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Statewide Edition

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Anti-gambling sentiment felt across the country

Baptist Press

NEW ORLEANS — Voters in states and cities considering gambling referendums Nov. 5 turned the tables on the gaming industry by rejecting most bids to place casinos and video poker machines in their localities.

But where the stakes were the highest, gambling proponents scored big, cashing in on voter approval in New Orleans of a land-based casino.

And, in Alabama, voters approved a constitutional amendment to lift the cap on the monetary amount of prizes offered on bingo games in Jefferson County.

Besides Alabama and Louisiana, legalized gambling efforts registered significant gains in Michigan and West Virginia.

Michigan voters approved the legalization of three casinos in Detroit by a 52-48 percent margin. Michael Collins, executive director of the Michigan Baptist Convention, said too many churches remained silent on the issue.

Voters in Jefferson County, West Va., overwhelmingly approved a measure by a 64-36 margin to allow video slot machines at the Charles Town horse racing track.

From Washington state to Guam and

points in between, however, the stakes for potential economic growth from the gambling industry were seemingly too high for the majority of voters to cast pro-gambling ballots.

Gambling referendums were turned back in Arkansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Ohio, Washington state, Iowa, Virginia, and Guam, as well as 33 parishes in Louisiana.



Across the state line in Arkansas, voters defeated a proposed constitutional amendment that called for expanding legalized gambling in the state.

Amendment 4 was defeated by a 61-39 percent margin in a race that saw proponents spend millions of dollars in advertising against a poorly funded grassroots movement to halt gambling in the state.

If approved, the amendment would have legalized a state lottery, charitable bingo, and up to three casinos, with local voter approval, in Hot Springs.

Larry Page, executive director of the Christian Civic Action Committee of Arkansas, said Arkansas Baptists played a "critical part" in the campaign. "We had good help from many of the denominations, but as is always the case, the Baptists carried the fight." he said. ■

Tennessee Baptists minister in Sweden

For Baptist and Reflector

STOCKHOLM, Sweden — Two Tennessee Baptists were among 93 Southern Baptists from 17 states who mounted a Partnership Evangelism Campaign in Sweden during late October.

Although precise statistics were not available, scores of Swedish people indicated they wanted to become Christians and scores of church members rededicated their lives to Christ during the 10 days.

Thelma M. Scoggins of First Church, Cleveland, served in Gavle, Sweden while Jeannine K. Carter of Judson Church, Nashville, served in Umea, Sweden.

In 21 cities across Sweden Southern Baptists led church services, preached on the street and in shopping centers, held music concerts, and distributed thousands of Bible portions and evangelistic tracts during the effort.

The effort was coordinated through the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. ■

Tennessee will be faced with gambling issue, Bates says

For Baptist and Reflector

JACKSON — There's no doubt the issue of a state lottery will surface when Tennessee legislators convene in January, said Bill Bates, public affairs consultant for the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

"This will be a critical year. The lottery must be defeated in the legislature," Bates said.

Proponents of a lottery want to prepare the way so voters can consider the issue on the governor's ballot in 1998, he said.

Bates called on Tennessee Baptists to contact their legislators and make their voices heard now.

He said a resolution will be presented at the Tennessee Baptist Convention this week opposing a state lottery and Senate Bill 927 which opens the door for pari-mutuel betting on horse racing by video. ■



TBC resource directory now available

The Ministry Council of the Tennessee Baptist Convention looks over a copy of the new resource directory just "hot off the press." The resource directory is a handy reference guide to ServanTeam 21, the remodeling of Executive Board staff for effective quality ministry. The book contains the phone numbers of churches, institutions, directors of missions, and Executive Board ministries staff as well as frequently used phone numbers and addresses of other state conventions and the Southern Baptist Convention. Also in the resource directory are photos of Executive Board staff and a detailed listing of who to call regarding specific areas of ministry. The Ministry Council is comprised of group leaders. From left, front row, are Tim Bearden, Missions Awareness and Involvement; James Porch, Executive Director and Executive Leadership; Tim Holcomb, Christian Growth Development; back row, Bill Wilson, Ministry Coordinator; Eleanor Yarborough, Communication Services; Gary Rickman, Church Staff Leadership; Larry Kirk, Evangelism/Missions Strategy; and William Maxwell, Administrative Services. The directories will be available at the convention meeting this week and also will be mailed to every TBC church.

- ▶ Wm. Fletcher Allen, editor
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WMU to expand 'job corps' ministry

By Teresa Dickens
For Baptist Press

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Christian Women's Job Corps will become an official ministry of Woman's Missionary Union March 1, 1997, opening the door for the development of ministry sites across the country.

The decision to move CWJC from a pilot project status to an official ministry of WMU came during a meeting of the CWJC National Task Force Oct. 31-Nov.1. The task force has helped in the development of CWJC since it was conceptualized by WMU leadership more than two years ago.

"The task force's decision to recommend that Christian Women's Job Corps become an official ministry of Woman's Missionary Union was their way of saying, 'It works,'" said Trudy Johnson, WMU special projects manager. "They unan-

imously agreed that God has used the pilot projects to change lives and give women in poverty hope for a better life."

Evelyn Blount, executive director of South Carolina WMU and a task force member, agreed. "Christian Women's Job Corps is one of the most exciting things in which I have participated. To my knowledge, we have never devised a ministry that so completely takes into account the needs of the individual person. We have targeted needs and people, but CWJC ministers to the total person at their point, or points, of need and does so in a Christian context.

"I believe that Christian Women's Job Corps is a gift from God to WMU," she added. "I believe it will result in kingdom growth and changed lives."

Johnson said the purpose of CWJC is twofold: to provide a

Christian context in which women in need are equipped for life and employment and to provide a missions context in which women help women.

In order to fulfill the purpose, parameters for the ministry were established and tested in various pilot projects across the country, Johnson explained. The parameters, as refined, include:

(1) The ministry will be locally organized and managed.

(2) The ministry is successful when led by trained workers. The first national training event will be held July 17-19, 1997, at WMU's national headquarters. Registration will be limited and carry a fee. Registration information should be available in December, Johnson said.

(3) The ministry will be built around volunteer leadership.

For more information, call Johnson at (205) 991-4972. ■

Chinese church begins in memory of Lottie Moon

Baptist Press

RICHMOND — One of the most vivid memorials to honor foreign missions heroine Lottie Moon stands in Charlottesville, Va.

It's an eternal memorial — a growing body of Chinese Christians. They worship in the fellowship hall of First Church, the very church whose pastor brought the young Lottie Moon face to face with Jesus Christ in 1859, before she became a missionary to China.

Many of these modern-day Chinese believers came to the United States as communists and intellectuals — and found Jesus. Frequently they return to China, or move elsewhere, taking the Gospel with them. ■

Missionary speaker dies during church visit

Baptist Press

EASLEY, S.C. — Irene Lawson, a Southern Baptist Foreign Missionary to Italy, died Oct. 30 while presenting a program on missions at Rock Springs Church here.

Doctors said Lawson, 54, probably died of a cerebral aneurysm, according to her son, Marion Lawson, a member of the church. He was among the 600 to 700 people

attending the church's Wednesday night prayer meeting, where his mother and father, Ken Lawson, were featured speakers. The Lawsons, who lead an international Baptist church in Rome, were on furlough.

The Lawsons were showing a video on their ministry when she slumped against her husband, who was sitting beside her. Several medical professionals in the audience tried

unsuccessfully to revive her. She later was pronounced dead at a local hospital.

