

# Baptist and Reflector

May 1, 1996

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STATEWIDE EDITION

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week's  
news**

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## Lottery supporters claim first victory

By Wm. Fletcher Allen  
*Baptist and Reflector*

BRENTWOOD — It finally happened.

After years of trying, and amid some last minute midnight madness, Tennessee state legislators scraped together enough votes to give first approval for a vote on a state lottery.

SJR-4, as approved after late night finagling on the last day of the legislative session, would permit a referendum to change the state constitution to allow a state lottery.

While both houses passed SJR-4 this session by a simple majority, next year it would have to gain a two-thirds majority before reaching the governor's desk.

Legislators for years seemed to have had a difficult time deciding whether to allow Tennesseans to vote on a lottery.

Though citizens can't vote on other issues, the General Assembly thinks this one should go to voters. Moral and financial issues are at stake.

Evidently, most of the debate and arguing took place in the legislature. Though lottery supporters and news media consistently reported that a great majority of Tennesseans favored a lottery, the state Senate failed to cave in until the last day of the 1995-96 session.

The House of Representatives last year passed the resolution by a large majority. But it failed to make it through the Senate.

It took several close votes, with and without amendments, before senators passed the joint measure. Even then the vote was close, 17-13, with three not voting.

If approved next session citizens would vote whether to change the wording of the state constitution in Article XI, Section 5, changing a period to a comma and adding:

*"...except that the Legislature may authorize a state lottery if the net proceeds of the lottery's revenues are allocated to a scholarship fund to be established and implemented by the legislature to pay tuition costs for the post-secondary education and training of Tennessee residents in public or private schools or institutions in this state. The excess from such net proceeds shall be allocated to K-12 education. All other forms of lottery not authorized herein are expressly prohibited."*

Despite claims of a great bonanza of income for the state coffers, there is no proof that such is true. Nor is it true that students would attend college free, observers say.

The state's share of lottery income would be only a small percentage and could not re-

pair damage to family life and economic problems caused by a lottery, opponents claim.

Senators voting for the lottery resolution in the final vote after midnight April 25:

Cohen, Cooper, Crowe, Crutchfield, Dixon, Gilbert, Hamilton, Harper, Haun, Haynes, Kyle, Miller, Rice, Rochelle, Springer, Wallace, and Wright.

Voting against SJR-4: Atchley, Burks, Carter, Elsea, Fowler, Henry, Holcomb, Jordan, Koella, Leatherwood, McNally, Person, and Womack.

Ford, O'Brien, and Speaker Wilder did not vote.

As reported earlier, voting has been close in the Senate persistently.

Several senators are either retiring or choosing not to run for re-election this fall.

Each side of the issue will lose some votes because of this. There will be a general turnover in the House of Representatives.

Campaigning for the empty seats will begin soon, and there probably will be long and hard electioneering on the lottery issue.

Both sides without a doubt, will check candidates closely for their views on the lottery and other important issues.

Next week's paper will have a more complete rundown on actions of the session. □

## Remodeling plan on TBC board agenda May 7

BRENTWOOD — When the Executive Board Tennessee Baptist Convention meets May 7, a staff remodeling plan will be one of the major items on the agenda.

Called ServanTeam 21, the restructuring involves all departments and other work of the Executive Board's staff located in the Baptist Center here.

In last week's issue the *Baptist and Reflector* incorrectly used that term (ServanTeam 21) in reporting that convention messengers last November approved Vision 2000, a long-range plan.

Since it proposes restructuring the Executive Board staff, ServanTeam 21 will be voted on by the board.

The board's Executive Committee meets on the evening of May 6, and other board committees will meet also as usual.

The remodeling plan would eliminate Executive Board departments, replacing them with seven groups. The plan is intended to facilitate the work of the Executive Board staff and improve relationships between staff and the churches they serve. □

## Brotherhood trustees discuss ITF restructuring proposal

By Connie Davis  
*Baptist and Reflector*

MEMPHIS — Brotherhood Commission trustees expressed concerns about the overall Southern Baptist Convention restructuring plan at their April 26-27 meeting before approving the use of "incorporators" to establish a new missions agency. They also made transition plans and participated in a reunion with former trustees.

Meeting here in their bi-annual session, trustees reported their concerns to Mike Hamlet, member of the Implementation Task Force for the restructuring. The restructuring, ap-

proved by messengers at last year's convention meeting in Atlanta, calls for dissolving the Home Mission Board, the Brotherhood Commission, and the Radio & Television Commission and assigning their duties to a newly created North American Mission Board (NAMB).

The incorporators, as proposed by the ITF, would help establish NAMB, nominate a president, and propose officers for the agency's board of directors.

Introducing Hamlet, James Williams, president of the commission, noted the commission staff felt more supported than — See Brotherhood, page 2



### Chaplains speak at Baptist Center

Oklahoma Chaplains Jack and Phyllis Poe spoke April 23 to Executive Board staffers and visitors about work with survivors and families of victims of the April 19, 1995, bombing of the Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City. The Poes made several stops and presented ribbons to Executive Board President Herbert Higdon, center, for Tennessee Baptists' support.

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# Roof blown off Dyer Association church

For Baptist and Reflector

NEWBERN — On Saturday, April 20, a severe storm ripped through portions of West Tennessee, causing minor damage to some houses, trees, and equipment.

One church in Dyer Association — Harmony, located five miles from Newbern — had its entire roof blown off the auditorium, reported Joe Naylor, director of missions in Dyer Association.

The 113-year-old church also sustained water damage, Naylor added.

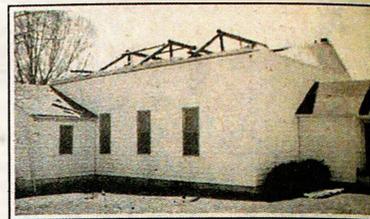
Estimated damages are \$100,000, all of

which will be covered by insurance, Naylor said.

Pastor Jack Criswell told *The Jackson Sun* the church has received several offers from other congregations to use their places of worship until Harmony is repaired.

The Sunday following the storm, 36 of the church's 50 active members held service in a small meeting room in a Newbern bank.

Criswell said plans are for the church to meet in its fellowship hall until necessary repairs are made. □



HARMONY CHURCH, near Newbern, had its roof blown off April 20. The church is meeting in its fellowship hall.

## Peru missionaries pursue harvest amid Satan's attacks

By Mark Kelly  
For Baptist Press

RICHMOND — When God's Spirit begins to move and people previously resistant to the Gospel begin to respond, is it any coincidence that suddenly things begin to go wrong?

In Peru, harvest is at hand. People are more responsive to the Gospel than at any time in memory. Yet the 64 Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board missionaries there have struggled for two years with one setback after another.

"Twenty-five years ago, if you tried to talk about the Gospel with people, they looked at you like you were some kind of fanatic," senior missionaries Beryl and Linda Boswell of Stafford, Va., and Bluefield, W.Va., respectively, recently told colleague Dan McLaughlin. "Now we see real openness and curiosity about the Bible. People are seeking to know more about God."

For example, in the city of Cajamarca, so many have come to Christ — and so great is the movement of God's Spirit — that leaders of mountain villages offer land to missionaries who will come and start a

church. One missionary family suddenly found themselves working with five new congregations.

Yet the joy of the harvest has been marred by tragedy and difficulty. Giovana Cabanillas, an aerobics instructor at a Baptist recreation ministry in a Cajamarca gymnasium, was brutally murdered in mid-March. The resignation of a missionary couple there has stretched leadership resources even further.

Across the country, the theme repeats itself. "Many share the feeling Satan wants to use these things to detour us from our course," says McLaughlin, of Sterling, Va.

Among many examples are:

(1) In March 1994, missionary Gary Crowell of Denison, Texas, nearly died after he was shot in the leg and arm in a robbery. Crowell continues to suffer from nerve damage and partial disability in his left arm, but is still serving in Peru.

(2) Two months later, another missionary was diagnosed with a disorder that causes debilitating muscular pain and chronic fatigue.

(3) In November and De-

ember 1995, two missionary children were injured in accidents, and a third was diagnosed with Guillain-Barre syndrome, a nerve disorder that can cause permanent paralysis.

(4) Early this year, another missionary child suffered nerve damage with a serious leg and ankle break, and a young missionary couple struggled with a miscarriage.

(5) Then in February, double tragedy struck when all four members of the Wade Watts family were injured in an auto accident and missionary Lynn Davidson of Santa Fe, N.M., died in the crash of an airliner. Wade Watts, of Memphis, remains in a coma in a Memphis hospital, and his 9-year-old son, Marcus, is fighting back from severe brain damage. "When things like this happen to missionaries, it makes life and ministry very difficult," observes McLaughlin. Still, the onslaught has had benefits.

"This adversity also has driven us to deepen our prayer lives; it's drawn people together and taught us to rely on each other more. We've seen Peru Baptists galvanized to

pray even more and to show care and compassion for missionaries," he says. "After the Watts and Davidson tragedies, they held citywide prayer meetings and vigils."

And on the day when many of the victims of the airline crash were being buried, Peruvians noticed Lynn Davidson's graveside service was characterized by singing and hope, not desperate tears like the others. The graveside sermons were televised and broadcast to five cities in the area.

"We have seen evidence that wherever God's Spirit is moving, missionaries can expect an inexplicable series of circumstances that seem to hinder the harvest," says Foreign Mission Board President Jerry Rankin, who himself served in southern Asia and the Pacific for 23 years.

"If missionaries are to walk in victory and if a hedge of protection is to be sustained around their life and family and ministry, it is essential they have a strong base of prayer support.

"Only the prayers of God's people will break down the strongholds of Satan and provide that protection." □

## Brotherhood Commission trustees discuss ITF ...

— Continued from page 1

at any time since the restructuring was announced. A year ago trustees addressed the committee which developed the restructuring plan, the Program and Structure Study Committee, detailing its concerns and received no response.

Hamlet, pastor, First Church, North Spartanburg, S.C., answered questions of both trustees and 28 former trustees. He is one of two members of the task force assigned to the commission. Several questions centered around the nomination of the 13 incorporators, which include two incorporators from each of the three agencies forming NAMB and seven nominated by the ITF.

Trustee Bill Prince of Georgia asked Hamlet about the objectivity of the incorporators since more than half will be

appointed by the ITF. "There's an appearance the incorporators could lack objectivity because a majority of them are appointed by the ITF and arguably influenced by the Executive Committee and its CEO, so it might not actually reflect the will of the convention, but the Executive Committee," said Prince.

