Hardy		
			Academy Hgts	300.00	512.00
			Antioch	154.25	.00
			*Bledsoe Creek	.00	44.30
			Chestnut Grove	56.00	.00
			College Hgts	13,785.55	5,552.33
			Corum Hill	45.00	.00
			Cotontown	1,179.26	.00
			Cragfont	1,932.40	342.65
			Dixon Creek	.00	450.00
			Foundation Head	210.00	100.00
			Gallatin, 1st	13,000.00	35,422.84
			Grace	1,830.00	1,323.00
			Hartsville, 1st	5,084.56	3,898.00
			Hillsdale	.00	.00
			Immanuel	755.00	.00
			Indian Hills	407.39	189.50
			Lafayette, 1st	8,096.27	2,237.24
			Madison Creek	1,011.71	120.00
			Mitchellville	1,449.63	469.29
			New Hope	.00	1,802.84
			Oak Street	660.67	162.60
			Page Hgts	1,817.15	465.26
			Pleasant Valley	1,257.00	168.98
			Portland, 1st	2,500.00	5,434.95
			Red Boiling Spgs, 1st	150.00	.00
			*Rocky Creek	.00	.00
			Southside	.00	455.00
			Station Camp	200.00	231.00
			Trinity	1,429.00	1,946.05
			Twin Hills	200.00	188.00
			Westmoreland, 1st	1,677.42	1,259.00
			Bradley County		
			CP Chair: Burley Cader		
			Antioch	1,200.00	800.00
			Beacon	642.07	11.00
			Bellefonte	6,228.56	321.62
			Big Spring	13,640.63	3,492.76
			Blue Spgs	1,300.00	422.02
			*Blythe Ave	865.83	1,095.00
			Brittville	965.62	.00
			Candies Creek	9,799.20	