At the same time Lawson suffered the apparent aneurysm, the video featured her playing the song "I Love to Tell the Story," on the piano, said Rock Springs Pastor David Gallamore. "Her message and the surrounding elements will continue to speak to our (congregation) for a long time," Gallamore said. ■



Partnership Prayer Requests

November

- 13 — Praise God that Commerce Pines Church in Walled Lake, Mich., has called Francis Wood as pastor.
- 14 — Pray for Pastor Shan and his wife, Soogie An, both of Dixie Southern Church in Mississauga, Ontario, Canada, as he attends seminary, and for a 13-member team coordinated by Sunswept Church, Union City, as they build a church this week in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands.
- 15 — Pray for all places to be filled on the 15 evangelistic teams that will travel in January to Costa Rica for simultaneous revivals.
- 16 — Pray that God will bring revival for Michigan Baptist churches beginning with their pastors and leadership.
- 17 — Pray for Rick Relling and Wayne Key who were recently licensed to preach by Cambridge Heights Church, Calgary, Alberta, Canada.
- 18 — Pray for Terry Sharp and Bill Wilson of the TBC as they travel to Poland to plan and organize simultaneous revivals next May.
- 19 — Pray for Steve Harmon and his wife, Doris. Harmon is the new manager at Bambi Lake Retreat and Conference Center, Michigan Baptists' state camp.

Tennessee Baptist develops books for children

For Baptist and Reflector

HERMITAGE — A Tennessee Baptist has seen the need for more positive children's books and she is doing something about it.

Judy Berryhill of Hermitage Hills Church, retired recently from her job at a local manufacturing plant and opened her own publishing company in August.

One of her first books *Teeny Tiny, the Snowflake Learns to Obey His Parents*, has just been published. The book promotes family values and encourages children to obey their parents.

Berryhill has another series in mind based on "Chuckle and Giggle," two mice. The books will focus again on love and children obeying their parents. The first book in this series is scheduled for publication in February.

"We need so many more books on this topic," Berryhill observed.

"As the children read the books, I'm sure they will pick up the values and carry them into their daily lives."

Berryhill has found a way for her first book to be used as a missions tool.

She is sending copies of the book to missionary Donna Mae Bobby in Chile.

Bobby, whose home church is Hermitage Hills, was home during the summer and visited with the "Hilltoppers," the church's senior citizens group.

"Donna Mae met with us during the summer and told us about the children in Chile. I thought, 'What could I do to help?'"

The answer was sending books for the children and this coincides with her desire to minister through her writing and publishing. "A lot of things have opened up to me in the ministry area since I started writing full time." ■ — Lonnie Wilkey



PASTOR DEAN HAUN of Hermitage Hills Church accepts a copy of Judy Berryhill's first book on behalf of missionary Donna Mae Bobby. Berryhill is sending copies of the book to Bobby for use with children in Chile.

To needy retirees

Annuity Board trustees vow more aid

By Thomas E. Miller Jr.
For Baptist Press

DALLAS — Challenged by their president and the chairman of the Endowment Development Council of the Southern Baptist Annuity Board, trustees of the SBC agency voted Nov. 5 to commit themselves as individuals and trustees to respond to the plight of retired Southern Baptist ministers or their widows living in poverty.

At a luncheon meeting Nov. 4, trustees heard board President Paul W. Powell share the personal commitments he and his wife, Cathy, have made to the board's "Adopt An Annuity" ministry and his support for the ministry assignment given the Annuity Board in the "Covenant for a New Cen-

ture" restructuring of the SBC.

Powell introduced William A. Willis of Little Rock, Ark., chairman of the volunteer Endowment Development Council, who told trustees the council has identified a need for \$12 million in the next three years in support of the third part of the Annuity Board's SBC ministry assignment: "To provide a channel through which Southern Baptists can extend systematic financial help to Southern Baptist ministers or widows of ministers who are in need (and) interpret the channel to Southern Baptists for the purpose of eliciting financial support."

Powell referred to a pledge to ministers suggested by the first Annuity Board president, William Lunsford, as he addressed the SBC in 1923:

"Give yourself wholeheartedly to the work. ... We will stand back of you. If you fall in the work, we will care for you. If you die, we will not permit your family to suffer. If you grow old in it, we will comfort your declining years."

"In the fulfillment of this promise," Powell said, "let us each and together:

"Resolve that no retired minister or his widow should live in poverty.

"Identify those in need.

"Design communications to interpret the need and provide a channel of assistance.

"Vigorously promote the Cooperative Program ...

"Endorse and personally support the volunteer work of the Endowment Development Council and the Retired Ministers' Support Corps. ..."

C-N to honor Maddox on 20th anniversary; Riley to speak

For Baptist and Reflector

JEFFERSON CITY — United States Secretary of Education Richard Riley will give the keynote address during Founder's Day Nov. 19 at Carson-Newman College.

The address will begin at 9:30 a.m. at First Church, Jefferson City.

Riley and Carson-Newman College President Cordell Maddox were classmates at Furman University in Greenville, S.C.

The annual Founder's Day celebration is being dedicated to Maddox's 20th anniversary as president of the Tennessee Baptist school.

At the conclusion of the ceremony a portrait of the president will be unveiled.

Maddox is the longest serving current president of any Tennessee college or university and has the second longest tenure among all Carson-Newman presidents.

When Maddox came to Carson-Newman 20 years ago enrollment was declining and there

was a budget deficit.

Since then, the budget has been in the black each year since and enrollment has climbed steadily from 1,518 students to 2,265 students this fall after seven consecutive semesters of record-breaking enrollments. ■



MADDOX

Moral, cultural issues absent in campaign, says Furman professor

Compiled from Baptist Press

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton handily became the first Southern Baptist to win re-election to the White House Nov. 5.

Clinton, a member of Immanuel Church, Little Rock, Ark., won 379 electoral votes to Republican challenger Bob Dole's 159.

As he has since the 1994 congressional elections, Clinton will have to contend with a Republican majority in both the Senate and House of Representatives. Republicans gained at least one seat in the Senate and were leading in a close race in Oregon. If the GOP holds on in that state, it will have a 55-45 advantage in the Senate.

In the House, the Republicans apparently will lose about 10 seats but will retain control.

In the Senate, the Republicans apparently will have not only a larger majority but also a more conservative one. In Clinton's own state, Rep. Tim Hutchinson, a conservative, pro-life

Southern Baptist, won a seat left open by a retiring Democrat to become the first Republican senator from Arkansas in this century.

According to exit polls, voters who identified themselves as "religious conservatives," did not support GOP candidates as strongly as they had in recent elections.

Moral and cultural issues were notably absent in the campaign, said James Guth, political science professor at Furman University in Greenville, S.C.

"We didn't see a whole lot of discussion of abortion on a specific level," said Guth, who researches voting by Southern Baptists and other evangelicals. "A series of other questions didn't come up. Gay rights didn't appear. These issues are important in that President Clinton did a remarkable job in stealing the Republicans' thunder in bringing up subjects such as the status of families and school uniforms, indicating he was concerned about the state of the culture. I don't think it convinced conservative Christians that he is one

of them, but it ate into Republicans' strength with other groups."

Moral and cultural issues are as important to voters as they have been in the past, Guth maintained. But the result of the presidential election "obscures the fact that morally conservative Protestants are playing a significant role in the Republican party in congressional and state races," he said. Socially conservative values "drew a lot of support. Even though they were not discussed a lot in the presidential races, they did play a significant role in the outcome of the elections."

In addition to Clinton and Vice President Al Gore, who are both Southern Baptists, at least five members of the Senate and 26 members of the House of Representatives will be members of Southern Baptist churches.

The Baptist contingent in Congress will include Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich and House minority leader Richard Gephardt, who were returned to office in the Nov. 5 election.

Among the newcomers is Roy Blunt, former president of Southwest Baptist

University, Bolivar, Mo.

In the House, Rep. Zach Wamp, a member of Red Bank Church, Chattanooga, was elected to a second term.

In spite of who was elected, Scripture calls Christians to pray for the nation's leaders, whether or not we agree with them, said several Southern Baptist prayer leaders after the election.