Hamlet responded that if more agency representatives were incorporators, they might form voting blocks. "We felt this was somewhere in the middle ... because then you're getting people on that committee who understand a new entity that is for all Southern Baptists. We've not had any input from the Executive Committee except what we've taken to them." He noted a majority of ITF's 10 members are not Executive Committee (EC) members.

James McCollough of Cali-

fornia asked if a criteria existed for those selected to lead entities. "Are they going to drop the barriers and let anyone who has been nominated (to be selected) or is there going to be a hidden agenda?"

"There is no hidden agenda," said Hamlet. If the incorporators make decisions based on 7-6 votes representing a division between those appointed by the agencies and those appointed by the ITF, those decisions, Hamlet predicted, would not be accepted by Southern Baptists.

Several trustees expressed concern that the restructuring would cause current increases in Brotherhood work to falter. They referred to a 15.9 percent increase in enrollment and participation totaling 749,000 involved in Brotherhood programs. Williams said the staff would continue its work until June 19, 1997, when the tran-

sition would be completed, or until told otherwise.

After the dialogue, Williams told trustees he believed the concerns of the commission would be considered by the ITF. However, the commission would be "as positive and proactive as possible" in the transition period.

Still to be worked out are new collaborative assignments for men's ministries, Williams said. According to the restructuring plan, for the first time the Baptist Sunday School Board formally would have the lead role in men's ministries rather than the commission.

In other business, trustees approved an incentive for employees who stay until June 1, 1997. A one-time incentive of 25 percent of an employee's annual salary was approved.

Activities for former trustees included a banquet and program. □

# Tennessee pastor elected new FMB trustee chairman

By Mark Kelley  
For Baptist Press

CAPE GIRARDEAU, Mo. — Trustees of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, meeting here April 18-20 approved a major upgrade in home office computer technology, elected Tennessee pastor Bill Blanchard as chairman, and heard a report on a noteworthy change in support for missionary families who have suffered the death of a spouse.

The meeting, concurrent with the annual meeting of the Missouri Woman's Missionary Union, culminated in the appointment of 37 missionaries in an emotional Saturday afternoon service on the campus of Southeast Missouri State University. The appointments bring the total number of missionaries serving in 129 countries to 4,173.

The trustees received a report on a significant change in missionary support in cases where a missionary's death leaves behind a spouse with dependent children.

Previous policy reduced salary and benefits to the rate for a single missionary — a 40 percent decrease — three months after the spouse's death, said Carl Johnson, the board's vice president for finance. The new policy will continue to support the surviving spouse at the married couple level until the family's

youngest child is no longer eligible for dependent benefits, he said. Financial support will be retroactive to Jan. 1, 1996.

That change will immediately affect five missionary families. Among them are the recently bereaved families of Lynn Davidson, who died Feb. 29 in a plane crash, leaving behind her husband, Dennis, and three children, and Holly Larm, who died Oct. 14, 1995, during a bout with malaria, leaving behind her husband, Allen, and two children.

Trustees also approved spending \$2.5 million to complete the second phase of an upgrade to computer systems in the board's Richmond, Va., offices. The changes will complete a process begun in April 1995 to create an integrated system of networked personal computers at three work sites. They eventually will provide network access to mission offices around the world, said Bill Nance, director of the agency's management information office.

Blanchard was elected to a one-year term as chairman of the Foreign Mission Board. Blanchard, pastor of First Church, Soddy Daisy, since 1987, was elected by acclamation on a standing vote. The son of former missionaries to India, Blanchard is a veteran of volunteer mission trips to India, Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa and has

been a board trustee since 1990.

Trustees also received a statistical perspective on advances in starting churches and baptizing new believers during 1995. Jim Slack, the board's consultant on evangelism and church growth, told trustees a record 2,612 newly constituted churches in 1995 represented a 21 percent jump from 1994 and brought the number of partner congregations overseas to a record 39,073. Membership in those churches topped 4 million for the first time in history, Slack said, and the 287,806 baptisms recorded last year represented

one baptism for every 14 church members.

Cooperative efforts between the Foreign Mission Board and other evangelical world missions groups are producing new tools for taking the Gospel to unreached peoples, said John Gilbert, director of the board's global research program.

Almost 1.7 billion people from 2,161 people groups make up World A, where people have little or no access to the Gospel. In recent years, evangelical mission groups have tried to coordinate their efforts so the Gospel can be taken to these people more quickly and

without duplication.

Gilbert presented to trustees the most recent product of those strategic alliances: a world map that locates more than 7,000 people groups and color codes them according to their access to the Gospel. Eighteen agencies cooperated in producing the map.

The trustee public relations committee watched a demonstration of the board's new "home page" on the World Wide Web. The site offers immediate electronic access to information about missions needs and opportunities for service. The site is accessible at <http://www.imb.org>. □

## FMB appoints missionaries with Tennessee ties

For Baptist and Reflector

CAPE GIRARDEAU, Mo. — A language mission pastor from Memphis and his wife were among 37 people appointed to serve by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board April 20.

Paul and Camthach Phan were appointed to serve in the Philippines, where he will start and develop churches. Together, they will be involved in a variety of outreach ministries.

Phan has been pastor of Vietnamese Baptist Mission in Memphis since 1988. The Vietnam native considers Memphis his hometown and the mission his home church. He holds degrees from Toccoa Falls (Ga.) College and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

He and his wife have one child.

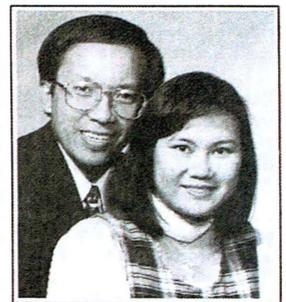
Three other new missionaries also have Ten-

nessee ties.

Nashville native Kenneth Hills Jr. was reappointed to Senegal. While growing up he also lived in Memphis, but considers Marietta, Ga. his hometown.

Rodney Duncan, a Chattanooga native, was appointed to Malaysia. He considers North Pole, Alaska, his hometown.

Arkansas native Mary Jo Richey Merkel, who considers Memphis her hometown, was appointed to serve in Germany. □



THE PHANS

## SBC legal counsel recommends continuing closed Implementation Task Force meetings

By Herb Hollinger  
For Baptist Press

NORFOLK, Va. — The meetings of the Implementation Task Force, the group coordinating the restructuring of the Southern Baptist Convention, will remain closed to the public, according to Bob Reccord, ITF chairman and pastor of First Church, Norfolk, Va.

Reccord said legal counsel and other issues were the basis for the unanimous decision of the 10-member committee appointed last year by the SBC Executive Committee. An explanation of the committee's decision came in an April 24 letter to Bill Webb, president of the Association of State Baptist Papers. Webb is editor of the *Word & Way*, newjournal of the Missouri Baptist Convention.

The ASBP, in a resolution approved at its annual meeting in February, had urged the ITF to open its meetings to the press. Reccord spoke to the editors at that meeting and cited sensitive legal and personnel issues for the closure but said he would take the resolution to the ITF for consideration.

"The ITF has decided that its meet-

ings must remain closed to the public in order to successfully accomplish the charge given the task force by the Executive Committee," Reccord told Baptist Press.

"The ITF is dealing with complex and sensitive legal and personnel issues. Its meetings are lengthy and intense and involve not only the task force members but legal counsel who have advised the ITF that legal counsel needs to be offered privately. In addition, chief executive officers, state executives, and others are invited into these meetings from time to time and they must be conducted in an atmosphere in which those persons may speak candidly to the ITF without fear of harming anyone."

Because of the intricacies of restructuring and its effect on many individuals, Reccord said, the ITF is sensitive to the reporting of incomplete information. Also, the ITF must operate in an environment in which its members can explore all options and choose from among those options without anxiety that unchosen options will be reported as chosen ones, or without creating discomfort caused by divulging the discus-

sion of options which will not finally be employed, Reccord said.

"Secrets are not going to be kept from the Baptist public. But the ITF must guard against harming any individuals as well as compromising the success of the restructuring by premature public reports.

"While the ITF believes it can best serve Southern Baptists by not conducting its meetings publicly, it will certainly continue to communicate its activities, progress, and decisions through Baptist Press," Reccord said. "It is hoped that the state Baptist papers will carry those reports immediately and in their entirety so that Southern Baptists will remain timely and informed."

The restructuring plan of the denomination, approved by SBC messengers in Atlanta in 1995 and called the "Covenant for a New Century," will among other things reduce the number of SBC agencies and institutions from 19 to 12 through mergers and dissolutions.

A final vote on SBC Bylaw 15 will be taken at this year's annual meeting in June in New Orleans. □

## Volunteers respond following deadly tornadoes in Arkansas

Associated Baptist Press

FORT SMITH, Ark. — Baptists in Arkansas helped with clean-up and disaster relief following an April 21 killer tornado that smashed homes and businesses in two western counties.

Forty-four volunteers manned chainsaws to clean up storm debris or served meals from a disaster-relief unit operated by the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

The tornado killed four people, injured scores more, and caused an estimated \$500 million in damages in Fort Smith and nearby Van Buren.

Disaster relief director Ronnie O'Neal said Baptist volunteers fed an estimated 1,500 people on April 23. He expected that number to grow to 2,500 a day before decreasing late last week.

Volunteers worked from a 48-foot tractor-trailer rig designed for emergency meal preparation. The unit, capable of providing up to 20,000 hot meals a day, was on its maiden exercise after being commissioned last year. □

# Alamo layman answers God's call to volunteer missions

By Lonnie Wilkey  
Baptist and Reflector

JACKSON — A word to the wise: Don't tell Herbert Adams you're waiting for God to call you as a missions volunteer.

"God has already said, 'Go.' How many times does he have to say it?" asked Adams, a layman at First Church, Alamo.

The 67-year-old "retired" builder is constantly on the go for the Lord.

Since 1980 he has served on more than 15 volunteer mission assignments ranging from locations in the United States to Brazil, Upper Volta, Peru, Hungary, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, and St. Maarten Island, where he served most recently working on houses and churches destroyed during last summer's hurricane season.

He also has worked with Tennessee Baptist disaster relief teams in Maxton, N.C., Pikeville, Ky., Long Beach, N.C., Hermann, Mo., Macedonia, S.C., Adamsville, South Florida, and Cape Girardeau, Mo.

And, for the last four years he has served as supervisor for World Changers, a project of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission, one week each year in Memphis and two weeks at a time in Anderson and Campbell counties. He's already planning to go there again this summer.