Church	CP	**Desig-nated	Church	CP	**Desig-nated	Church	CP	**Desig-nated	Church	CP	**Desig-nated
Deep Gap	00	00	Minor Hill, 1st	1,606.54	663.60	Parkers Gap	00	00	Fall Branch, 1st	10,340.15	6,805.65
Del Rio	00	236.26	New Hope	363.19	361.00	Philadelphia	500	178.25	Flag Pond	504.59	162.00
Denton	943.20	407.85	New Zion	774.11	815.60	Pilgrims Rest	00	00	Fordtown	5,997.35	4,013.01
Dutch Bottom	00	00	Oak Grove	40.00	100.00	Pleasant Grove	4,978.00	3,469.06	*Friendship Chapel	2,191.64	00
English Creek	4,465.92	3,661.00	Palaski, 1st	12,000.00	7,019.54	Providence	1,500.00	260.49	Grace	3,965.22	2,483.00
Forest Hill	438.00	330.00	Richland	479.58	346.60	Red Bank	93,315.90	72,999.52	Gray Southern	2,312.80	1,300.00
French Brd	00	00	Rock Spgs	630.00	200.00	Ridgecrest	2,455.83	1,235.20	Green Pine	541.34	217.00
Garvers Chapel	324.64	00	Scotts Hill	705.45	00	Ridgedale	63,366.82	34,086.99	Greene Hills	1,033.64	682.12
Holders Grove	00	247.00	Shores	827.30	1,166.40	Ridgeview	7,893.26	4,191.87	Greenelawn	2,115.54	850.23
Liberty Hill	00	00	Shores Chapel	272.00	00	Riverside	00	225.00	Greeneville, 1st	39,119.85	26,321.69
Lincoln Ave	5,768.00	3,808.06	Union Hill	00	551.00	Saint Elmo Ave	4,758.11	667.77	Greenwood	495.11	60.00
Mannings Chapel	1,174.00	781.75	Union Valley	00	00	Shepherd	369.70	00	Guaranda Dr	5,209.31	3,535.25
Maple Grove	00	00	Wales	452.00	285.00	Signal Hill	415.38	541.43	Harmony	1,017.47	351.25
Mount Zion	00	00	Welcome Valley	540.00	300.00	Signal Mountain	471.00	18,228.28	Higgins Chapel	00	00
Mountain View	00	00	Wheelerton	150.00	150.00	Silverdale	30,513.00	4,912.58	*Holston Deaf Miss	00	00
New Prospect	00	00	Grainger County			Soddy-Daisy, 1st	15,433.41	16,346.22	Holston Valley	00	200.00
Newport, 1st	9,000.00	8,471.67	CP Chair: Shields Greenlee			South Seminoe	25,295.44	11,155.50	Hulen	697.01	239.00
Northport	3,718.84	2,019.00	Adriel	00	00	South Soddy	1,880.43	488.00	Jonesborough, 1st	5,360.29	2,888.47
Pigeon Valley	120.00	122.00	Avondale	00	00	Spring Creek Rd	23,815.51	10,650.11	Jon-aborough, 2nd	00	150.00
Pine Spgs	00	400.00	Barnard's Grove	2,004.81	860.60	Standifer Gap	00	00	King Spgs	618.99	86.65
Piney Grove	235.52	00	Bean Station, 1st	501.35	00	Stuart Hgts	7,550.15	2,595.67	Liberty	300.00	00
Pleasant Grove	1,551.00	2,044.00	Block Spgs	2,416.00	2,050.00	Temple	00	1,100.00	Loveless	617.00	00
Point Pleasant	762.80	547.25	Blue Spgs	7,520.75	5,748.45	Timesville Ave	00	00	Maranatha	00	00
Rays Chapel	120.00	100.00	Buffalo	575.74	1,844.79	Tremont	1,239.43	296.00	Midway	3,244.16	509.28
Riverview	2,117.00	972.57	Buyles Chapel	00	279.05	Tyner	00	325.00	Mount Zion	613.36	109.00
Saint Tide	00	00	Calvary	1,424.11	00	United Fork	335.00	00	Mountain View	00	910.00
Shady Grove	1,061.00	1,600.00	Central Point	593.12	2,208.00	United Community	00	00	Mountain View, J. C.	4,471.68	4,377.10
Southside	4,430.00	3,742.00	Fairview	00	00	Westview	3,686.74	3,523.19	Muddy Creek	00	425.00
Swannsylvania	754.00	2,255.61	Head of Richland	144.90	184.00	White Oak	26,183.35	25,995.50	New Lebanon	00	1,548.00
Union	1,268.77	925.75	Hilton Spgs	1,090.20	993.11	Whiteside	110.41	211.81	New Life	2,052.00	562.00
Unity	00	00	Indian Ridge	3,696.88	2,041.00	Woodland Hgts	1,357.00	287.00	New Salem	1,614.88	335.75
Webb	3,165.97	2,924.36	Lea Spgs	666.76	270.00	Woodland Park	9,150.00	4,897.49	New Victory	1,097.69	328.25
West End	00	00	Locust Grove	169.38	215.00	Hardeman County			Ninth Street	14,001.93	6,458.00
Wilsonville	1,660.50	625.00	Mitchell Spgs	496.55	1,137.00	CP Chair: J. H. Peterson			North Johnson City	2,867.65	2,371.13
Fayette			Mount Eager	116.61	160.00	Bethlehem	150.00	600.00	Oak Dale	1,368.18	2,538.75
CP Chair: Lynn Egan			Head of Richland	5,108.27	4,994.45	Bolivar, 1st	25,794.47	19,811.11	Oak Glen	2,261.27	1,000.00
Braden	00	00	Narrow Valley	1,796.25	655.85	Brints Chapel	00	00	Oak Grove	6,628.59	2,769.53
Feathers Chapel	00	411.50	New Barkwell	1,198.38	1,190.80	Cloverport	2,737.07	1,058.25	Oak Hill	2,754.00	3,889.00
Forty-Five	463.04	225.50	New Corinth	891.90	637.94	Dixie Hills	2,189.35	1,284.20	Omega	225.00	00
Galloway, 1st	1,773.99	425.00	New Prospect	134.48	160.55	Ebenezer	1,200.00	500.00	Pinecrest	8,772.67	2,309.50
*Harvest Chapel	261.18	66.00	Oak Grove	00	00	Enon	00	00	Piney Flats	621.00	5,491.89
Hickory Grove	3,792.85	5,384.67	Oakland	5,632.00	2,074.15	Essary Spgs	1,362.21	216.28	Pleasant Grove	1,975.27	200.00
Hickory Withe, 1st	841.28	2,489.00	Panther Park	00	00	Grand Junction, 1st	7,784.00	8,058.00	River Bend	1,853.81	267.00
Kirk	1,144.12	00	Powder Spgs	00	00	Hebron	1,088.58	1,886.37	Roan Hill	758.00	434.00
Liberty	1,000.00	5,798.02	Puncheon Camp	00	100.00	Hickory Valley	950.00	1,059.00	Shady Grove	00	00