Pray that God would raise up fearless, focused leaders of integrity who are committed to holiness, said Henry Blackaby of the Home Mission Board, author of *Experiencing God* discipleship materials.

Avery Willis of the Foreign Mission Board suggested Southern Baptists pray that American people will begin to vote character over the economy. "We lost the whole character issue in this election," Willis said.

"We should pray for our president in relationship to what the Word of God says," said Ronnie Floyd, an Arkansas pastor who is president of the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference and led a convention-wide call to prayer and fasting the week before the election. ■

Arson fund disbursement nears \$700,000

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — The Southern Baptist Convention's "Arson Fund" has distributed nearly \$700,000 following the October distribution of \$35,948 to 17 states Nov. 5.

The "Arson Fund" assists African American churches victimized by arsonists.

Like the four earlier distributions, the November

distribution is based on a formula developed by the SBC Inter-Agency Council's Racial Reconciliation Task Force.

In November the Tennessee Baptist Convention received \$3,055 of the amount distributed.

More than 90 African American churches, most in the southeast, have burned in the last year and a half, primarily as a result of arsonists. ■

Former TBC board member elected to lead Ohio Baptists

Baptist Press

PARMA, Ohio — Jack Kwok has been elected executive director of the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio.

Kwok, 46, has been director of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention's department of cooperative ministries with National Baptists since 1988.

Kwok was unanimously elected by the Ohio convention's 50-member executive board Nov. 5 and presented to messengers at the convention's annual meeting in a reception

on Nov. 6. A former Ohio convention president, Gary Frost of Youngstown, who had been scheduled to preach the closing sermon at the Nov. 5-7 annual meeting, invited Kwok to preach in his place.

Kwok will succeed Orville H. Griffin, executive director for the past four years. Kwok will join the convention staff Nov. 21 and work alongside Griffin until his Jan. 10 retirement.

Kwok challenged the Ohio convention, which encompasses more than 600 churches and

missions, with 150,000 members, to expand their numbers to "one million Southern Baptists in Ohio by the year 2020."

The Arkansas native was pastor of First Church, Hickory Withe, 1980-83, during which he was a member of the Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board. He also served as pastor of Mallory Heights Church, Memphis. He is a graduate of Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, Memphis.

Kwok and his wife, Kay, have two children. ■

Associations continue reports on meetings

Reports

Clinton Association heard a report on the success of its new partnership in Burton, Mich., to support the Tennessee/Michigan Baptist Partnership.

Big Hatchie Association heard a report which encouraged its churches to pray for and participate in Associational Strategy Planning.

Stone Association will hold a crusade April 7-11. Ron Phillips Ministries will help lead it.

According to Randy Isbell, evangelism director, **Shiloh Association** reported 129 more baptisms than last year, with a total of 433.

Polk Association heard a report on the ministry it led for Tennessee Olympic events. More than 40,000 hospitality bags containing religious materials were distributed and over 100 people made professions of faith.

A report was made to **Hamilton County Association** that contributions set a record.

Robertson County Association heard a strategy planning report and recommendations.

Business

Clinton Association changed its constitution concerning how it receives new churches.

Robertson County Association adopted a new mission statement.

Fayette Association voted to hold a Week of Prayer for the association in May. It asked its director of missions to teach the One Day Soul Winning Workshop in five churches. A People Sharing Jesus course will be taught at the Mission Center on Nov. 18. The association will conduct a revival March 9-12. Speakers will come from an association

in Michigan it has a relationship with to support the Tennessee/Michigan Baptist Partnership. The association will sponsor a mission effort in Michigan next year and will conduct Crossover Fayette Association in March 1998 and conduct a tent revival in May 1998.

Jefferson County Association approved funds for a part-time secretary to work in the associational office.

Crockett County Association will join **Madison-Chester Association** to hold a crusade Sept. 21-26, 1997, on the Union University campus. Kelly Green, evangelist, will speak.

Crockett County Association adopted a five-year Long-range Strategy Plan.

Recognitions

Lawrence County Association honored J.C. Carpenter, director of missions, on his retirement, effective Nov. 30.

Duck River Association recognized the more than 165 workers from 22 churches who built the association's office building. Staff began working there Sept. 28. An open house will be held soon.

Polk Association honored A. Frank Curbow, member, Shiloh Church, for 18 years of service to the association in various leadership roles.

Kathleen Lockhart, clerk, **Jefferson County Association**, for 15 years, was honored. She is a member of Flat Gap Church.

Jill Horner, a member of First Church, Monterey, was named Volunteer of the Year by **Stone Association**. Horner worked in a camp in Poland to support the Tennessee/Poland Baptist Partnership.

Robertson County Association honored Thelma Grace

for serving as Woman's Missionary Union director for 16 years. It dedicated its minutes to E. Donald Dorris, retired pastor of Greenbrier, the late Thomas Elmer Mason, retired pastor of Springfield, and to senior adults of the association.

Stewart County Association honored Pat Merrell, member of Big Rock Church, Big Rock, for about eight years of service as associational Sunday School director and Vacation Bible School director.

Stone Association dedicated its minutes to the late Bill Baird Griffith, pastor for more than 20 years at Bangham Heights Church, and Putnam County General Sessions Judge.

Resolutions

Polk Association resolved to encourage all its churches to give a minimum of five percent of gifts to the associational budget.

Western District Association resolved to urge citizens to vote concerning a local liquor by the drink referendum.

Robertson County Association resolved to fight a referendum in the city of Springfield to allow liquor by the drink. It was defeated. It also resolved to express its appreciation for Johnnie Hall, Tennessee Baptist Convention Discipleship Training director, who is retiring Dec. 31.

Crockett County Association resolved against President Clinton's veto of a bill to abolish partial birth abortions and in support of David S. Dockery, new president of Union University, Jackson.

Jefferson County Association passed a resolution of appreciation for the efforts of its long-range planning/missions development committee to provide the new office building. It also thanked a decorating committee for

work to renovate the building.

Stone Association passed a resolution supporting an ordinance to limit and restrict establishments involved in pornography from operating in Cookeville.

Big Hatchie Association expressed its opposition to abortion and encouraged its churches to observe Sanctity of Human Life Sunday Jan. 19. It also encouraged members of churches to vote in the Nov. 5 election.

Clinton Association called its churches to pray for the Gospel to be spread.

Churches added

Stewart County Association added Little Rock Church, Erin, of which George E. Wyatt is pastor.

Shiloh Association added Central Church, Selmer, into its fellowship. James Smith is the pastor.

Concord Association added Unity Church, Murfreesboro, of which Doyle Hayes is pastor, and First Korean Church, Murfreesboro, of which Moses Yu is pastor.

Sevier County Association added New Center Church, Sevierville, of which Tony Sutton is pastor.

Christ Fellowship Church, Lawrenceburg, was added to



Tennessee features

Lawrence County Association. Allen Livengood is pastor.

Madison-Chester Association added Cornerstone Community Church, Jackson, of which Mark Howard is pastor.



GIVING THE GAVEL to the new moderator of Big Hatchie Association, William Northcott, left, pastor, First Church, Covington, is Randall Cummings, outgoing moderator and pastor, First Church, Ripley, during the association's Oct. 28-29 meeting.



PRESENTING a plaque of appreciation to Greer Ruble, right, of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, on his retirement next year, is David Tydings, director of missions, Grainger Association. The presentation was made during its Oct. 17-18 meeting.



PARTICIPATING in the Grainger Association meeting were, from left, first row, Glenda Spradlin; Sissy Graham, assistant clerk; and Sarah Tydings, office secretary, clerk; second row, David Tydings, director of missions; Robert Spradlin, pastor, Block Springs Church, associate moderator; Michael Lee, pastor, Indian Ridge Church, moderator; Terry Greenlee, associate music director; Gina Hipsher, and Garry Samsel, Blue Springs Church, treasurer.