The Tennessee Baptist volunteer

noted that there are three "preachers" in his immediate and extended family, including his brother, John Adams, vice president for religious affairs at Union University, Jackson.

"God never called me to preach, but I can help pick up pieces and help put lives back together after a disaster," the layman affirmed.

Adams is strong in his belief that people need to serve God in any way possible.

"If we wear the name 'Christian,' and read the Bible at all, we are told to do that," he said.

Adams noted an advertising slogan that says, "Reach out and touch someone."

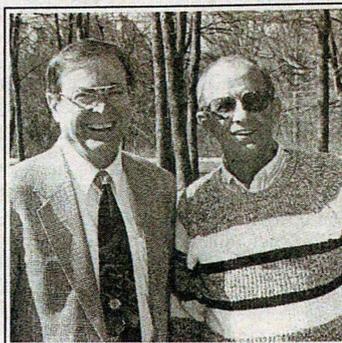
"A man came up with that 2,000 years ago. It's nothing new," he said.

Adams gets disheartened when he thinks about the number of things that need to be done and the few volunteers to go around, although he acknowledged volunteer work is growing.

"We have about 15 million Southern Baptists. You would think we would be covered up with volunteers," he said.

One of the reasons it is hard to get volunteers, he said, is communicating the needs to grassroots Southern Baptists. Many Baptists do not get word about specific needs, he related.

In his efforts to recruit volunteers, Adams has discovered that if he can get a person to go once, that person usually will go again.



ALAMO LAYMAN Herbert Adams, right, visits with his brother, John Adams, vice president for religious affairs at Union University, Jackson.

On the latest project on St. Maarten Island, they were only able to come up with 19 volunteers over a six-week period, he said.

Possibly, he continued, many volunteers have "volunteered out." "We have had a lot of disasters during the last year," he pointed out.

Southern Baptists are doing a lot, but much more could be done, he stressed.

One positive approach to volunteer work has been the introduction of World Changers, a coed missions endeavor for high school youth.

"World Changers is one of my fa-

vorite Southern Baptist programs," he said.

"I believe we will see more volunteers later because we are starting them young."

Adams will be going to Campbell County for the fifth time this summer and he noted there are youth who have been there all four summers to this point. "We are introducing them to the needs of people early in life. I didn't have that opportunity," he said.

The future of volunteerism looks good thanks to World Changers, Adams affirmed.

Adams' volunteer work has been met with approval by his family. His wife Marie has accompanied him on trips and before he retired his son kept the business going when he answered an FMB distress call.

Yet, after all the trips and assignments, he's not totally convinced he has done all he can do.

"When I look back at what I've done and how long I've been here, it seems like I haven't done much.

"It even makes me ashamed that I haven't done more," Adams said.

But Adams has no intentions to stop any time soon. And, he will keep spreading the word in local churches, trying to encourage men and women to volunteer.

"They don't know what they're missing, and it is hard to tell them. You just have to do it," he observed. □

## Former Waynesboro pastor

# Mike Kemper to administer missions work in four European countries

By Mike Creswell  
For Baptist and Reflector

WIESBADEN, Germany — J. Michael Kemper, a former Tennessee Baptist pastor, has been named administrator of Southern Baptist work in Romania, Poland, Czech Republic, and Slovakia.

Kemper's job change reflects the rapid growth of Southern Baptist missionaries in Eastern Europe, said Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board administrator Larry Cox who announced the new position.

Cox directs Southern Baptist work in central Europe.

In the newly created role effective June 20, Kemper will help administer the work of 59 Southern Baptist missionaries who serve in the four-country Central Europe Mission. But that number will increase to 69 missionaries by the end of this year, Cox said.

"Mike Kemper has already demonstrated his leadership talents by serving as the acting mission administrator for six months, and I am excited to have someone like him leading

the charge in planting churches in central Europe.

"Mike's heart is in tune with the missionaries of central Europe, and he has an excellent relationship with Baptist union leaders," Cox added.

Kemper, 45, began serving as Southern Baptist foreign missionary associate in Romania in 1993 and currently serves



MIKE & KATHY KEMPER

as pastor of an English language Baptist church in Bucharest, Romania, where he lives with his wife, the former Kathy Woody of Kingston. They are the parents of two grown children.

Kemper served as pastor of Green River Church, Waynes-

boro, from 1986 to 1993 and served as a member of the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. He also served as pastor of churches in Trenton and Harriman and in Arkansas and Illinois.

Before becoming a missionary, Kemper made mission trips to Romania, France, Africa, and Mexico.

A native of Arkansas, Kemper is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Ark. He attended Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky. □

## Daily Partnership Prayer Requests

### May

- 1 — Pray that the Lord will call someone to teach English for two weeks in August in a small church in Zyradow, Poland.
- 2 — Pray for the congregation of the Baptist church in Krakow, Poland, that is without a pastor.
- 3 — Pray for major improvements to the roads leading into the Baptist Seminary in Poland.
- 4 — Pray for Richard and Ellese Spencer, volunteers from North Carolina, as they conduct weekend conferences in Poland.
- 5 — Pray for Denny Brinkman and more than 80 people in his group from First Church, Concord, as they come to Tarnow, Poland, on June 7 to conduct evangelistic rallies and present concerts.
- 6 — Pray that God will call out skilled carpenters to help roof the chapel of the seminary in Poland.
- 7 — Pray for Larry Rogers and his team of doctors as they minister through free health clinics in Tarnow, Poland, in June.



## Sweetwater site of CollegiateReach '96

For Baptist and Reflector

SWEETWATER — CollegiateReach '96: Reaching College and University Students for Christ and His Church will be held May 10-11 at the Quality Inn here.

The weekend event, sponsored by the TBC Student Ministries Department, is an opportunity for those who work with college students in the local church — both lay leaders and church staff — to find inspiration, fellowship,

and practical help.

Vial Fontenot, minister to students at First Church, Tuscaloosa, Ala., will discuss excellence in student ministry while Linda Osborne, director of student ministries at Florida State University in Tallahassee, will present seven habits of highly effective student leaders in ministry.

Cost is \$20 and registration deadline is May 3. For program information, call TBC Student Ministries at (800) 558-2090. □

# Another convention, another election

The 139th session of the Southern Baptist Convention is only a few weeks away.

Attendance will be "so-so" again. As we give to our readers this special issue of the paper, we present the needed information about when, where, and who of many meetings and reports.

The sameness creeps into the scheduled program, names of nominees, the boredom of some of the sessions, as well as the meetings that precede the convention.

**By Wm. Fletcher Allen, editor**

The excitement that should be present is not yet evident. The adventure of who will be nominated for various offices, committees, and board is missing.

We knew several weeks ago who the next convention president would be when Oklahoma Pastor Tom Elliff was touted as the one to fill Jim Henry's shoes.

Folk scarcely blinked. What once was seldom or never done, is now expected. Only Henry's election in 1994 was a surprise. It has been a while since that element entered into election of officers. For several years Southern Baptists have known who the top leaders would be well before the June meeting.

So barring a major upset, it's ho-hum time again. As they say at the crossroads store in small talk about such events, it's a sure thing.

Jim Henry, who will preside as president, has brought some welcomed light into the "business as usual." In his first year in office, he showed outstanding Christian leadership. He sought to bring Southern Baptists to the table together.

His attitude of reconciliation and understanding was needed, and there was no opposition to his re-election last June.

Henry's tenure carried us through the first vote on a SBC bylaws change and the vote on major restructure. He will be at the podium when the final vote is taken.

Leadership is always important, and even more so in time of dramatic change. Since the SBC will continue major restructuring for several years, the best of leadership is necessary.

Though the Executive Committee has taken the responsibility to implement the changes through an implementation team, all Southern Baptists have a major re-

sponsibility to insist on only those changes which can enhance the work of all the institutions, agencies, and commissions. Some of these entities will no longer exist, and their programs will be undertaken by others.

For Tom Elliff and others who lead Southern Baptists in the next decade, it will be necessary to work with the Executive Committee. We would hope that those who lead will also have sound minds and free will to speak those ideas that may be different, but good.

We have begun a long journey. We need our best minds and hearts leading. *Winning or losing souls is the scenario.* □

## 'Heroes' have fallen off their horses

For some reason, Tennessee churches have not gotten into the fight against gambling as we thought they would. Regular readers of the *Baptist and Reflector* know that this paper has spoken out against gambling, and especially against a state lottery, often and loudly.

After the state legislature ended last week, we are inclined to believe that some of the members who see themselves as heroes have fallen off their horses.

People interested in the next General Assembly must begin preparing for another year of combat. We intend to be totally involved. A lottery is not good for family life, no matter what legislators think.

But pushing for a lottery and other gambling is another matter. Whether those who voted for a lottery will be remembered as heroes or villains of the Senate, they surely earned the gratitude of professional gambling interests.

Perhaps we can take a closer look at those who seem to think gambling interests and lottery people are friends of Tennessee citizens. If they are friends, we certainly don't need any enemies. A lottery can easily turn Tennessee into a state of gamblers.

A state lottery is not a certainty, because tons of verbiage, advertising, political rhetoric, and legislative wrangling is yet before us.

The reality of a lottery is closer, thanks to last week's voting. Both houses of the Tennessee legislature voted in favor of allowing a statewide referendum on a state lottery. Action must be taken next year before a referendum could be set in 1998.

In the meantime, here is a question for all legislators who want to allow the public to vote the lottery issue. Are you ready for us to vote on term limits or whether you get a raise? Think about it. □

■ one word more  
By Wm. Fletcher Allen editor

### Being a good wife

Recently I came across one of those priceless pass-around-items. It is reputed to be an excerpt from a 1950s high school home economics textbook.

It may be. I remember that era, and I remember that for some reason the girls at our school had to study agriculture along with the boys, and we guys had to study home economics along with the girls.

Someone probably got a raise for thinking up that brilliant idea. But we did it.

I guess our classes skipped the pages included in this excerpt since the boys were involved.



ALLEN

Listen up, you can use some of these at a church social.

Have dinner ready, says the first hint for the housewife.

"Plan ahead, even the night before, to have a delicious meal on time. This is a way of letting him know that you have been thinking about him and are concerned about his needs. Most men are hungry when they come home."

Prepare yourself, is another tip. "Take fifteen minutes to rest so you will be refreshed when he arrives. Touch up your make-up, put a ribbon in your hair and be fresh looking. His boring day may need a lift."