Morris Mem	625.00	606.20	Red House	00	00	Hornsby	4,218.00	1,037.00	Shallow Ford	2,020.86	1,496.50
Mount Moriah	90.00	00	Riverview	00	00	Hiddleburg	00	00	Skyline Hgts	9,039.38	5,094.35
Mount Olive	2,562.82	967.75	Southside	297.50	00	Middleton, 1st	6,881.00	3,378.55	Snow Mem	3,311.00	1,723.00
Oak Grove	2,310.00	1,815.19	Sunrise	436.52	919.56	Midway	355.98	120.00	Solomons Temple	00	297.00
Oakland, 1st	2,852.53	2,860.00	Tampico	39.90	141.49	New Bethel	1,345.06	444.82	Southside	4,581.70	3,397.80
Pipterton	1,770.00	3,150.00	Washburn	118.13	550.00	New Union	2,915.16	2,010.26	Southwestern	15,963.96	489.00
Rossville	00	500.00	Hamilton County			Parrans Chapel	4,729.53	3,241.00	Sulphur Spgs	4,905.92	4,399.80
Shady Grove	27,856.54	12,172.76	CP Chair: Thomas Lewis Jr.			Piney Grove	1,570.49	200.00	Sunrise	1,322.28	531.40
Somerville, 1st	1,977.00	225.00	Alpine	1,549.07	561.00	Pleasant Grove	00	00	Sunset Village	1,014.18	550.00
Williston	00	00	Apison	6,939.00	13,968.23	Pocahontas, 1st	1,695.91	256.14	Telford	00	260.00
Gibson County			Avondale	5,720.13	5,583.46	Porters Creek	1,869.00	00	Tennessee Ave	5,408.23	300.00
CP Chair: Paul Nichols			Bartlebaugh	2,415.00	2,974.67	Rocky Spgs	393.90	00	Towering Oaks	13,921.00	4,898.54
Antioch	10,866.35	9,215.07	Bayside	36,554.65	31,156.32	Saulsbery	2,325.75	2,140.14	Trinity	3,191.19	3,858.59
Avondale	4,244.71	1,348.85	Birchwood	7,281.30	11,324.71	Shandy	884.00	478.00	Tusculum	4,734.27	1,254.00
Beech Grove	1,191.65	901.00	Brainerd	72,315.33	90,232.38	Silerton	960.00	1,824.02	Unaka Ave	15,153.01	5,155.69
Bethel (H)	250.00	456.51	*Cambodian, Brainerd	359.67	00	Toone	3,625.87	2,716.26	Unicoi	769.34	195.00
Bethel (Y)	2,426.25	888.50	(C) Central	28,357.46	26,902.86	Trinity	2,790.00	871.20	University Parkway	917.58	1,877.50
Bethpage	3,744.48	2,253.72	Central (H)	108,494.10	11,992.83	Walnut Grove	2,945.60	174.92	Valley Hills	00	00
Bradford, 1st	7,084.00	1,533.00	Chamberlain Mem	12,594.21	5,176.04	West Mem	5,355.54	4,217.00	Virginia Ave	10,000.00	9,730.31
Calvary (H)	2,426.98	1,904.90	Charity	00	00	Whiteville, 1st	5,492.66	3,408.16	Volunteer	1,998.00	1,367.45
Calvary (R)	855.00	630.00	Chattanooga, 1st	8,818.11	38,442.96	Haywood			Walnut Grove	324.37	478.00
Center	210.00	210.00	Chattanooga, 2nd	3,037.05	2,535.00	CP Chair: J. G. Wise			West Hills (J)	48.85	350.00
Chapel Hill	1,445.32	1,167.35	Clifton Hill	2,046.10	539.00	Allen	11,302.82	5,983.00	(B) West Hills	225.00	00
China Grove	500.00	7,496.00	Community Msnr	00	00	Antioch	150.00	348.00	Westerly Hgts	977.41	181.00
Clear Creek	859.89	559.73	Concord	31,030.84	18,126.74	Brownsville	32,500.00	37,312.63	Woodlawn	5,508.56	3,137.97
Dyer, 1st	8,765.10	7,349.37	Covenant	1,260.00	1,556.45	Calvary	2,499.05	396.80	Holston Assoc	00	3,400.00
Eldad	480.00	350.00	Cross Bay	00	171.56	Harmony	6,204.29	5,583.34	Holston Valley		
Emmanuel	2,398.23	2,133.82	Dallas Bay	7,896.16	1,459.16	Holly Grove	6,650.00	5,891.00	Bass Chapel	125.00	00
Fellowship	1,176.93	403.81	East Chattanooga	4,588.57	1,500.00	Poplar Corner	10,562.00	5,156.05	Beech Creek	00	00
Fruitland	1,471.53	515.81	East Lake	13,873.23	16,219.59	Shaws Chapel	6,800.89	00	Belmont	00	1,592.88
Gibson	1,734.00	837.00	East Ridge	22,067.00	5,014.01	Stanton	1,695.15	1,500.00	Bentleys Chapel	120.00	400.00
Hickory Grove	2,724.15	1,127.27	Eastwood	12,666.68	2,942.40	Woodland	4,985.40	3,007.44	Bethel	200.63	1,462.00
Hillcrest	250.10	357.00	Edwards Point	00	00	Zion	2,408.32	2,479.82	Big Creek	300.00	1,945.70
Humboldt, 1st	37,048.26	24,743.75	English Ave	00	00	Hiwassee			Caney Creek	3,903.00	2,121.15
Idlewild	00	363.00	Fairview	1,447.43	11,133.00	CP Chair: Annabelle Ogren			Cave Spgs	530.20	00
Immanuel	992.42	1,223.90	Falling Water	6,483.08	2,692.02	Concord	00	287.91	Church Hill, 1st	2,407.73	2,245.12
Keely Mill	00	190.50	Felling Water Tab	00	150.00	Paint Rock	1,228.69	491.00	Compromise	00	50.00
Kenton, 1st	18,155.65	8,309.66	1st Calvary	500.00	155.00	Peakland Msnr	300.00	350.00	Duck Creek	00	00
Lanewey (K)	794.00	1,300.00	Frawley	1,229.00	891.00	Pisgah	404.80	400.00	East Rogersville	7,470.66	9,333.16
Lanewey (T)	394.72	134.00	Friendship	00	00	Ten Mile	2,467.71	1,519.15	Elm Spgs	00	150.00
Latham's Chapel	1,800.00	285.00	Grace Ave	00	00	Hiwassee Assoc	267.58	89.19	Fishers Creek	60.00	15.00
Lavinia	1,058.85	1,085.00	Greenwood	00	00	Holston			Gills Chapel	861.11	2,527.62
Maranatha	534.91	00	Guid, 1st	00	00	CP Chair: Ray Sorrells			Henards Chapel	6,318.65	8,593.00
Medina, 1st	6,086.81	7,094.95	Hickory Valley	00	00	Antioch	9,326.00	1,183.51	Hickory Cove	3,736.39	2,364.57
Midway	524.14	302.00	Hilltop	785.94	401.15	Baileton, 1st	137.00				