ELECTED TO LEAD New Salem Association during its Oct. 27 meeting were, from left, Larry Duke, member, Rome Church, moderator; Mary Elta Nixon, Hickman Church, clerk; Ray McCall, director of missions; and Randall Hackett, Peyton Creek Church, treasurer. Not pictured is Wayne Jamison, pastor, Brush Creek Church, vice moderator.

We're closer to third millennium

This week a couple of thousand Tennessee Baptists, give or take a hundred or two, are in Nashville for a two-day meeting with embellishments.

So what. Why are they here? Is it some tourist group with a lot of money and too little time for "doing business?"

We are gathered at Two Rivers Church to honor the Lord Jesus, to recommit our lives, to report on the work of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, to discuss plans for ministry, and to worship.

Throw in some quality time for fellowship.

We really didn't come together in Annual Meeting to gather in hall groups for small talk and rumoring. We really didn't come together to sacrifice good ideas and plans on the altar of conceit and personal designs. Or did we?

As we stand on the threshold of the 21st century and a third millennium, we owe the Lord Christ more than that. We have not completed the Great Commission assignment.

As committed servant people, we owe him undivided allegiance, total loyalty, and personal sacrifice in total stewardship.

Looking into that gaping maw of unconcern and self-centered lifestyle — that often separates us from that year 2000, we must be ready for a giant leap into the future. But that leap will not be painless.

Sacrifice will be painful when we count the cost

and our will is not lost in God's will.

Five years from now, observers can look back and see whether Tennessee Baptists have crawled across that time span or whether we have held on to Christ's strong arms and leaped with him.

The spiritual awakening that must come will require our total spiritual attention. We cannot decide in our minds to do it. All physical reserves we can muster will be insufficient.

The awakening will be bought with contrite hearts and renewed spirits. That kind of determined devotion to God leaves no time for spiritual laziness.

Although we have been on the road for many years, the time is ripe for serious spiritual business.

This year, at Two Rivers, we can channel all our

spiritual gifts and all our stewardship into a great push toward 2000.

The steps we take to advance the Kingdom, should be taken together.

We are all challenged to listen and learn, to live and love, to laugh and to shed Light. This week we can break out of the ho-hum life and burst into the adventure of 2000.

Baptists pride themselves on freedom. But we also have the freedom to work together for the Glory of the Risen Savior. Why not? Let's do it. **B&R**



editorial/
opinion

By Wm. Fletcher Allen, Editor

Nation's best served when candidates put truth before self

November elections are over. Americans have been propagandized, cajoled, placated, and sometimes chagrined for several months.

Sometimes the fury of politicking has been overwhelming. We have been promised many things. We have been told that this and that political candidate is the best or worst.

That's why so few people vote. If one speaks about the opponent, negatives are the primary words. When speaking about self, it is all love and wisdom, peace and prosperity.

The campaigns are over for now, and the temptation is great to be hardened to the entire process. But somehow we must try to rise above the tawdry machination of politics, and we must insist — no, we

must demand a high plane of truth, honesty, and integrity from those who seek office. After all, aren't they seeking to *serve*?

There is enough blame to go around. And if the process won't demand high caliber candidates, then we who go into the voting booth can do it ourselves.

One more idea. No matter who was elected, citizens should demand that vindictive attitudes and irresponsible politics must be buried.

Candidates are elected to be good stewards, to serve the people, to care enough about their responsibilities to put self last — when they do, they will be appreciated, and the nation will be truly blessed.

Too often the plank in one's own eye is overlooked in seeking the speck in the eye of another. **B&R**

Just for today

By Fred Wood
pastor emeritus
Eudora Church, Memphis

Start with a smile

Judge: "Joe, why do you try to steal from banks?"

Joe: "Well, Judge, it's like this. I try to steal from banks because that's where the big money is."

Take this truth

Regardless of his moral and ethical shortcomings, Joe had a practical mind. He

knew where the opportunities lay. That is more than many other people know. Shakespeare said it, "We must take the current when it serves us, or lose our venture." An old cliché says it this way, "Opportunity knocks only once."

Memorize this Scripture

"You be therefore as wise as serpents, and as harmless as doves" Matthew 10:16.

Pray this prayer

Lord, lead me to remember always that I must keep my integrity.

But Lord, help me to realize that I need to exercise good judgment in spiritual things as the world does in secular things. ■



WOOD

Sometimes we have to see 'em even if we don't want to

The character on the show was complaining to his wife about some unwanted visitors that showed up for supper at an inopportune time.

"Don't make me see 'em," he whined. "I don't want to see 'em."

We were talking in Sunday School class last Sunday about that special day in the lives of Christians.

No, not Thanksgiving or Easter. Not Christmas.

"What a Difference the Day Makes," the lesson was titled.

We reminisced about Sundays when we were children, and rehashed the family's "blue laws." Each of us had some memories about things we could do and could not do on Sundays.

All the worldly things like swimming, movies, playing physical games such as baseball, tinkering with the car — these were off limits.

As I remember it, our family could

one word more

— by Wm. Fletcher Allen, editor

wade in the shallow stream "down the hill," but we couldn't go to the creek for swimming — not on Sundays. We could throw and catch the baseball, but we couldn't play the real game.

Farm work was completely taboo (thankfully), unless the proverbial ox was in the ditch and deeply mired, at that.

And those rules were good. We accepted them, maybe because it was okay to churn ice cream on summer Sunday afternoons.

The scape-goat character I referred to earlier had a peculiar attitude about unwanted visitors. He had the attitude of "no see, no care." We might say, "out of sight, out of mind."



ALLEN

Our father had about a dozen fox hounds of which he was proud. All of us helped take care of them.

The grandmother of a nearby family was mentally ill and everyone helped the family keep up with her. Early one night she came to our door and knocked loud and long. Our parents told us to be quiet, perhaps Irene would move on elsewhere.

After a few minutes of knocking with no results, we heard her say, loud and clear, "All right, Mr. Allen. If you aren't at home, you won't mind me letting your dogs out." We opened the door.

Sundays are special, but the needs of others are special also. We often make our own rules to fit our desires, likes and dislikes.

Indeed, the Sabbath is holy unto the Lord. But opening the door to that "stranger" also is worthy. ■

Counselors, psychologists in legal situations

Can psychologists and counselors play a useful role in legal matters?

Yes. I regard a skilled and experienced psychologist or counselor as a most helpful team member in dealing with many human problems, especially those of the family.

In our highly specialized society, we tend to compartmentalize our problems as spiritual, emotional, relational, medical, legal, financial, etc.

Life is an intricate tapestry in which God interweaves many strands, all relating to one another.

For example, in a typical family conflict that appears headed toward divorce, there are always spiritual and emotional issues to be dealt with, and usually financial, and sometimes medical concerns. But a family may not perceive their problems as anything more than a conflict over one or

families matter

— by Ivy Scarborough, attorney, mediator

two issues.

The choice of a psychologist or counselor is critically important. Someone who hold out themselves as "Christians counselors" do not have the training in human behavior to qualify for this role.

A young husband came to me for advice after seeing a "Christian counselor." This young husband said he had never come so close to giving up on his marriage as he did after one session with this nonprofessional.

Referral to a Christian clinical psychologist helped save the marriage.

As I caution pastors in my seminars, I learn that more ministers and Christian

leaders are being sued over their counseling. This occurs because someone tries to grapple with problems they are not equipped by training to deal with. In conflicts that bring a marriage to the brink of divorce, depression is often a factor.

Research shows that depression results when a chemical imbalance occurs in the brain; it is not, as is sometimes believed, a problem of a lack of faith or emotional weakness.

A minister or other counselor who does not understand this, may do more harm than good.