Clear away the clutter. "Make one last trip through the main part of the house just before your husband arrives, gathering up school books, toys, paper, etc. Then run a dust cloth over the tables. Your husband will feel he has reached a haven of rest and order."

Are you still reading? Hold on, here's more. "Prepare the children by taking a few minutes to wash their hands and faces, change their clothes."

Minimize all noise. "Eliminate all noise of the washer, dryer, dishwasher, or vacuum. Try to encourage to be quiet. Be happy to see him."

Make the evening his. "Never complain if he does not take you out to dinner or to other pleasant entertainment. Instead, try to understand his world of strain and pressure, his need to unwind and relax."

Though those tips were well-intended, they are hilarious. Maybe we can come up with rules for the entire family as they come together at home. □

## ■ just for today

By Fred Wood pastor emeritus Eudora Church, Memphis

### Start with a smile

Doris (visiting new neighbor) "What's this in your beautiful vase?" Darlene: "My husband's ashes." Doris: "Oh, I'm sorry. How long has he been dead?" Darlene: "He's not dead. He's too lazy to find an ash tray."

### Take this truth

The only exercise some people get is "jumping to conclusions." The root meaning of "prejudice" is prejudging, arriving at a conclusion without knowing all the facts. It is not only foolish, but dangerous.

### Memorize this Scripture

"Jesus ... said unto them, Ye do err, not knowing the Scriptures" (Matthew 22:29).

### Pray this prayer

"Lord, help me realize until I have sought God's will, I am not ready to make a decision or even a comment." □

## Tough parenting isn't easy

### ■ families matter

By Paul Barkley, counselor and professor

We conclude our series on parenting teenagers with a discussion of toughness as a needed facet of parenting teenagers.

Being a parent of a teenager today is not a job for anyone with a weak constitution or small backbone.

We have used the word "parent" as an acronym to help us think about the subjects of Presence, Awareness, Responsibility, Empathy, Nurture, and "toughness."

Mentioning the word "tough" to many people brings to mind characters such as Rambo, Steven Segal, or Walker the Texas Ranger. Our society has made the concept of toughness synonymous with the ability to make other people do what you want.

The direction I'm taking in my focus is toward the willingness to do what is needed without regard to what it will cost in time, energy, and money.

Believe me, I understand how parents yearn for the freedom from the responsibility of being involved in the parenting process. My wife and I have three children ages 17, 19, and 22. I would like to tell

you that they are perfect angels and we never have any confrontations.

However, since I am a Christian, I can't lie. We have our normal confrontations and struggles with will and way. Many parents feel they are under perpetual siege. They get tired and give in. It takes fortitude and strength to stand the test of parenting teenagers.

I heard a speaker recently who caused me to stop and think. He said that if we had not shown a child who was "boss" by the time the child is 18 months old, we had lost the battle.

While I might question the strict interpretation of his statement, I can certainly agree with the general truth involved.

Many problems in parenting teenagers are the consequences of mistakes made earlier. The struggles with the obstinate will of a normal, rebel-

lious, adolescent are much more serious than the temper tantrums of a terrible two-year-old. Physical, material, and monetary consequences are much more serious.

I am asked frequently by parents if it is too late. I do not believe it is ever impossible, but often surely is more difficult.

Just as God never gives up on his children, we can never give up on our children. I encourage parents of teenagers to be as tough as necessary.

Finally, I want to remind all of us that these principles of parenting are all important.

Because of the allotted space, I dealt with them individually. I do not want to be misunderstood to be saying that these are some sort of cafeteria of parenting where you can choose what you like and pass by what you don't like.

In order to parent teenagers successfully, parents need healthy helpings of these methods we have discussed. □



BARKLEY

# SBC '96 CONVENTION SCHEDULE

## TUESDAY MORNING, JUNE 11

- 8:15 Music for Inspiration — Adult Choir and Orchestra, John Walker, director, interim minister of music, Summer Grove Church, Shreveport, La.
- 8:30 Call to Order; Congregational Singing — John V. Glover, Jr., convention music director, minister of music, First Church, Atlanta; Prayer — Bobby D. Brewer, layman, First Church, Quitman, Miss.
- 8:35 Registration Report and Constitution of Convention — Lee Porter, SBC registration secretary, retired, Lawrenceville, Ga.
- 8:40 Committee on Order of Business (First Report) — James W. (Jim) Richards, chairman, director of missions, Northwest Baptist Association, Rogers, Ark.
- 8:45 Welcome — Leon Hyatt, retired, Pineville, La.
- 8:50 Response — Tony Rengifo, foreign missionary, Costa Rica
- 8:55 Announcement of Committee on Committees, Credentials, Resolutions, and Tellers
- 9:00 Theme Interpretation - "If My People ... Called by My Name" — Larry D. Nail, pastor, First Church, El Dorado Springs, Mo.
- 9:10 Prayer for Revival — Tim Lafleur, BSU director, Nichols State University, Thibodaux, La.
- 9:15 Crossover New Orleans — Darrell W. Robinson, vice president, evangelism, Home Mission Board, Alpharetta, Ga.
- 9:20 Introduction of Motions and Resolutions
- 9:35 Commission on the American Baptist Theological Seminary Report — Stephen P. Carleton, secretary-treasurer, Nashville
- 9:45 Executive Committee Report (Part 1) — Morris H. Chapman, president and chief executive officer, Nashville
- 10:40 Southern Baptist Convention Canada Planning Group Report — Larry L. Lewis, president, Home Mission Board, Alpharetta, Ga.
- 10:45 Denominational Press Report — Herb Hollinger, vice president for convention news, Executive Committee, Nashville
- 10:55 Woman's Missionary Union Report — Dellanna W. O'Brien, executive director, Birmingham, Ala.
- 11:05 Congregational Singing — Ragan M. Vandegriff III, minister of music, First Church, Orlando, Fla.
- 11:10 Music — Lightshine, Ragan M. Vandegriff, Kate (Kitty) Henry Campbell, soloist, songwriter, Nashville
- 11:20 President's Address — James B. (Jim) Henry, SBC president, pastor, First Church, Orlando, Fla.
- 12:00 Benediction — Joe Gebhardt, layman, Two Rivers Church, Nashville

## TUESDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 11

- 1:00 Music for Inspiration — The Centurymen, Buryl Red, director, ministers of music of the Southern Baptist Convention
- 1:20 Congregational Singing — Price Harris, music evangelist, Shreveport, La.
- 1:25 Theme Interpretation - "If My People ... Humble Themselves" — Ron Dunn, evangelist, Irving, Texas
- 1:35 Prayer for Revival — Daniel Gage, evangelist, Houston
- 1:40 Business; Committee on Order of Business (Second Report) — James W. (Jim) Richards; Introduction of Motions and Resolutions
- 1:50 Annuity Board Report — Paul W. Powell, president, Dallas
- 2:00 Christian Life Commission Report — Richard D. Land, president, Nashville
- 2:10 Congregational Singing — Danny Martinez, minister of music, Immanuel Church, Highland, Calif.
- 2:15 Committee on Nominations Report — Ronnie W. Rogers, chairman, pastor, Lakeside Church, Hot Springs, Ark.
- 2:25 Messenger Information Survey — David W. Atchison, SBC recording secretary, director, Turning Point Ministries, Franklin
- 2:35 Election of Officers (First)
- 2:50 Executive Committee Report (Part 2) — Morris H. Chapman

- 3:50 Bold Mission Thrust Report — Ernest E. Mosley, executive vice president, Executive Committee, Nashville
- 4:00 Congregational Singing — Richard (Dick) Thomassian, minister of music, Whitesburg Church, Huntsville, Ala.
- 4:05 Committee on Committees Report
- 4:15 Introduction of Motions and Resolutions
- 4:30 Election of Officers (Second)
- 4:45 Benediction — Larry D. Reagan, pastor, Hill Station Church, Goshen, Ohio

## TUESDAY EVENING, JUNE 11

- 6:00 Music for Inspiration — Marshall Kellam, music evangelist, Louisville, Ky.; Friends IV, Gospel quartet, Nashville
- 6:20 Congregational Singing — Mark Blankenship, director, music department, Sunday School Board, Nashville
- 6:25 Theme Interpretation - "If My People ... Pray" — Donald Whitney, assistant professor of spiritual formation, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo.
- 6:35 Prayer for Revival — David Clark, layman, South Oaks Church, Baton Rouge, La.
- 6:40 Brotherhood Commission Report — James D. Williams, president, Memphis
- 6:50 Election of Officers (Third)
- 7:00 Sunday School Board Report — James T. Draper Jr., president, Nashville
- 7:10 Sunday School Board Presentation
- 7:50 Congregational Singing — Rob Hewell, director, church music ministries, Arkansas Baptist Convention, Little Rock, Ark.
- 7:55 Committee on Order of Business (Third Report) — James W. (Jim) Richards
- 8:00 Theme Interpretation - "If My People ... Seek" — Don McMinn, professional associate, Intimate Life Ministries, Irving, Texas
- 8:10 Previously Scheduled Business and Introduction of Motions and Resolutions
- 8:15 Denominational Calendar Committee Report — Wade Burleson, chairman, pastor, Emmanuel Church, Enid, Okla.
- 8:25 Benediction — Richard Vera, pastor, Emmanuel Church at Riverside, Denver

## WEDNESDAY MORNING, JUNE 12

- 8:30 Music for Inspiration — New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Chorus, H. Leroy Yarbrough, director, professor of choral conducting, New Orleans Seminary, New Orleans
- 8:40 Congregational Singing — Byron Johnson, music director, Franklin Avenue Church, New Orleans
- 8:45 Introduction of Local Arrangements Committee — John R. (Jack) Wilkerson, vice president for business and finance, Executive Committee, Nashville
- 8:50 Theme Interpretation - "If My People ... Tum" — H. Paul Pressler, layman, First Church, Houston
- 9:00 Prayer for Revival — Joe Strahan, pastor, Northside Church, Vicksburg, Miss.
- 9:05 Election of Officers (Fourth)
- 9:10 Radio and Television Commission Report — Jack B. Johnson, president, Fort Worth, Texas
- 9:20 Congregational Singing — H. Leroy Yarbrough
- 9:25 Seminary Presentation and Reports — William O. Crews, president, Golden Gate Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif.; Mark T. Coppenger, president, Midwestern Seminary, Kansas City, Mo.; Charles S. Kelley, president, New Orleans Seminary, New Orleans; Paige Patterson, president, Southeastern Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C.; R. Albert Mohler, Jr., president, Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky.; Kenneth S. Hemphill, president, Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas
- 10:25 Congregational Singing — William J. Reynolds, distinguished professor of church music, Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas
- 10:30 Business; Committee on Order of Business (Fourth Report) — James W. (Jim) Richards; Introduction of Motions (Last Time)
- 10:40 Previously Scheduled Business