RU-486 patent rights transferred at Clinton administration urging

Baptist Press

WASHINGTON — Eventual use in the United States of the French abortion bill RU-486 moved much closer to reality recently, but the turn of events was not surprising, given the efforts of the Clinton administration, said a Southern Baptist ethicist.

On May 16, Donna Shalala, secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, announced French pharmaceutical company Roussel Uclaf will transfer its United States patent rights for mifepristone, commonly known as RU-486,

to the Population Council, Inc., a nonprofit corporation in the U.S. The French company is doing so without compensation and at the repeated urging of the Clinton administration, Shalala said.

The action clears the way for the Population Council to pursue the manufacture, testing, licensing, and marketing of the controversial abortion pill. Roussel Uclaf, which has been lobbied fervently by both pro-life and abortion rights advocates in recent years, had refused to attempt introduction of the drug into this country because of the controversy.

"None of us are surprised at this new attack on women and the unborn," said Ben Mitchell, director of biomedical and life issues for the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission. "President Clinton set these wheels in motion" Jan. 23, 1993, when, on his third day in office, he issued a memorandum directing HHS to decide if the import ban on RU-486 should be maintained, Mitchell said.

Mitchell said the drug "is not safe."

RU-486 may be available in the U.S. by early 1996, according to news reports. □

Quayle to autograph at SBC exhibit

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — Former Vice President Dan Quayle will autograph his newly published book, *Standing Firm*, at the Southern Baptist Convention bookstore and at two other Baptist Sunday School Board-operated Baptist Book Stores in June.

The visits are among the

stops on Quayle's national tour to promote his vice presidential memoirs.

He will sign at the SBC in Orlando on June 14, following an 11 a.m. news conference □

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CHURCH REMODELING IN JULY: Pews for sale. Contact Gary Schmieder at (615) 588-0586, Central Church, Bearden, Knoxville, 6300 Deane Hill Dr., Knoxville, Tenn., 37919.

First Baptist Church, Theodore, Ala. Evangelical Association Evangelist James E. Messer Sr. has some open dates available in 1994. Home: (205) 653-6652 Church: (205) 653-8695

Committee cancels vote on SAFE Act; senator cites lack of support

Baptist Press

WASHINGTON — The first congressional committee vote on a bill requiring warning messages in alcohol advertisements failed to occur on May 17 when a chief Senate sponsor withdrew his request for action.

A vote on the Sensible Advertising and Family Education Act, S. 674, in the Senate Commerce Committee was canceled at the request of Sen. Strom Thurman, R.-S.C., because "at this point in time he felt there were not enough votes to move the

bill," said his press secretary, Chris Cimko.

A poll of committee members showed an 11-8 vote against the SAFE Act, a Thurman staff member said, according to *Food & Drink Daily*. The cancellation effectively kills the bill for this next year. The bill, first introduced in 1990, still has not received a committee vote.