A highly trained Christian counselor can do good and even prevent legal problems. Paul Barkley, another writer for this column, and I have worked together on cases. We all need to model our thinking and emotions on those of Christ. ■

For 150 years, Oliver Springs FBC has been there

By Wm. Fletcher Allen
Baptist and Reflector

OLIVER SPRINGS — A year ago, or perhaps longer, the congregation of First Church, Oliver Springs, knew they were going to celebrate a sesquicentennial in October 1996.

More than that, they wanted to "do it up right."

The big day for the actual 150th anniversary celebration was scheduled for Oct. 27. But

that was the last chapter, the grand finale.

The church actually began back in July. They called it "History by the Decade." And they kicked off the observance of the anniversary July 24 by looking at the decade of 1846-55.

This segment covered the beginning of the church and recognized some of those who founded it.

The church was first established at a "shelter" near Sul-

phur Springs on Oct. 26, 1846. The founders included Joshua Frost, pastor of Zion Church; Chesley Boatright, pastor of Clear Branch Church at Coal Creek; and Isaac Ellege, well-known preacher from Knox County.

Probably the organizational meeting had been preceded by a revival led by Frost and Boatright.

The fledgling church may have been an arm of United Baptist Church of Christ at

Zion, now Zion Baptist Church, Anderson County.

Through the following Sundays, Oliver Springs' celebrated each decade of the church's life. Events of the world, nation, state, and community were covered. An anniversary booklet was published, detailing the "countdown" of decades.

The church dedicated its new Allen Digital Organ on Oct. 20.



Tennessee features

The Sesquicentennial Celebration featured a morning and afternoon program, with former pastors present. Tony Rutherford is pastor of First Church. *B&R*



NOTABLE ANNIVERSARIES merit a hard-working history committee. For First Church, Oliver Springs, the committee was, from left, Sue Tate, Denice Parten, Louise Smith, Carolyn Kelly, Rachel Smith, Irene Coke, and Louise Matthews, chairperson. Not only did the church have a history booklet published, the buildings were filled with photos, clippings, and momentos from the past.



MICHAEL PEARSON, Clinton Association director of missions, left, presents Pastor Tony Rutherford with a plaque of recognition for the church's 150th anniversary.



PASTOR TONY RUTHERFORD, left, First Church, Oliver Springs, welcomes former pastors Everette Sherwood, left center, morning speaker; and Charles Parker, afternoon speaker. Deacon Carl Jones stands at right. — Photos by Wm. Fletcher Allen

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Association starts congregation in housing project

By Connie Davis
Baptist and Reflector

MURFREESBORO — God is working at January Street housing project in Murfreesboro, reported Arthur Lewis, a bivocational pastor, and Ellen Chapman of Concord Association.

After two years of groundwork by Chapman and volunteers from several churches in the association, a congregation began meeting in the housing project in June.

The meeting site of the January Street Mission is a miracle in itself, said Chapman. Government officials are allowing the congregation to use the housing area's recreation center for its activities. When approached by Chapman, the officials were receptive, but said it depended on the wishes of the residents. And the residents have welcomed the church, she explained.

Another sign that God is working was the Fall Festival held by Baptists on Halloween. Members of the congregation and other residents decorated the center in preparation. Other Baptists from the association provided activities.

People came into the center and were supposed to exit, but few left, or if they did, they came back in, explained Lewis. He saw children, but more importantly adults, drawn by the event and the excitement.

Then at the end of the evening the rain stopped and an African American

choir from Middle Tennessee State University performed Gospel music outside the center.

"These people know that they were visited by the Lord that night," said Chapman.

Lewis also noted the housing area had less negative activity that night. Only one police car was there that evening and the policeman joined in the fun, he added.

Lewis and Chapman are hoping such events will draw people to the congregation's regular services. Besides a morning worship service, children and youth activities are held on Sunday afternoons and adult activities are offered on Thursday evening.

Activities are led by volunteers from the two sponsoring churches, First Church, East Castle Street, where Lewis is a member; and First Church, East Main Street, where another leader, Claude King, is a member. They are assisted by members of several churches who are helping. They include Mount Hermon Church; Westwood Church; Salem Springs Church; Belle Aire Church; and First Church, Smyrna.



VISITING WITH a resident of the housing complex, Eugene, right, are Arthur Lewis, pastor/chaplain of the new congregation meeting there, and Ellen Chapman of Concord Association. — Photo by Connie Davis

However, few residents of the housing area attend activities. It is discouraging at times, the two agreed.

Lewis explained that people living there have many problems. Some feel they shouldn't attend because of their lifestyles or because they don't have the right kind of clothes. And children receive different messages from the church and from their families.

Some people there have become involved in drugs, he added. They live under the influence and in fear of the power brokers of drugs, and their minds are affected by taking them.

"Drugs have altered the minds of

many people. God has to work through that," explained Lewis. But God can do it because he got his attention after trying for 35 years, said Lewis. For the past 23 years he has worked for a trucking company. He was pastor of a church in Kentucky for several years, then he felt God calling him to leave. A year ago he felt God wanted him to remain in Murfreesboro so he could lead a multi-cultural ministry. So when he was contacted by the association to help lead the January Street project, he knew he was to be involved.

Chapman, a retired employee of the City of Memphis, has worked for the Concord Association for four years as a Mission Service Corps volunteer. She leads multi-housing ministries.

The former member of Broadmoor Church, Memphis, said she is unafraid to visit the residents because they need God. They need him "because people here have been deceived so much," she said.

"We don't understand exactly what God is doing here, but that's OK," said Lewis. **B&R**



Tennessee features

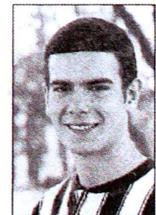
Baptist student scholarships for future generations of Belmont students will mean more than you'll ever know.



Dr. Kenneth Hubbard is the pastor of the First Baptist Church of Smyrna. He has also served as a field evangelist missionary to Kenya and is outgoing president of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. As a Belmont student in the '50s, Ken Hubbard received a scholarship from a fund which had been established anonymously by a Baptist gentleman. "I often remember what this man did for me. My family didn't have the financial resources to send me to college. He gave me the gift of education, and literally changed my life."



Brian Wright is a freshman religion major from Church Hill, Tenn. Brian receives a scholarship from Belmont Heights Baptist Church, where he is a member while at Belmont. After graduation, Brian's ministry will be in the area of pastoral counseling. He has an older brother who is also a college student, and a younger brother who will be in college soon. "Without a scholarship, attending a private Christian university simply wouldn't be possible for me," he says.



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Baptist communicator finds new way to minister

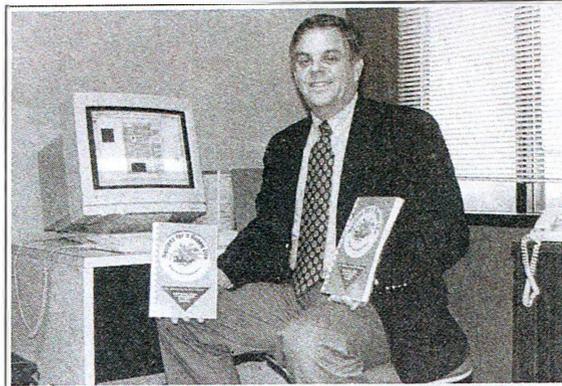
By Lonnie Wilkey
Baptist and Reflector

NASHVILLE — Long-time Baptist journalist Tim Fields will be one of the first "casualties" of the "Covenant for a New Century," a plan to restructure the Southern Baptist Convention.

Fields, however, does not need or want sympathy. A "part-time avocation" begun eight years ago will enable him to make a living and continue his God-called ministry to the written word.