- 11:00 Committee on Resolutions (First Report)
- 11:05 Election of Officers (Fifth)
- 11:10 Music — Awaken America Singers and Band, Buster Pray, director, associate pastor of worship ministries, First Church, Springdale, Ark.
- 11:20 Convention Sermon — Ronnie W. Floyd, pastor, First Church, Springdale, Ark.
- 12:00 Benediction — Barbara O'Chester, director, Great Hills Ladies Retreat Ministry, Austin, Texas
- No Wednesday Afternoon Session

## WEDNESDAY EVENING, JUNE 12

- 6:00 Music for Inspiration — Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra, Larry Black, director, minister of music, First Church, Jackson, Miss.
- 6:25 Congregational Singing — Bill Cox, coordinator of volunteers in evangelism, Home Mission Board, Alpharetta, Ga.
- 6:30 Business; Committee on Order of Business (Fifth Report) — James W. (Jim) Richards; Election of 1997 Convention Sermon Preacher, Alternate, and Music Director
- 6:35 Home Mission Board Report — Larry L. Lewis, president, Alpharetta, Ga.
- 6:45 Home Mission Board Presentation
- 7:05 Congregational Singing — John S. Conrad, Foreign Mission Board, music ministry, Korea
- 7:10 Baptist World Alliance Report — Denton Lotz, general secretary, McLean, Va.
- 7:20 Foreign Mission Board Report — Jerry A. Rankin, president, Richmond, Va.
- 7:30 Zambian Acapella, singing ensemble, Zambia
- 7:40 Foreign Mission Board Presentation
- 8:55 Commitment Invitation
- 9:00 Benediction — June Cosby, layperson, Woodland Park Church, Chattanooga

## THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE 13

- 8:30 Music for Inspiration — Tim Kaufman, music evangelist, Winter Springs, Fla.; Gwen "Ms. Chocolate" Williams, soloist, New Orleans
- 8:50 Congregational Singing — Carlo Sciara, Jr., bivocational music director, Faith Church, Clayton, La.
- 8:55 Theme Interpretation - "If My People ... Then I Will" — John Avant, pastor, Coggin Avenue Church, Brownwood, Texas
- 9:05 Prayer for Revival — Clark Foosee, bivocational pastor, Sweet Spirit Church, San Antonio, Texas
- 9:10 Historical Commission Report — Slayden Yarbrough, interim executive director, Nashville
- 9:20 Memorial Service — W.A. Criswell, senior pastor emeritus, First Church, Dallas
- 9:25 Education Commission Report — Stephen P. Carleton, executive director, Nashville
- 9:35 Southern Baptist Foundation Report — Hollis E. Johnson, III., president, Nashville
- 9:45 Stewardship Commission Report — Ronald E. Chandler, president, Nashville
- 9:55 American Bible Society Report — Eugene Habecker, president, New York
- 10:05 Congregational Singing — Jim Watson, minister of music, Germantown Church, Germantown
- 10:10 Introduction of Past Presidents — James B. (Jim) Henry
- 10:15 Presentation of Outgoing SBC Officers — Morris H. Chapman
- 10:20 Presentation of Newly Elected SBC Officers — James B. (Jim) Henry
- 10:25 Previously Scheduled Business
- 10:35 Committee on Resolutions (Final Report)
- 10:50 Congregational Singing — John V. Glover Jr.
- 10:55 Music — Greater Vision, Gospel trio, Morristown
- 11:05 Testimony — Rick Scarborough, pastor, First Church, Pearlman, Texas
- 11:20 Message — Bill McCartney, founder, Promise Keepers, Denver, Colo.
- 12:00 Prayer for Revival and Benediction — Frank Whitaker, pastor, First Church, Lake Wales, Fla.

# Restructuring, presidential vote highlight SBC annual meeting

By Herb Hollinger  
For Baptist Press

NEW ORLEANS — The annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention returns to the Superdome in New Orleans June 11-13 with the election of a new president, reports on a major restructuring of the denomination, consideration of a myriad of business items, sermons, music, and fellowship.

The theme for the 1996 meeting is "If My People ..." taken from II Chronicles 7:14, with a different person each session sharing a subject from the familiar Old Testament revival passage.

Messengers will elect a president to succeed Jim Henry, pastor of First Church, Orlando, Fla., who finishes a second one-year term. The only announced candidate for the non-salaried, largely ceremonial post, but one with important appointive powers, is Tom Elliff, pastor of First Southern Church, Del City, Okla. If elected, Elliff is seen as continuing a denominational direction begun in 1979 called the "conservative resurgence."

Messengers also will get to see the first blueprints of the restructuring of the denomination, called the "Covenant for a New Century," which was approved at last year's annual meeting. A second vote on SBC Bylaw 15, which lists the 19 agencies of the convention, will be taken and, if passed, will reduce the number of agencies to 12 through dissolution or merger of several entities. SBC officials hope to provide messengers with some of the transition plans for the restructuring and some indication of the

## Lee Porter predicts 19,000 in attendance

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — Southern Baptists return to the Louisiana Superdome for their annual national convention meeting — the ninth time the SBC has met in New Orleans — but the attendance will be about one-half of the last time there, according to SBC Registration Secretary Lee Porter.

The June 11-13 annual meeting, the convention's 139th session in 151 years of existence, will draw about 19,000 messengers, Porter said. In 1990, the last time the SBC met in the Crescent City, 38,403 "messengers" registered. The largest SBC registration was in 1985 in Dallas when 45,519 registered, and the Texas city again will be the site of the 1997 annual meeting.

Last year in Atlanta, for the SBC's 150th anniversary, 20,654 messengers were registered. The numbers do not include guests or visitors.

Porter, a retired Baptist Sunday School Board official living in Lawrenceville, Ga., has had an impressive record in predicting convention registration totals since his election as registration secretary in 1978.

Porter said registration would open in the Superdome at 4 p.m. on Sunday,

June 9, and at 8 a.m. on the following Monday and Tuesday. It will close about 9 p.m. each night.

The registration area is located at Gate C, 100 level, the first level above the floor of the dome. Gate C is the entrance facing the convention hotel, the Hyatt Regency.

Messengers are similar to delegates in their election by a local church but traditionally are not instructed by the church. **Tennessee Baptists can get their "messenger cards" from their local associational office.**

Porter said messengers should "properly fill them out and bring them to the meeting."

Messengers without cards must go before the convention's Credentials Committee which could take 30 minutes or more, Porter said. If at the last minute it is not possible to bring a card, then the person should bring a letter from the church and meet with the Credentials Committee, Porter said.

Who can register as a messenger is dictated by Article III of the SBC constitution. Messengers of the convention are "members of missionary Baptist churches cooperating with the convention as follows:

"1. One messenger from each church

which (1) is in friendly cooperation with the convention and sympathetic with its purposes and work. Among churches not in cooperation with the convention are churches which act to affirm, approve, or endorse homosexual behavior. And, (2) has been a bona fide contributor to the convention's work during the fiscal year preceding.

"2. One additional messenger from each such church for every 250 members; or for each \$250 paid to the work of the convention during the fiscal year preceding the annual meeting.

"3. The messengers shall be appointed and certified by the churches to the convention, but no church may appoint more than 10.

"4. Each messenger shall be a member of the church by which he is appointed."

Porter said contributions to "convention" causes include giving through the Cooperative Program or directly to an SBC agency, like the Foreign Mission Board's Lottie Moon Christmas Offering or the Home Mission Board's Annie Armstrong Easter Offering or to World Hunger, but not to special offerings of state conventions or associations.

Porter added that the SBC registration process does not allow for "alternate" messengers. □

economies of the new structure.

The opening gavel will be Tuesday, June 11, at 8:30 a.m. and the three-day session will conclude Thursday, June 13, at noon. See page 6 for the full program.

In between, messengers and guests will hear reports from all the SBC agencies, vote on a range of business items and resolutions, hear a bevy of sermons and special music, and spend time visiting with friends in the Baptist family.

Major addresses will be heard from Henry; the convention sermon by Ronnie W. Floyd, pastor of First Church, Springdale, Ark.; and the final message by Bill McCartney, founder of Promise Keepers, the fast-growing men's renewal movement across America.

Another highlight is the Wednesday evening presentations by the foreign and home mission boards followed by a "commitment invitation." A special evangelistic blitz of the metropolitan area, called

Crossover New Orleans, will precede the convention, as has been the custom for a number of years.

Preceding the annual meeting are a host of satellite meetings, like the Pastors Conference and the Woman's Missionary Union annual meeting. See stories on these meetings on page 8.

The Superdome also will have a unique configuration for the meeting, with a large curtain, from roof to floor, separating the dome's main seat-

ing area. Half of the floor will be the exhibits area, with the other half for the meeting itself. SBC officials said the configuration has been tried by other religious groups in the cavernous Superdome and proven effective.

Moderating the six sessions of the annual meeting will be Henry; first vice president Larry W. Wynn, pastor of Hebron Church, Dacula, Ga.; and second vice president Gary L. Frost, pastor of Rising Star Church, Youngstown, Ohio. □

## Tennesseans among those chosen to SBC boards, committees

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — Nominees to serve on the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee and the boards and agencies, commissions, committees, and seminaries have been selected by the 1996 Committee on Nominations. SBC President Jim Henry also announced appointments to the Committee on Committees and Resolutions, Credentials, and Tellers committees.

They will serve if elected by messengers to the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention June 11-13 in New Orleans.