Cimko said the short legislative year, because of congressional elections, hurt the bill's chances. "Some senators had expressed interest but want to wait until the next Congress, she said. □

• ORLANDO SBC CONVENTION •

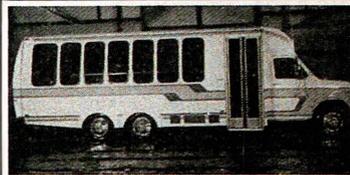
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"Home" has a multitude of meanings that include thoughts of a loving family, safety, peace, and security. For some Tennessee children, however, home may bring to mind feelings of fear, confusion, and isolation.

At Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, we open our hearts to children who have been denied their right to a happy home. In addition to providing basic needs, our houseparents share the love of Christ and work with counselors to help children reach their full potential.

The dedication of our new TBCH Oakdale Group Home on Sunday, June 5, 1994, will celebrate the continuing hope that has guided thousands of children in our more than one hundred years of operation. Plan to attend and share the joy of this special ministry.



Tennessee Baptist
Children's Homes

Gerald L. Stow

Dr. Gerald L. Stow
President / Treasurer



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Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc.,
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join us for our
Open House & Dedication
June 5, 1994
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
The dedication will be at 3:00 p.m.
Cumberland Plateau Campus
Oakdale Group House
Come help us dedicate this home
to the work and glory of the Lord.

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Six miles north on Highway 299
Right onto Camp Howard Road
Go one mile, turn right

362 Camp Howard Road
Oakdale, Tennessee
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■ Sunday School lesson commentary

□ The Lord's Prayer — Bible Book Series for May 29

By Brent Seals, pastor, First Church, Elizabethton

In his sweep toward world domination, Alexander the Great was marching to Jerusalem. The citizens of that city waited in terror, grimly aware of the might of Alexander's army and the trail of blood it splattered in its wake.

The Jewish historian Josephus recounted the details of that fearful moment when the Greeks met face-to-face with the Jews. Outside the walls of Zion stood Jaddua, the high priest, surrounded by many priests and citizens, all dressed in solid white robes. Jaddua wore a liturgical headdress bearing the name of God on a golden plate.

Unexpectedly, Alexander called his army to a halt and approached the high priest, intrigued not by the man's office but by the name he so prominently displayed. Puzzled, Alexander told the priest that he had dreamed this very scene. From an old sheath, the priest drew out a well-worn scroll of Isaiah. He showed Alexander chapters 7 and 8 of Daniel's prophecy, written over 200 years before. It was a prophecy which

Focal Passages John 17:1-26

foretold that the Greeks would defeat the Persians and that their leader would become great.

Alexander was seeing his own reflection in that prophecy. In a moment of understanding and awe, he not only spared Jerusalem from being pillaged but treated the Jews there with dignity. Just as Alexander saw himself in Daniel's prophecy, so we can see ourselves in Jesus' prayer in John 17. He doesn't call us by name, but he had each of us in mind. "I do not ask in behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in me through their word" (v. 20).

Like Alexander, we should be awed and overjoyed to know that the Scripture includes us. Let's take some time to eavesdrop on an ancient prayer in our behalf.

In this chapter is the longest recorded prayer of Jesus. The Last Supper was over. It was probably past midnight when Jesus and his disciples left the Upper Room and began their walk to Gethsemane. Enroute

lay the Kidron ravine, a mute portent of Christ's death. A channel led from Jerusalem's altar to the ravine, collecting the blood of 256,000 lambs slaughtered and sacrificed during that Passover. This is where he offered his prayer. Jesus took a momentary death-row reprieve to pray to the Father.

An examination of the prayer — vv. 1-19

Three things were on our Lord's heart that evening: himself (vv. 1-5), his disciples (vv. 6-19), and the church (vv. 20-26). These three sections are like three concentric circles, the second of which is larger than the first, and the third of which is larger than the second and inclusive of all three. All have a common center. The prayer as a whole is keyed to one central idea, eternal life; for it is Jesus' petition that he may be glorified in order that eternal life may be available to men.

The first circle encloses only Christ. With his men close at hand, Jesus stops to focus his attention on the Father (v. 1). Six times Jesus addresses God

as Father. Jesus speaks of his impending fate in perfect tense, intoned with an air of finality. "The hour has come." But his death is no accident — the Father sent him.

Drawing on another circle to include him and his most intimate friends, Jesus asks several things for these 11 men (v. 6). "Manifest" means "to reveal." During his three years with the disciples, Jesus revealed God's "name" — that is, his character and his resources. The Father's Word, they had kept (v. 6); his provisions, they had acknowledged (v. 7); his plan, they had accepted (v. 8); his glory, they had helped contribute to (vv. 9-10). Before the Good Shepherd lays down his life for his sheep, he prays that this intimate fold may not be scattered during his absence, so Jesus prays that the Father would keep them from the evil one and "set them apart."