Fields officially ends a 26-year tenure with Baptist institutions when the Education Commission becomes the first agency to close Dec. 31 as part of the SBC restructuring. In addition to the Education Commission, where he is assistant director, Fields has held communications-related positions at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo.; the Brotherhood Commission, Memphis; and the Christian Life Commission, Nashville.

Through his company, Fields Communications and Publishing, based in Nashville,



TIM FIELDS, assistant director of the Southern Baptist Education Commission, displays two recent cookbooks published by Fields Communications and Publishing. The books are written by former Southern Baptist missionaries Mary Jo and Bill Geiger of Memphis. See story on page 9.

he expects to continue his ministry and fulfill a boyhood dream of writing and publishing inspirational books.

Fields, chairman of the deacons at Immanuel Church, Nashville, began his company on a small scale eight years ago when he joined the staff of the Education Commission. Arthur L. Walker Jr., then executive director of the agency,

encouraged Fields in his effort.

The company has grown from one employee (himself) to two others — his daughter Christy Fields and his son-in-law Dru Drolsum. His client base includes 25 Southern Baptist-related organizations, including some SBC agencies and Baptist state newspapers.

He also hopes to work with other non-profit organizations

and to help new and unpublished Christian writers bring their dreams into reality.

Fields already has done that for former missionaries Mary Jo and Bill Geiger of Memphis by publishing their two-volume cookbook, *Recipes for a Happy Life: Missionary Family Cookbook* (see story on page 9).

The cookbooks are special, Fields said, because they contain recipes which were prepared and served during the Geigers' 27-year service to Christ on the mission field.

In addition, the cookbooks provide a means of Scripture distribution (each page of the cookbooks contains a Bible verse) and puts a "capstone" on the Geigers' ministry, Fields said. The cookbooks also fulfill the dreams of two families — his and the Geigers, Fields added.

The cookbooks have helped Fields cope with his impending departure at the Education Commission.

"I have been blessed by having a project that has captured my attention."

Regardless, actually leaving Baptist institutions after 26 years is hard. "When I went



forward as a sophomore in college and made a commitment to full-time Christian service, I felt blessed that God found me a place of service," he said.

"It's an emotional break that's hard to deal with," Fields added.

"I see this (his publishing company) as a continuation of ministry, but I do leave with some sadness at the closing of the 80-year-old agency which deals directly with Southern Baptist colleges and universities.

"I feel it is shortsighted to cut the only official tie we have with all the schools ... but I am grateful the convention will contribute \$150,000 over the next two years to jumpstart the Association of Southern Baptist Colleges and Schools (which will attempt to continue some of the work that has been done by the Education Commission)." ■

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In two-volume cookbook

Missionaries share 'recipes for a happy life'

By Lonnie Wilkey
Baptist and Reflector

MEMPHIS — For many years former Southern Baptist missionaries Mary Jo and Bill Geiger shared that Jesus Christ is the "recipe for a happy life."

More importantly, however,



MARY JO AND BILL GEIGER, front center, are shown with their son, three daughters, and their spouses. From bottom left, are son Kirby and Ruth Ann, and daughters Laurie and Marshall Albritton; Linda and Bill Keever; and Susan and Mike Harms.

they lived their lives to reflect that philosophy in both good times and bad.

And, while circumstances have changed their lives dra-

matically during the past 10 years, their faith and love for Jesus Christ has remained steadfast.

In 1986, while serving as missionaries in Chile, Mary Jo was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease. Despite deteriorating health they were able to remain in Chile as missionaries until 1992 when they took medical retirement after 27 years.

They moved to Memphis where Mary Jo is from and Bill became a staff chaplain at Baptist Memorial Hospital East, where he is still able to minister and use his bilingual skills. They are members of Germantown Church, Germantown.

Eleven years ago, one year before Mary Jo learned of her disease, the Geigers prepared a cookbook for their four children. It was a "treasure of family recipes" carefully

saved over the years. They included recipes given to them by friends and loved ones. Many of the Chilean recipes in the book came from family friend Juani-

ta Sepulveda, who came to Memphis from Chile to help care for Mary Jo.

Numerous people since have encouraged them to share those recipes on a much broader scale, Bill Geiger shared.

After looking into the matter, the Geigers met Tim Fields of Fields Communications and Publishing, Nashville, who encouraged them and said he would like to publish their cookbook, which is entitled *Recipes for a Happy Life: Missionary Family Cookbook*.

The title came, Geiger said, from the foreword of the original book. In her own handwriting, Mary Jo reminded their four children — Kirby, Laurie, Linda, and Susan — that "the Lord is the only one who can give the recipe for a truly happy life."

That project became very important to Mary Jo, Geiger shared. Her condition has gotten to the point where she has trouble communicating verbally, he said.

"It has been wonderful therapy for Mary Jo the last year and a half."

He noted that the very day

she finished her last bit of editing, Mary Jo lost the capacity to work on the computer and gradually has lost her voice.

The cookbook gave her a goal to work toward, her husband said. "It means a lot to Mary Jo that the Lord gave her the ability to complete that book." Just recently, he said, Mary Jo was able with some difficulty to say these words, "I am so happy."

"Life still has incredible meaning," Geiger said.

In the foreword of the original book, Mary Jo wrote: "It has been a rewarding experience for us in remembering the many happy hours around the family table, and then, that expanded table of sharing the bounties of God's blessings with loved ones and friends in our home throughout the years."

Geiger noted their entire life has revolved around the home. "We have been on the mission field, but our ministry from home and our witness at home has been our real ministry — witnessing to those who came to our house.

The two-volume cookbook is filled with recipes ranging from simple things such as Lasagna



and chili to more unusual delicacies such as "money casse-rolle" and "limelight pie."

The book also contains food illustrations drawn by Geiger and sketches of houses where the Geigers lived and all the churches in which they worshipped in the formative years of their children's lives. The sketches were done by Jaime Torrealba, a former Chilean drug addict who came to know the Lord under the Geigers' ministry in Chile.

The bottom of each page of the cookbook also contains a Bible verse. "Mary Jo is a real Bible scholar. She drew Scripture from things close to her and things we tried to teach our children over the years," he noted.

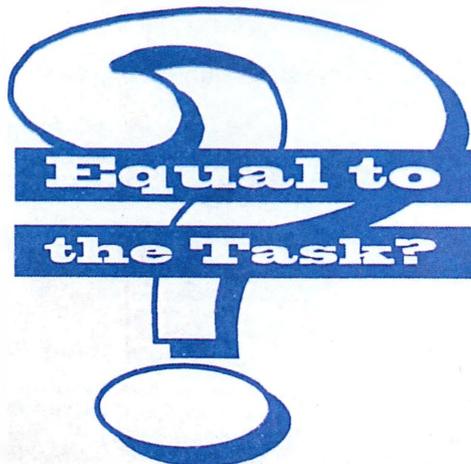
The cookbooks are available in Baptist Book Stores throughout the United States, or from the publisher. Call (615) 646-4650 ■

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Joe Mayberry retires from associational role after 20 years

By Connie Davis
Baptist and Reflector

FAYETTEVILLE — Joe Mayberry will retire Dec. 31 after serving 20 years as director of missions for William Carey Association.

The job can be lonely when compared to service as a pastor, which he did for 20 years before being called to the association, he admitted. But he has had the chance to do what he really wanted to do and that was "helping people, serving people," he said. Through developing close relationships with people, he still has had what he called "my people," just more of them since the association has 35 churches.

Mayberry also has made many contacts in the community through the broadcasting of a weekly Sunday School lesson commentary on a Fayetteville radio station which he has continued throughout his tenure. Since he stopped the service recently, the response he has gotten has been an encouragement.

He has viewed many changes in his work, he reflected. Churches are cooperating less with each other and are "more inclined to do their own thing." Mayberry has seen the demise of such cooperation means the cancellation of a monthly associational youth meeting and a youth camp which drew many participants.