Among Tennessee Baptists being nominated are:

Executive Committee: John D. Wallace, Morristown, second term

Foreign Mission Board: A. Douglas Sager, pastor, First Church, Concord, Knoxville

Home Mission Board: A. Ray Newcomb, pastor, First Church, Millington, second term

Baptist Sunday School Board: Philip R. Glisson, Memphis; Mary Margaret White, Humboldt; and Jack Stewart, Morristown, all second terms

Annuity Board Select Funds Trust/Blended Funds Trust: W. Roger Fitch, Woodland Park Church, Chattanooga

Midwestern Seminary: Robert A. Mowery, retired pastor, Park Avenue Church,

Nashville  
Golden Gate Seminary: Gary R. Gober, Judson Church, Nashville

Southern Baptist Foundation: Tom Madden, Tullahoma, representing the Home Mission Board; Thomas J. McCoy, Thompson Station, representing the American Seminary Commission; John D. Wallace, representing the Executive Committee; Ronnie L. Boling, First Church, Nashville; Clorene Robertson, Park Avenue Church, Nashville; and John Nanne, Jackson, second term

American Baptist Seminary: Horace Pennington, Stevens Street Church, Cookeville  
Brotherhood Commission:

Richard L. Herrera, Two Rivers Church, Nashville  
Radio and Television Commission: Harold Curtis Fry III, Germantown, second term

Committee on Committees: Thomas Vinson, pastor, Leawood Church, Memphis; Lamar Moore, pastor, Lookout Valley Church, Chattanooga

Credentials Committee: Raymond "Buddy" Boston, pastor, First Church, Dyersburg

Tellers Committee: Robert W. Campbell, DOM, Fayette Association; William Horner Jr., minister, Pleasant Hill Church, Orinda; and Wm. Fletcher Allen, editor, *Baptist and Reflector*

The Resolutions Committee did not have a Tennessean. □

## Henry names SBC

### parliamentarians

Baptist Press

NEW ORLEANS — SBC President Jim Henry has named the same parliamentarians who were part of a six-member team during the 1995 SBC annual meeting in Atlanta to serve once gain in New Orleans.

The six are Lester L. Cooper Jr., Riverdale, Ga. chief; John Sullivan, Jacksonville, Fla.; Sanford W. Peterson, Utica, N.Y.; Jimmy E. Jackson, Huntsville, Ala.; David N. Matlock, Caddo Parish, La.; and Joe Reynolds, Houston, Texas. □

# Three Tennessee pastors slated to speak at SBC Pastors Conference

Baptist Press

NEW ORLEANS — Three Tennessee Baptist pastors are among the speakers at the 1996 SBC Pastors Conference.

Adrian Rogers, Bellevue Church, Cordova; Ron Phillips, Central Church, Hixson; and Phil Hoskins, Higher Ground Church, Kingsport, will be among those addressing the theme "Fruit That Remains."

"Fruit That Remains" is integral to world missions, said Johnny Hunt, president of the annual conference which meets June 9-10, preceding the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention. Both will be held in the Superdome.

"What really matters is not decisions, but disciples," said Hunt, pastor of First Church, Woodstock, Ga.

The theme is based, Hunt said, on John 15:16: "Ye have not chosen me, but I have cho-

sen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it to you." The conference's five sessions will focus on different aspects of the theme. Featured speakers, session by session, will be:

June 9, 2-4:30 p.m., "Fruit That Remains in Evangelism"; Mack Brunson, pastor, High Point, N.C.; Herb Reavis, pastor, Jacksonville, Fla.; Ike Reighard, pastor, Atlanta; and Rick Amato, evangelist, Lincoln Park, Mich.

June 9, 6:30-9:15 p.m., "Fruit That Remains in the Family"; Jerry Vines, pastor, Jacksonville, Fla.; Fred Lowrey, pastor, Bossier City, La.; and Rogers.

June 10, 8:30-11:30 a.m.,

"Fruit That Remains in the Church"; Junior Hill, evangelist, Hartselle, Ala.; Ken Hemphill, seminary president, Fort Worth, Texas; Tom Elliff, pastor, Del City, Okla.; and James Merritt, pastor, Snellville, Ga.

June 10, 1:15-4:30 p.m., "Fruit That Remains in America"; Phillips; Ronnie Floyd, pastor, Springdale, Ark.; Bailey Smith, evangelist, Atlanta; and Hoskins.

June 10, 6:30-9:15 p.m., "Fruit That Remains in the World"; Jay Strack, evangelist, Orlando, Fla.; Henry Blackaby, *Experiencing God* co-author; and John Bisagno, pastor, Houston, Texas.

Among featured musicians will be Larnelle Harris, New-song, the Gold City Quartet, and the Jim Bob Griffin Family. □

## Schaller, Sweet headline WMU meeting in New Orleans

Baptist Press

NEW ORLEANS — Addresses by Southern Baptist mission agency presidents and authors Lyle Schaller and Leonard Sweet, along with the election of a new national president, will highlight the June 9-10 Woman's Missionary Union annual meeting.

The yearly gathering of WMU leaders and members will be held at the New Orleans Marriott on Sunday and Monday prior to the SBC annual meeting. Sessions begin at 2:30 p.m. Sunday afternoon and conclude Monday evening.

Larry Lewis, Home Mission Board president, will speak Sunday afternoon

along with home missionaries. The Sunday evening session will highlight foreign missions and include an address by FMB President Jerry Rankin.

Schaller will deliver the keynote address Monday afternoon. The author of more than 40 books and 1,000 articles, Schaller is known as one of the nation's most influential church growth analysts.

Sweet, dean of theology at Drew University, Madison, N.J., will deliver the closing message Monday evening. He is the author of the best-seller *FaithQuakes*.

WMU Executive Director Dellanna O'Brien and WMU President Carolyn Miller will speak during the Monday morning session. □

### Position Available

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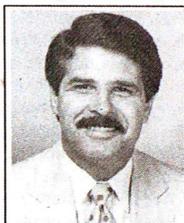
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**Housing Information:** Quality Inn, Sweetwater 1 (800) 647-3529

**Program Information:** Student Ministries Department, TBC 1 (800) 558-2090

# TenneScene ■ the people, their work

## ■ the people

■ Little Flat Creek Church, Corryton, ordained **Tony Harrell** and **Morris Atkins** as deacons March 31.

■ **Roger Cavin** was ordained as a deacon April 21 by Kepler Missionary Church, Rogersville.

## ■ the leaders

■ First Church, Woodbury, has called **B. K. Parsley**, a student at Belmont University, Nashville, as minister of youth, effective May 12. Parsley is from Smithville.

■ China Grove Church, Rutherford, has called **James Brown** as interim pastor.

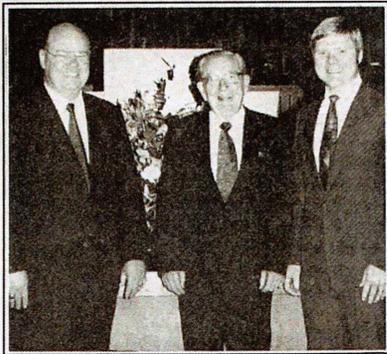
■ **Warren Sykes**, pastor, Central Point Church, Paris, was honored by the congregation for serving them for 20 years.

■ Grace Church, Collinwood, has called **Frank Ray** as pastor.

■ **Morris Hill Church**, Chattanooga, has called **Rick Markum** as minister of music and youth.

■ **Ridgedale Church**, Chattanooga, has called **Dan Parker** as associate pastor and minister of education.

■ **Tony Walliser** has been



**PAUSING** during ceremonies to honor **Robert E. Brown Jr.**, center, as pastor emeritus, **First Church, Winchester**, are **Baylon Hilliard**, director of missions, **Duck River Association**, and **Alan Roggli**, pastor of the church. Brown was pastor from 1980-1989, when he retired.



**POSING WITH** **John 'Bull' Bramlett**, center, author and evangelist of *Memphis*, are **Royal Ambassadors of Burt Church**, **Burt**, from left, **Dustin Sanders**, **Steve Smith**, and **Nathan Sanders** and the church's pastor, **Gary Anderson, Jr.** Bramlett, a former professional baseball and football player, spoke to six groups in the area April 12-14 including the *Fellowship of Christian Athletes* at **Cannon County High School**, which drew 80; a *Salem Association Brotherhood Rally* at **First Church, Woodbury**; and a joint service of **First Church, Gordonsville**, **New Middleton Church, Gordonsville**; and **Hickman Church, Hickman**. About 40 people made professions of faith.

called as minister of education at **Silverdale Church, Chattanooga**.

■ **Richard Blalock**, pastor, **Apison Church, Apison**, has retired.

■ **Lee Farmer**, minister of music, **Northside Church, Milan**, has resigned effective April 21.

■ **Hickory Valley Church, Hickory Valley**, has called **Keith Hayworth** of **Morristown** as pastor, effective March 31. **Gary Anderson** was interim pastor for more than a year.

■ **New Providence Church, Clarksville**, has called **Milford Stanley** of **Oneida** as pastor, effective March 17.

■ **Steve Morris**, minister of education/administration, **Bluegrass Church, Hendersonville**, has been called to the staff of **First Church,**

**Plant City, Fla.**

■ **Rick Marshall**, associate pastor/music, **Audubon Park Church, Memphis**, has resigned effective March 10 to serve as minister of music, **Manley Church, Morristown**.

■ **Smyrna Church, Humboldt**, has called **William P. Oakley** as pastor, effective June 1.

■ **Lisa Russell**, minister to youth, **Monte Vista Church, Maryville**, was ordained to the ministry April 7, just prior to her leaving her work. She has resigned to move with her family to **Tupelo, Miss.** Russell had served the church for four years.

■ **First Church, Union City**, has called **James Bush** as minister of education.

■ **James Glisson** has been called as interim pastor of

**Oakwood Church, Milan.**

■ **Jack Childs**, vice president of support services, **Baptist Brotherhood Commission, Memphis**, has been called as interim minister of music, **Audubon Park Church, Memphis**, effective March 27.

■ **Howard and Billie Ragsdale** of **First Church, Union City**, will serve in **Thailand** and in the **Ukraine** in **May** and **July** doing medical work.

■ **Gary and Dixie Hines** of **Brook Hollow Church, Nashville**, and **Bucky Phillips** of **Clarksville** will work in **Warsaw, Poland**, **May 10-19**. They will help **Marek Budzinski** of **First Baptist Church in Warsaw** lead evangelistic meetings. The effort will support the **Poland/Tennessee Baptist Partnership**.

**Va.** He is a trustee of **Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City**, and deacon at **First Church, Raytown, Mo.**

■ **Fairview Church, Newbern**, had a **Sunday School** campaign. It culminated **March 31** with a record attendance of **180**, as compared to its previous record of **106**. **Hoyt Wilson**, pastor, **First Church, Lexington**, spoke and the **Dyer Association ASSIS-Team** helped the church.

■ **Middleburg Church, Bolivar**, will hold homecoming activities **May 5**.

■ **Members of Edgemoor Church, Clinton**, will do missions work in **Dominica**.