Ministry of prayer — vv. 20-26

Prayer is pivotal to the spiritual life. Jesus instructed that at all times we ought to pray

and not lose heart (Luke 18:1). Drawing his third circle, Jesus prays for the church. First, he prayed for our unity. Twice he says, "That they may be one" and once he says, "That they may be perfected in unity." When Jesus prays, it's not for uniformity — absolute similarity of organization, style, personality and appearance, or unanimity. What he does pray for is unity — oneness of heart, of faith, and of purpose.

He prayed for our destiny (v. 24). Our Lord asks our Father to secure our destiny. That security is based on the love between the Father and the Son. Finally, Jesus prayed for relational love — the Father loves the Son, the Son loves us, and we in turn are to love others. This love flows deep and wide and passes over any rocks of petty differences.

Three specific applications emerge from verses 20-26. 1) To grow in unity means "giving in." 2) To know your destiny means "giving up." Stop striving and trust him. 3) To show his love means "giving out." Christian love is visible and tangible. □

□ Express Christ's love in relationships — Convention Uniform Series for May 29

By Mike Thrower, pastor, Brunswick Church, Brunswick

As Paul closes this letter to the Galatians, he has a few words about living the Christian life. These admonitions provide insights into the Spirit-led walk.

Helping others — vv. 1-5

Two ways to help are mentioned. The first is what to do with a man caught in sin. Paul suggests that the believers who have the spiritual foundation to do so, should go to him and help restore him (v. 1). The word restore was used in the Greek to refer to the setting of a broken bone. Paul is saying that the believer has an opportunity to bring the sinner back into a proper relationship with the Lord. Those who try this should do it in gentleness, after all there but by the grace of God go any of us.

Then there is a need to bear

the burdens of another (v. 2). While it is true that each should be responsible for his own life and burdens (v. 5), the believer should seek to be of help to others as he can. We shouldn't lift up ourselves as something special. I know some people whom I wish I could buy for what they are worth and sell them for what they think they are worth. I would make a fortune. Verse 3 reminds us to be careful in our own judgment about ourselves. Let your works speak for you, not your boasting.

Harvest time — vv. 6-10

Paul reminds the people that the teacher of God's Word deserves to share in the income of the learner. This basic principle is found throughout Scripture. The believers of Galatia would say "Amen" to this. A man

deserves pay for his labor.

Immediately Paul follows this truth with another. You will reap what you sow. As surely as verse 6 speaks the truth, so does verse 7. The man who sows things of this world (the flesh) can only hope to reap things of this world. The one who labors in the things of God (the Spirit) will receive a harvest of spiritual things.

The three laws of the harvest apply not just in agriculture, but also in the church. 1 — You will reap what you sow. 2 — You will reap more than you sow. 3 — You will reap after you sow.

So don't give up (v. 9), keep on working for the Lord and serving others. Do all the good that you can. One day your reward will be given out. At that time you will reap the blessing of God.

Focal Passage Galatians 6:1-18

Handwritten conclusion — vv. 11-18.

The first of the letter was probably written by a secretary as Paul dictated it. But now Paul takes the pen into his own hands. He wants them to really hear these words as from his own lips. The reference to the large letters fits in with his previous mention of his eye problem (ch. 4:13-15).

Don't be caught up in legalism, he admonishes them. The Judaizers would lead you astray, but their motives are clear. First (v. 12), the more that follow them, the better they look to the world. Second, this could save them from persecution, since Judaism was an accepted religion in the Roman

Empire. If arrested they could point to those circumcised as proof of their Judaism. And thirdly (v. 13), they wish to boast in their following. They are hunting credit from men for what they have accomplished.

Paul isn't like these. If he were to boast, it would only be in what Jesus Christ had done for him on the cross. He died to all the things of the world when he became a new creation in Christ. Jew or Gentile no longer mattered, only Christ.

Those who will walk like he walked would know this and the peace and mercy it brought. That was true then and it is true now.

Don't fall prey to legalism or boasting in self, instead serve Christ fully and you too will know the peace of a life lived for him. □

□ Growing spiritually — Life and Work Series for May 29

By Tommy Stevens, Meadow View Church, Lawrenceburg

Some years ago I met a man who thought he was perfect. He believed that because he was a Christian, he never sinned. Paul had a similar problem with some who thought they could do what they wanted to because they had been saved. The only problem was that their "desires" had not changed, so they continued in sin.