"In a sense that's good, be-

cause it means churches are doing more things more often rather than waiting for the association," he observed.

He will miss being a part of the reorganizations occurring in the Southern Baptist Convention and Tennessee Baptist Convention, but is happy to watch from the sidelines.

Mayberry reflected he has felt restless only a few times. A good night's sleep was the answer.

"I've been where the Lord wanted me to be and that's the best place to be," he said.

A person needs to "be sure that the Lord leads you into what he wants you to do and where he wants you to do it. And then stay until he calls

you away," said Mayberry. "Try to grow where you're planted."

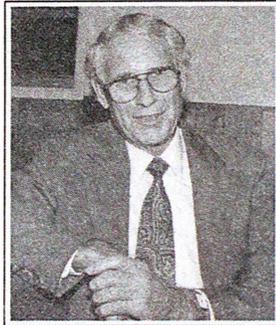
In his last report to the association at the Oct. 22 annual meeting, he said the "reports of my death have been greatly exaggerated," quoting Mark

Twain. He reported he has been diagnosed recently with cancer. The news, he said, has caused him to revisit some experiences, like the death of his wife, Martha, from cancer, but also the comfort he received at that time from three young

men's brash response to Nebuchadnezzar in Daniel 3.

Mayberry said he wanted to be faithful like those men.

The association is honoring him Nov. 24 at Friendship Church, Fayetteville, from 2-5 p.m. ■



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73-year-old 'interim' helps pave way for new pastor

By Lonnie Wilkey
Baptist and Reflector

MONTEREY — At the request of Stone Association Director of Missions Michael Prowse, Guy Farris went to preach "the next Sunday" at Woodcliff Church.

That was more than four years ago and he's been there ever since as "interim" pastor.

Six people were in attendance on Farris' first Sunday.

Attendance has increased gradually. The church now numbers about 35-40 on Sunday mornings with around 20 in Sunday School.

When Farris went to Woodcliff tape was literally hanging from the ceiling where it had been placed to hold cracks together.

"The building here was in bad condition. I wanted to help improve it," Farris said.

Since then, much of the church has been remodeled and some additions have been made, including an access ramp for wheelchairs. A new heating and air conditioning unit has been added as well as padded pews and a piano which was recently given to the church.

Stone Association was instrumental in helping the church get back on its feet, Farris acknowledged. The association gave \$2,000 to help purchase the heating and air unit which was badly needed at the time. Everything that has been done is now paid for, he added.

Another church, New Home, still gives a monthly gift. Those things spurred our members,

Farris said. Before then the church did not give anything to missions. They now give 1 percent to the association and 2 percent to the Cooperative Program. "It's a start," Farris said.

The church has a giving spirit, Farris said. And, this year, for the first time, the church has a budget.

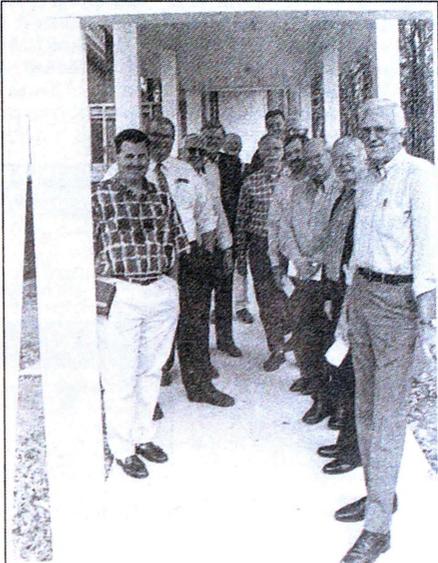
The 73-year-old "retired" pastor takes no credit, giving it all to the Lord and "the few people we had who saw the need and wanted a church here."

One of those people was Laura McDaniel, who has attended the church all her life. "I never dreamed the church could look like this. But everyone has worked together and we have had a leader," she said.

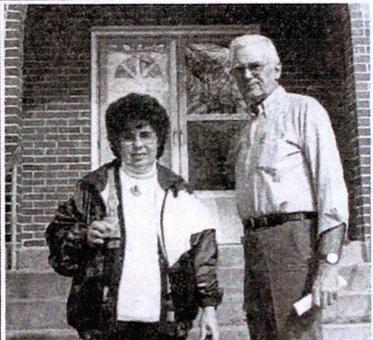
Farris, who commutes about 15 miles from Cookeville, said his work at Woodcliff is an answer to prayer.

"After I retired I just asked the Lord to use me and he has blessed me. This is what I want to do as long as he will let me," Farris affirmed.

He sees his role at Woodcliff as helping pave the way for new leadership. "This is what the Lord wants me to do — help churches get ready for a new pastor." ■



PASTOR GUY FARRIS and Woodcliff Church hosted Stone Association pastors and leaders last week for breakfast. From left are: Chris Harrell, Chuck Branch, Frank Layne, Billy Cooper, Bobby Cooper, Gerald Padgett, Johnnie Lee, Joe Wiles, Steve Thornton, Jack Gentry, Director of Missions Michael Prowse, and Farris.



LAURA MCDANIEL stands with her pastor Guy Farris outside Woodcliff Church. She was among six people at the church when Farris came more than four years ago.

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Tennessean named to search committee for Annuity Board president

Baptist Press

DALLAS — A presidential search committee has been named to find the next president of the Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Paul W. Powell, president since March 1, 1990, will turn 65 in December 1998 and has told board trustees he expects to retire when he is 65. By tradition, but under no bylaw requirement, Annuity Board officers retire at the annual

board meeting in February following their 65th birthday. He later told trustees he felt no pressure, no anxiety in announcing his retirement. If trustees decide on a new president before his retirement date, Powell said he would accept an early retirement package or serve as a consultant under contract.

Richard C. Scott, chairman of the board, named J. Roy Taylor of Texas as chairman of an eight-member committee to conduct a nationwide search,

with no set date for reporting. Scott announced the committee appointments at the Nov. 3-5 regular meeting of the Annuity Board in Dallas.

Among those named to the committee was S. Glenn Weekley, pastor of First

Church, Hendersonville.

Scott emphasized naming the search committee at this time is part of an ongoing process to ensure orderly succession of both Powell and Chief Operating Officer W. Gordon Hobgood Jr., who will

be 65 in August 1997.

Scott said the two men initiated the process with trustees last February. Scott added that he wanted "to give the committee plenty of time to receive input from all interested persons." ■

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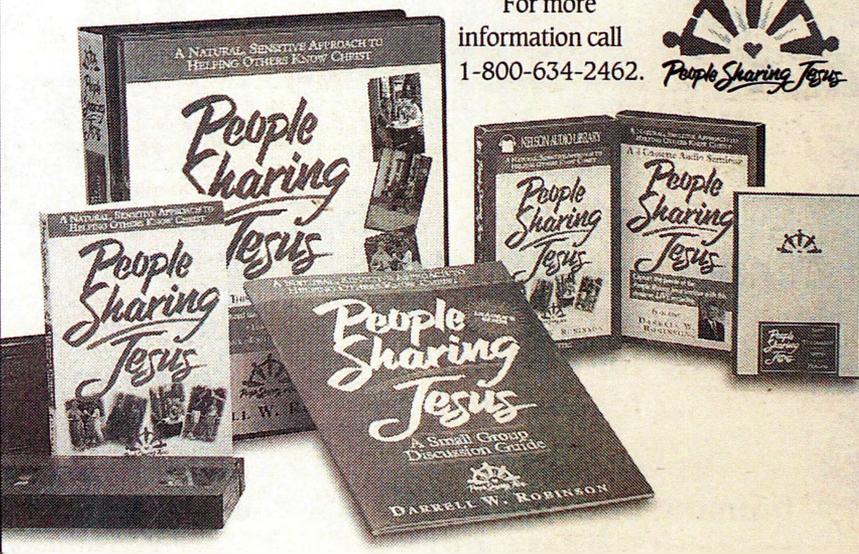
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Pigeon Forge pastor challenges students at NOBTS

By Debbie Moore
For Baptist and Reflector

NEW ORLEANS — At the rate Southern Baptists currently are working, the SBC would need 450 years to finish

getting the Gospel out to Americans, that is 450 years if no one else were born and if no one else were to die.