## ■ the associations

■ **Shelby Singers**, a group of ministers of music from **Shelby Baptist Association** churches, will give a free concert **May 9** at **7:30 p.m.** at **Broadmoor Church, Memphis**. The program will include hymn arrangements, Gospel songs, and spirituals. The group is directed by **Wayne H. Randolph**, minister of music, **Second Church, Memphis**, and accompanied by **John Scott**, organist, **Audubon Park Church, Memphis**.

■ **Big Hatchie Association** held a festival of music in **Covington** **April 18**. Six adult choirs, one ensemble, and a men's quartet performed. Those attending participated by singing several hymns.

■ **Indian Creek Association** will hold a **Prayer Conference** **May 6** at **First Church, Clifton**. **Low Reynolds**, prayer coordinator for the **Tennessee Baptist Convention**, will speak.

## ■ the churches

■ **Calvary Church, Knoxville**, has been nominated for the **J.C. Penney Golden Rule Award for Volunteer Services**. Additionally, a youth team will work **June 15-23** with **Navajo Indians**.

■ **Silver Springs Church, Mount Juliet**, moved into its new building **March 31**.

■ **Brook Hollow Church, Nashville**, will hold a celebration revival **May 5-8**.

■ **Hillcrest Church, Trenton**, dedicated its remodeled church campus **March 24**.

■ **Dal Shealy**, president, **Fellowship of Christian Athletes**, will speak at the **10:30 a.m. worship service** at **First Church, Nashville**, **May 5**. Shealy was head football coach at the **University of Richmond**,

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## Church Legal Issues Workshop planned

For Baptist and Reflector

**CORDOVA** — A Church Legal Issues Workshop will be held May 23 at Palmer Worship Center at Camp Cordova from 9:30 a.m. until 2 p.m.

The workshop, sponsored by the TBC Church Annuity Programs Department, and the SBC Annuity Board, is free to participants, and lunch will be provided.

Topics include church employment practices, church employee handbook, facts about church incorporation, reducing the risk: making your church safe from child sexual abuse, and general le-



**BLOSS**



**KELLEY**

gal issues facing the church.

Speakers include Julie Bloss and John Dudley of the Annuity Board; Jack Kelley, Preferred Risk Mutual Insurance Company; and William Maxwell and Gary Rickman of the TBC. Registration is needed by May 16. For more information or to register, call (615) 371-2008. □

## Volunteers urgently needed in Albania

For Baptist and Reflector

**MEMPHIS** — The Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission is recruiting volunteers for Project Aero, a strategic evangelistic outreach by Southern Baptist volunteers to people in rural villages of Albania.

Volunteers are urgently needed for the operation and maintenance of a base camp to support over 300 BSU and

Campus Crusade volunteers. Volunteers should be skilled in either carpentry, plumbing, mechanics, nursing, cooking, or electricians.

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## At Wallace Memorial, Knoxville

# McCluskey retires after 37 years

For Baptist and Reflector

**KNOXVILLE** — James G. McCluskey, pastor of Wallace Memorial Church since 1959 has retired after 37 years with the Knoxville congregation.

When McCluskey went to Wallace Memorial, the church was only six years old and had 752 members. The church now has a membership of approximately 3,200.

McCluskey has been active in denominational service throughout his ministry, serving on the boards of several institutions including East Tennessee Baptist Hospital, Carson-Newman College, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He served on the TBC Executive Board for several years and was Executive Board president during 1973-74. He served as TBC president in 1985-86.

McCluskey also has been extremely active in Knox County Association, having



**JIM AND LIB McCLUSKEY**

served as moderator and on numerous committees.

Knox County Association Director of Missions Walter Taylor observed McCluskey and the Wallace Memorial

staff and church "have been gracious hosts to countless conferences and training events throughout his ministry there, always anxious to provide facilities and services to the association.

"I do not know if 37 years is a record for continuous service as a pastor in Knox County Association, but it certainly is well beyond the average 30 months for Southern Baptist pastors today," Taylor said.

McCluskey and his wife, Lib, have four children: Ann, Jan, Jay, and Tom and eight grandchildren.

McCluskey noted there are other things he wants to do in retirement, among them consulting, teaching, and substitute preaching. □ — Compiled from news reports

## Classified

**MINISTER OF YOUTH:** Northport Church, Newport, is seeking a Minister of Youth. The position will be available beginning August, 1996. Please submit resume to: Youth Minister Search Committee, Northport Baptist Church, 488 Duncan St., Newport, TN 37821.

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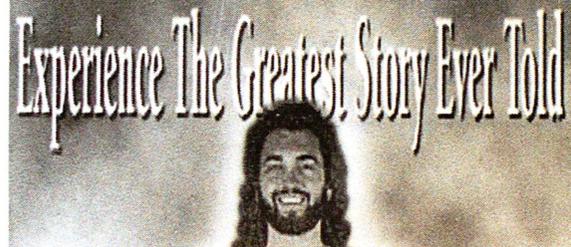
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**June 25, 1996**

**Life and Work Series  
for May 5**  
**Focal Passage:**  
**I Thessalonians 4:13-18;**  
**5:1-2, 8-11**

## Secure future

By L. Joseph Rosas III

Have you ever watched a delayed broadcast of a basketball game? If you know that your team actually won the game, you have no fear when they fall behind. You are not intimidated by the opponent's home court advantage. Why? Because you know that victory is sure. As Christians we can have ultimate confidence in the future because God is in control. Victory is ours. Our destiny is secure.

**Facts that inspire confidence (ch. 4:13-18).** The early church lived in anticipation of the imminent return of the Lord. However, the passage of time had seen many believers asleep in death. The logical question was would they miss out on the return of Christ. In fact, the dead would be raised first. Then Christ would return for the living. This is why our grief is real but not as those who have no hope. At the second coming (1) Jesus will appear, (2) the dead in Christ will be raised, and (3) living believers will be taken up to be with those who have died. All will be with the Lord. This will be accompanied by (1) a loud command, (2) the archangel's call, and (3) a trumpet blast.



ROSAS

**A possible barrier to confidence (ch. 5:1-2).** They knew better than to speculate as to the "times and dates" when Christ might return. Paul reminded them "you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night." In Hebrew Scripture (our Old Testament) the "day of the Lord" indicated a time when God would display his sovereign power over history, time, his people, and all humanity. New Testament writers picked up on this and interpreted it as referring to the return of Christ. As believers we should not allow idle speculation to dull our living in anticipation of Christ's return.

**Ways of expressing confidence (vv. 8-10).** The contrast between "light" and "darkness" is frequently employed in Scripture. As children of God we "belong to the day" therefore we have no reason to fear the brightness of that day. Our confidence in ultimate victory should spur us to live wisely in the present. Paul uses the image of a soldier in battle gear to remind us that both our head and our heart must be protected. "Faith and love" — continued dependence upon Christ and the motivation of unconditional love — protect our heart. "Hope" — a confident expectation for the future — is the helmet of our salvation. The Christian life is a long obedience in the same direction inspired by our confidence in the ultimate victory of God through Jesus Christ.

**A way to help others (v. 11).** If you tell an older Christian that Jesus is coming soon, he will want to know if you are pre-, post-, or a-millennial. A new convert might respond excitedly "when?" In a summary statement Paul urged the church to continue to "encourage one another and build each other up." In a world where Christians suffer and die and it sometimes seems that the unrighteous prevail, all of us need to be reminded that this life is not the final verdict. God will be vindicated. Further, in the light of Christ's return we should be properly equipped for daily Christian living.

Recent surveys indicate that many Americans have an uncertainty about their future. Downsizing companies, displaced workers, and other economic constraints have contributed to this crisis of confidence. We as believers are in touch with the ultimate reality that, in the end, God wins. □ — L. Joseph Rosas III is pastor of Union Avenue Church, Memphis.

## Teachings about happiness

By Kevin Goza

**Convention Uniform Series  
for May 5**  
**Focal Passage:**  
**Matthew 5:1-12**

No other religious discourse has attracted the amount of attention as has the Sermon on the Mount. Even non-Christian religious figures, such as Mohandas Gandhi, have championed this discourse of Jesus. We focus on the first 12 verses of this sermon, known as the Beatitudes, where Jesus discusses the reward of true happiness for those who seek to follow him fully.

### Teachable moment — vv. 1-2

We are told that Jesus, seeing the crowds, proceeded to sit in the midst of them. Sitting was the proper and known posture for teaching. When the disciples saw that Jesus was seated, they assumed the posture for learners. The larger crowd, noticing the disciples and Jesus, also assumed the same quiet and teachable disposition.

As disciples of Jesus, we would do well to assume a learning, teachable posture before him. The work of the Holy Spirit in our daily lives is to guide us into all truth. That blessed knowledge is always available to us, but we are not always available to the knowledge.

### Blessedness of obedience — vv. 3-12

The word "beatitude" comes from the Latin word for "blessings." In this context, the word blessed refers to those who are, or will be, happy. One commentator says the proper translation is "to be congratulated." The reason for congratulations is that God has seen fit to respond favorably to an individual's behavior. Notice the common structure of each Beatitude: "Blessed ... for..." The person is blessed because of God's response, not because their act of obedience was

greater or weightier than that of any other person.

There is a change in tense between verses 3 and 10, and verses 4-9. In the former, Jesus speaks of present blessings. In the latter, the focus is on future consolation. The point is that while some reward comes in the present, the total fulfillment of blessedness must wait for the age to come.

### Blessings — 3-12

Much could be said about the individual blessings. Due to space limitations, allow me to paraphrase them for your consideration.

Blessed are those who know they are spiritually bankrupt apart from Christ, for they will be filled with heavenly riches.



GOZA

Blessed are those who weep bitterly over their spiritual bankruptcy, for God will totally comfort them.

Blessed are those who are gentle, for they will rule with God.

Blessed are those who agonize to see the world in submission to God, for they will see God's justice rule.

Blessed are those who are morally upright and not just formally correct, for they will experience intimate fellowship with God.

Blessed are those who work hard on personal relationships, for God's children are known for such effort.

Blessed are you who pay the price for Godly living, for your faithfulness will be rewarded fully. Realize that you walk in good company, and rejoice to the fullest. □ — Kevin Goza is pastor of FBC, Lebanon.

## God's will, my priority

By Tom Moncrief

**Bible Book Series for May 5**  
**Focal Passage:**  
**Haggai 1:1-6; 2:6-9, 18-19**

Israel had set improper priorities at the time of Haggai's ministry. Some had returned from exile with the purpose of rebuilding the temple. Eighteen years later the temple was still in ruins and worship was at an altar set in the midst of these ruins.