Learning — vv. 12-14

The apostle Paul did not believe he matured completely at his salvation experience. Even as he wrote, he knew he still had a lot of growing to do. He had accomplished much, but that was in the past and he had

more to do. He had also sinned, but that was forgiven and should be forgotten. We cannot live on past accomplishments and we must not let past failures slow us down. Like a runner, we need to stretch every nerve to become all that Christ calls us to become.

Light — vv. 15-16

The word "perfect" in verse 15 is our modern word "mature." Paul said something here that could be phrased, "If you think you are mature, you're not!" Maturity is really not a goal, but a process. Many people who go to the altar seem to be those we would think need it least. But like a sheet in

Focal Passages Philippians 3:12-21

the bright sunlight, the closer we get to the light of God's holiness, the more imperfections we see in ourselves.

Many of us are not willing to follow God until we know his will for us in the future. Paul said in verse 16 that we must live by the light we have. God does not lead with a floodlight, he leads with a flashlight. The only way to know God's will for tomorrow is to obey His will today.

Luminaries — vv. 17-19

Every young Christian needs

a person to look up to. One of the greatest encouragers I have known is Dr. D. M. Renick. Like Paul, his life shows the consistency of Christian love and high expectations for his followers. His teachings leave no room for confusion and his life is an example of his teaching. In a world with so many bad examples, we need such good examples.

Paul was not being boastful when he asked the Philippians to follow him. False teachers were claiming to know a deeper truth than Paul. Many still do today. Paul could point out that he had not worked for glory or financial reward,

indeed he had suffered for his work. Christian leaders worthy of emulation are those whose lives follow the pattern of Christ and of Paul.

Lifestyles — vv. 20-21

Paul might have said in verse 20, "Practice for heaven. Live like Jesus now." Conversation means "lifestyle." Sometimes, it is hard to tell the players without a program. The world has so infiltrated the church that the church lifestyle is nearly the same. But Jesus sees the heart and He knows the difference. Just as our bodies will be changed when Jesus comes, our lifestyles should be changing to be like his. □

■ the people

■ Chattanooga's **Virgil and Frankye Lindsay** observed their 65th anniversary May 25 and **Ed and Margaret Ryon** will observe their 50th June 17.

■ the leaders

■ On Senior Citizens' Day at Old Ocoee Church, Benton, W. H. "Buddy" Cook, was honored for 31 years of service as music director.

■ **Dillard A. Mynatt** of Gatlinburg, pastor emeritus, First Church, Oak Ridge, was awarded an honorary doctor of divinity degree by Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, May 7. He has led 13 churches in East Tennessee and North Carolina.

■ **E. W. "Eddy" McKinley**, minister of music/education, Merton Avenue Church, Memphis, will retire May 29, after 38 years of service. He will be honored during the morning worship service and at a reception from 2-5 p.m..

■ **Bob Ward**, pastor, Washington Avenue Church, Cookeville, and his wife, Yvonne, were honored by the church on his 10th anniversary.

■ **Clint Oakley** has been called as interim pastor of Woodstock Church, Memphis.

■ **Norman L. Gardner**, minister of music, First Church, Gallatin, will be honored May 29 at 7 p.m. on his retirement. He has served the church for 24 years, has been involved in several missions efforts of the Tennessee/Michigan Baptist Partnership, and is past president of Tennessee Baptist Church Music Conference.

■ the schools

■ Baptist Hospital Ladies Auxiliary of Nashville honored a Baptist instructor at the Awards Day Convocation of **Belmont University School of Nursing**, Nashville. The event, held April 20 at Belmont Heights Church, honored **Lisa Wood**, member, First Church, Antioch, with the faculty award.

■ **Carson-Newman College**, Jefferson City, has given **John Lee Welton**, director of drama, the distinguished faculty award, for work during the past academic year and **Ernest Lee**, associate professor of English, the Lane Bryant Award for community service. Staff retiring are **Mary Charlotte Ball**, associate professor of music; **JoAnn Chitwood**, administrative assistant to the director of alumni relations; **R. Earl Cleveland**, professor of art; **Geraldeen Day**, head teacher in the Child Development Lab; **M. Bill Fletcher**,

professor of psychology; **John Gibson**, chairperson of the developmental education department; **Verner T. Hansen**, professor of mathematics; **Betty Hobbs**, director of undergraduate education resources; **Barbara J. McDougal**, vice president for student development; **Dorothy Scott Seymour**, department of nursing chairperson and coordinator of the human sciences division; and **Sherman Vanaman**, professor of mathematics.

■ the churches

■ **Second Church, Clinton**, reports 21 professions of faith, seven new members by letter, and 47 rededication decisions during its revival. **Henry Linginfelter** led it.

■ **Haywood Hills Church, Nashville**, will hold homecoming June 5. A luncheon and afternoon of music will be held.