Haggai was moved of God to address this situation. It was a serious matter. Without proper worship the people had nothing to hold them together in realizing true goals for daily life and promise of a meaningful future.

When they returned to Jerusalem, these Israelites did not have homes either. One usually would not fault them for seeking to establish places of residence. In this case, however, they were neglecting God's will for his house of worship to be completed. God charged them with saying it was not time to rebuild the Lord's house. Evidently it did not even seem important to them.

The message came from "the Lord of hosts" which designates God as the mighty one who is master of the universe and lord of all nations. When he refers to them as "this people" it is a scornful and degrading reference. They are apparently not seen as people of the covenant because their lack of proper action derides and belittles them.

Do we find a lesson here that the place of worship today should be kept as orderly and well-kept as possible? Perhaps this passage reminds us that God's house should be worthy of giving honor to him.

Disregard for it may imply an unhealthy regard for God.

The Israelites of Judah were reminded of the poor conditions they were experiencing. These were seen as judgment from God. The troubles

were the Lord's curse upon them for selfishly disregarding God's will. God was given second place. Whenever man places any other concern first he loses identity and meaning. Rebuilding the temple was indication these people desired to put God first. They could not exist as God's people without a sacred center where God's presence would be real to them.

Responding to Haggai's call for obedience, the people rebuilt the temple in a rather brief time. God promised to bless them with his presence. Even all nature would respond. Care should be exercised here to not conclude that one follows the Lord for material gain. The coming of treasures of all nations is not to honor those of Judah but God. Stress is given to the Lord's presence which expresses God's glory. Experiencing his presence and glory gives peace which is the greatest

prosperity one can know.

Finally the people are exhorted to "consider" their experiences. It seems God wanted them to see the futility of pushing him from first place in their lives and to see the results of doing so. When they repented and focused upon obeying him, he responded by blessing them. Reflecting upon the past years would lead them to see God at work. Proper consideration would lead to the conclusion that true happiness and fulfillment come from the Lord rather than possessions.

One who faithfully focuses upon God as first priority is inclined to make decisions and choices in life which honor the Lord. Following such decisions puts that life in a position to receive God's full blessings and to know the peace of his presence and direction. An orderly life is ordered by God's spirit with singleness of purpose to honor him in all things. Such a life honors God and reveals one's priority. □ — Tom Moncrief is a member of First Church, Cleveland.



MONCRIEF

**National  
Day of Prayer**  
May 2

# SBC-related meetings

## Directors of missions to assess resources

Baptist Press

NEW ORLEANS — "Resourcing the Association" will be the theme of the June 9-10 meeting of the Conference of Associational Directors of Missions at the Radisson Hotel in New Orleans.

The Southern Baptist Convention encompasses 1,200 local associations and about 1,000 directors of missions. By "Resourcing the Association" spiritually and through education, associations can better fulfill their key purpose — serving and ministering to local churches, said Charles B. Nunn Jr., director of missions for Richmond (Va.) Association.

Guest speakers include Waylon Bailey, pastor of First Church, Covington, La.; Dennis Swanberg, humorist and special assistant to the president for seminary relations at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas; and John L. Brackin, director of missions for Catalina Association, Tucson, Ariz. □

## Campus ministers to explore Baptist views of God's will

Baptist Press

NEW ORLEANS — Alabama pastor Alan Furr will address "Discernment, Conflicts, and the Baptist Quest for the Will of God" during the 1996

annual meeting of the Association of Southern Baptist Campus Ministers.

The association's June 7-9 sessions will be at New Orleans' Holiday Inn West Bank.

Registration information about the conference can be obtained by writing to Bob Ford, ASBCM vice president for membership, P.O. Box 151, Jacksonville, AL 36235. □

## Evangelists to hear FMB's Jerry Rankin

Baptist Press

NEW ORLEANS — Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board President Jerry Rankin will be among the featured speakers at the 38th annual Conference of Southern Baptist Evangelists June 12.



RANKIN

The Wednesday afternoon program will be held from 1-4 p.m. in the Hyatt Regency Hotel's French Market Exhibit Hall. The conference traditionally is held during the Wednesday break when no Southern Baptist Convention business sessions are scheduled.

Two other speakers beside Rankin will speak on different aspects of the conference theme "Share His Love" — evangelists Eddie Martin of Lancaster, Pa., and Tom Cox of Mountainburg, Ark. More than a dozen music evangelists also will be featured. □

## BWA president set to speak to Hispanics

Baptist Press

NEW ORLEANS — Brazilian pastor Nilson Fanini, president of the Baptist World Alliance, will be among the featured speakers during the June 8 worship celebration of the Ninth Annual National Southern Baptist Hispanic Fellowship Conference.

The conference will be conducted in Spanish in the chapel of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. Hispanics account for 3,800 churches in the SBC, encompassing more than a half million members.

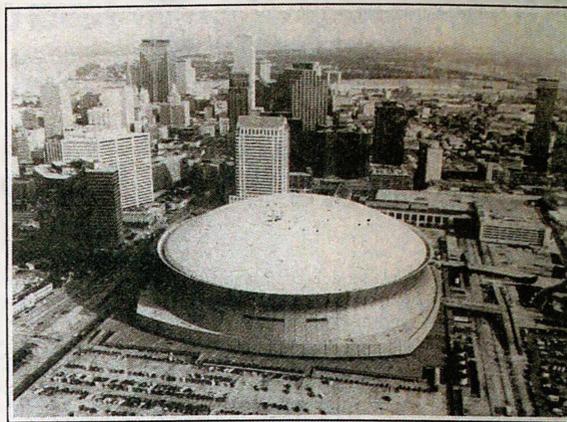
In addition to Fanini, pastor of one of Rio de Janeiro's largest churches, other featured speakers include Don Kammerdiener, executive vice president of the SBC Foreign Mission Board; Bob Sena, director of the SBC Home Mission Board's office of Hispanic ministries; and SBC President Jim Henry.

The conference will also hold a business session from 2-5 p.m. where a proposed constitution will be discussed. □

## Church musicians focus on praise, inspiration

Baptist Press

NEW ORLEANS — A program of choirs and other musical groups, hymn singing, and dramatic vignettes will be featured during the 1996 Southern Baptist Church Music Con-



THE SUPERDOME in New Orleans will be the site of the 1996 Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting June 11-13.

ference June 9-10 at First Church, New Orleans.

The theme for this year's conference is "Come Together With Joy." Compared to previous years, there will be no keynote speaker, said Bill Green, conference president.

Instead, Green noted, the evening worship services will be fashioned as "times of praise and inspiration through music," featuring musical presentations, hymns, and drama "all woven together to make these worship experiences significant in the lives of all who attend." □

## Frost to address African Americans

Baptist Press

NEW ORLEANS — Gary Frost, second vice president of the Southern Baptist Conven-

tion, will be the guest speaker during the African American Fellowship's June 9 worship service at Franklin Avenue Church at 5:15 p.m.

There are more than 1,600 African American congregations among the 40,000 SBC churches.

Frost, pastor of Rising Star Church, Youngstown, Ohio, played a key role in the SBC's adoption of a racial reconciliation resolution last June in Atlanta.

Frost also is on the SBC Executive Committee.

The African American Fellowship's business meeting and luncheon will be held June 10, beginning at 10 a.m. in the Court of Two Sisters.

Ticket information for the luncheon can be obtained by calling Ethel Williams at the SBC Foreign Mission Board at (804) 219-1423. □

## SBC seminaries hold annual convention luncheons for alumni

Compiled from Baptist Press reports

NEW ORLEANS — Southern Baptists' six seminaries hold their traditional alumni and friends luncheons during the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention June 11-13 at the Superdome in New Orleans.

Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary will honor four alumni with distinguished alumni awards at their luncheon June 12 in the Regency Ballroom of the Hyatt Regency New Orleans, immediately following the Wednesday morning session of the SBC.

Seminary president Ken Hemphill will be the keynote speaker.

The cost is \$10 and tickets will be on sale at the convention or can be purchased in advance by sending \$10 to the Office of Institutional Advancement, SWBTS, P.O. Box 22000, Fort Worth, TX 76122.

Alumni and friends of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary

will enjoy an authentic Cajun meal June 12 at the Hyatt Regency, beginning at noon.

Seminary President Paige Patterson, who is beginning his fifth year as president, will report on the school's mission trip to Cambodia which takes place June 2-18.

Tickets are \$12 and may be purchased in advance from the alumni office before May 20. A limited number of tickets will be available at the convention. For more information, call (919) 556-3101.

Southern Baptist Theological Seminary's annual alumni and friends luncheon will be held June 12 at 1 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency.

The event will feature the presentation of the school's distinguished alumni awards and an address by seminary President R. Albert Mohler Jr. and music by Lloyd Mims, dean of the school of church music.

Tickets for the luncheon are \$17.50 in advance and \$19 each if purchased in New Orleans without a reserva-

tion. For a reservation, call the seminary at (800) 626-5525, ext. 4700.

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary will host its alumni and friends reunion on the seminary campus June 12 at noon. In the style of an old-fashioned church "homecoming," the reunion will begin with a dinner on the grounds in the quadrangle area of the campus, featuring an all-you-can-eat barbecue lunch.

New President Charles S. Kelley Jr. will report at 1:30 p.m. in the Roland Q. Leavell Chapel. The service will include the annual presentation of the distinguished alumni award.

Tickets ordered by mail before May 24 can be purchased for \$5 each; those ordered after that date or at the NOBTS exhibit at the SBC will be \$7.50 each. Place ticket orders with NOBTS Alumni Office, 3939 Gentilly Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70126-4858.

Two distinguished alumni awards and two honorary alumni awards will be presented during **Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary's**

annual alumni luncheon at noon June 12 in the Hyatt Regency.

President Mark Coppenger will speak.

The cost for the luncheon will be \$15 in advance or \$20 at Midwestern's booth at the SBC. Advance reservations may be made in the seminary relations and alumni office at (816) 453-4600.

Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary will host its alumni and friends June 12 at the Hyatt Regency, following the morning session of the SBC annual meeting.

President William Crews will provide a "state of the seminary" report and address issues of leadership and change. In addition, Crews will make several award presentations from the alumni association.

Tickets are \$18 each and may be purchased from the Office of Institutional Advancement, GGBTS, 201 Seminary Drive, Mill Valley, CA 94941. For more information, call (415) 388-8080, ext. 296. □