■ The Bread of Life Quartet will lead music at **Second Church, Clinton**, May 29 at 4 p.m.

■ **Hickory Hills Church, Mount Juliet**, will hold revival May 29 - June 1. **Phil Waldrip** of Mountain Top Conference Ministries, Trinity, Ala., and **Michael Passons** will lead it.

■ **Bethel Church, Henderson**, will hold homecoming June 5.



WILBURN NELSON, center, retired pastor, Chapel Hill Church, Milan, is given a photograph by **Kenneth Sparkman**, left, director of missions, Gibson Association April 24 at the church to thank him and his wife, **Helen**, for 35 years of service there. Nelson, who retired from the church in 1991, was a member when he was a teen and young adult. The graduate of Union University, Jackson, also led Poplar Corner Church, Jackson; Concord Church, McKenzie; and Oak Grove Church, Milan. Nelson was Tennessee Rural Minister of the Year in 1966 and was first president of the Bivocational Ministerial Association.



CARSON-NEWMAN COLLEGE faculty members, from left, **Mary V. Ball**, **Stephen E. Wright**, **Gladys S. Clay**, and **Laura R. Wadlington**, hold awards presented by **Michael Carter**, right, vice president, academic affairs, on April 22 at the faculty honors banquet. Awards for creativity, research, mentoring of students, and advising were presented.

Tennessee Sampler ■ views, insights

Experience God

Don Farmer, minister of adult education and administration
Concord Church, Chattanooga

The first time I heard about the LIFE course "Experiencing God," a fellow minister of education made the statement, "Isn't that an awesome title?" I agree that it is and the "experience" itself more so.

The emphasis of our Christian faith has always been on our personal relationship with Jesus Christ. The thrust of "Experiencing God" is that personal relationship, out of which God communicates with us. We come to know him and what he is doing around us, and then we learn what we should be doing.

Being God's person has always been the prerequisite to doing God's will and work. We are to focus on him and not ourselves. Our human nature resists this because of our sin problem.

Dr. George Sweeting asked, "Do you know your sin nature — how it deals with you?" God can keep us in touch.

Pray for your fellow church members who are involved in this study and consider joining one the next time around. □

Prescription for progress

David George, pastor
Immanuel Church, Nashville

Here are some ideas for relationships and progress in the church:

■ **Be positive.** Overcome any negatives facing us by insisting on emphasizing the good things we can do. In Admiral Farragut's words: "Damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead!" Do a good job of telling the story of the good things happening at churches.

■ **Be pointed.** Be to the point, purposeful, on target. Major on our mission, our main purpose. Do the things we can do best. Tend to basics.

■ **Be personal.** People — prospects, faithful members, and inactive members — are our main agenda. They need recognition, support, warmth. Identify, inspire, and enable the persons who can be congregational spark plugs. Be alert to those who are in danger of dropping out. Be sensitive to people in every group and program of the church — Sunday School classes, choirs, committees, etc. Let them know they are wanted and appreciated. Be aware when they are hurt or alienated. Listen to them

carefully and let them know they are heard and respected. Act promptly to follow up on warning signs.

■ **Be practical.** Think and plan concretely. Concentrate on do-able tasks. Avoid abstract planning that cannot very well be implemented. Recognize that we cannot do everything we can think up.

■ **Be proactive.** Don't wait for the problem to arise and then react. Take the long look. Think ahead and take action at the time and place you choose. Devote some time to planning ahead and being creative. Do those things that are important but not urgent (in contrast to just doing things that are both important and urgent — they usually get done anyway, or those things that are urgent but not important, or those that are neither important nor urgent).

■ **Be prayerful.** In the church, nothing else will work if God is not working in us. Our primary need is spiritual. The most important needs we serve are spiritual needs. People have legitimate spiritual needs, and they have a right to expect the church to minister to those needs. □

Goals for worship

John Parker, minister of music/singles
Bluegrass Church, Hendersonville

The sanctuary choir took the time recently to contemplate and put in writing what they consider to be their goals this coming year, 1994-1995. Foremost in their thoughts seemed to be leadership. We are becoming more aware of our responsibility to lead, not just in the musical initiative, but also to lead in spiritual preparation and by example as we worship.

If we were setting goals as a congregation, I wonder what we might focus upon? Certainly we can seek to worship in spirit and in truth, as John 4:22 makes clear. It seems to drive home the point that only when we both understand who we are worshipping, or have a personal identity in him, and when we open ourselves spiritually to God then we can be the kind of worshippers "the Father seeks." Surely this is a worthy goal, but don't you have others?

In the weeks ahead, I will suggest what some of our goals in worship might be. I hope you will offer your suggestions. □