At their same rate of telling people about Christ, Southern Baptists would need more

than 6,000 years to get the word out to all the world, again if no one else were born and if no one else died.

"But out of the world of statistics, in real life, more than 90 million babies are born

every year around the world, and one person dies every second," said Morris Anderson, pastor of First Church, Pigeon Forge, and a trustee of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He was chairman of the committee that called new president Charles S. Kelley Jr.

Speaking to NOBTS students during their chapel service Oct. 30, Anderson said

Southern Baptists must be soul winners.

"When should a person begin to be a soul winner? Well, when does a candle begin to give off light?" Anderson asked.

"A person should begin to be a soul winner the moment he or she gets saved, just as a candle begins to give off light as soon as it's lit."

Anderson has taught personal soul-winning classes for 20 years. A key is persistency.

"You can't win them all, but you can win some. But we're not going to win any if we don't try," he told students. ■

"But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvelous light."
(1 Peter 2:9)

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Certainly these honors mean there is something different about Carson-Newman - something that we didn't want to lose.

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The difference Carson-Newman makes is reflected in how learning is applied to the real world. Students at C-N are among the top scholars in the nation and yet still are active in serving meals to the homeless, rebuilding homes and lives through Appalachian Outreach, giving counsel and support to the terminally ill, elderly, youth and to adults enrolled in literacy programs across the region.

Being different means looking beyond the boundaries of self to touch the world. This year C-N dedicated the International Education and Missions Center to globalize the campus through academics and Christian service.

In Mark 12:30 we read, "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment." These words form the slogan for a three-year endowment campaign set to begin January 1, 1997. Carson-Newman is committed to raise \$10 million for the

Tennessee Baptist Scholarship Endowment Campaign. Our \$10 million goal is part of a \$30 million overall campaign shared by C-N College, Belmont and Union Universities to ensure that Christian higher education remains affordable for Tennessee Baptists.

The greatest commandment presents us with a great challenge...impact the future with a difference.

Different? At Carson-Newman we're moving ahead with innovative learning programs, global outreach and a world of opportunity for our students - and yet we remain an intimate, caring place where learning can flourish.

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Sacred trust

By Ron Galyon

Focal Passage — Exodus 20:13; Leviticus 19:16-18; Luke 10:29-37

At one time I worked with the criminal justice system in the state of Georgia. On one occasion I was waiting for some criminal matters to come before the court and while I was waiting, a civil trial took place. The event that led to the civil trial was a criminal event. One man murdered another man. The man who committed the crime was convicted of murder in a criminal trial and sent to prison. The wife of the victim sued the man in prison that had murdered her husband. She sued for the value of her husband's life, if he had continued to live. The trial focused on how much her husband could have earned if he had lived. What value do we place on life?

We live in a society in which the value of life is being diminished. The evening news is filled with stories of murders and assaults. We live in a society where the lives of prebirth children are taken from them, often simply for convenience. I believe if the value of life is to be restored in our society, it will be through Christians.

The Old Testament practice prohibited the destruction of life. In the Hebrew language, there are two words for no or not. One word is used for an immediate negation and the other word is used for permanent negation. For example, the word for immediate negation would be used for "do not touch that hot pot." Here, not, would mean do not touch the pot while it is hot. If you use the permanent negative in the phrase, it would mean you are to never touch the pot. In Exodus 20:13 the negative that is used is the permanent negative.

What is it the Hebrews were permanently prohibited from doing? The KJV reads, "Thou shalt not kill" and the NKJV reads, "you shall not murder." One scholar stated, "One could conclude that within broad limitations the word in the commandment is used of murder. I believe this is the only way to understand this practice, since death was the penalty for specific crimes in the Old Testament and since the armies of Israel were instructed to kill.

God's principles prohibit the diminishing of the quality of the life of others. This Scripture focuses on how we relate to other people and how our relationship should not diminish the quality of their life. In Matthew 5:21-22. Jesus was saying we are not to emotionally diminish someone by our anger toward them, that we are not to mentally and socially diminish another's life, and we are not to spiritually diminish another person by calling them a fool which would devalue the image of God in them. The principle deals with taking from another the quality of life that God intends to give.

The present application would be that we should promote the sacred value of life. God is the giver of life and all human life is valuable. The purpose of the negative expression in some of the commands is that as we realize what we are not to do, then it opens up a whole realm of things that we can do. We do not take from the quality of the life of others, but we add to the quality of life. In the parable of the good Samaritan, the Samaritan added to the quality of another man's life by sharing with him grace. The Samaritan sacrificed, gave, and shared to add to the quality of life of the injured man.

Wouldn't it make a difference if you and I do what it takes to add grace to someone else's life? ■ — Ron Galyon is pastor of First Church, Putaski.

A cry of anguish

By Michael Smith

Focal Passage — Lamentations 5:1-10, 19-22

The Bible is refreshingly candid about the humanity of God's people. Prophets, such as Jeremiah and Ezekiel, openly identified the sins of the people, sparing no one in their condemnation of idolatry. The Book of Lamentations reveals another aspect of God's people: their feelings of despair, confusion, and tentative faith following Jerusalem's destruction by the Babylonians. These feelings are captured in the prayer for deliverance found in Lamentations 5.

Remember, O Lord — v. 1

The prayer begins with a plea that God remember. In other instances (Psalm 25:6; 74:2), such language expresses the desire that God recall his promises to his people. At the very least, the exiles now know their need for God, and they hope to stir up his historic compassion for them. More specifically, they remind God of what they have suffered because of the destruction of Jerusalem. In a way, they are saying to God: "See what has happened to us? Haven't we suffered enough? Isn't it time to forgive and restore us?"

Family Bible Lesson

A catalog of their suffering — vv. 2-10

What have the people of God suffered? First, they have lost their inheritance, the promised land, to outsiders. Their status has changed. Once self-sufficient, they are now as helpless as children and aged widows without a supportive family. The Babylonians and

their slaves oppress them. They must now buy water and firewood where once they took such basic resources from their own land. Overseers force them to work beyond their endurance. They cannot find rest or peace of mind. Little food is available, and in their weakness disease afflicts them.

Verses 11-18 add to the list of woes. Leaders have been shamefully put to death, women ravished, and children pressed into hard labor. The Babylonians, not the elders at the gate, now administer justice, which is to say the people of God can find no justice. In short, their lives have been upended. Everything they valued or took for granted is gone.

In the midst of their suffering, the people begin to admit their sin (vv. 6-7, 16b). They continue to point the finger of blame at their forefathers. Yet, for the first time, they are willing to admit they, too, were wrong. Specifically, they confess their sin in seeking security in political alliances rather than in God.

An honest conclusion (vv. 19-22)

The prayer's conclusion contains both faith and doubt, not an unusual combination in situations of severe suffering. On the one hand, the people affirm that God reigns now and forever, but they wonder if God has given up on them. Still, recognizing their own powerlessness, they dare ask God to restore their relationship with him and return them to the land. Long years would pass before their hope became reality, but the long journey began with honest prayer. ■ — Michael Smith is pastor of Second Church, Memphis.



Bible study
for November 17

Empowered witnessing

By Thom Tapp

Focal Passage — Matthew 9:36-10:1, 27-39

Look at the world around you for a moment. Now look through the eyes of Jesus. What do you see? Do you see men, women, boys, and girls who are struggling through life? Can you see the anguish in the eyes of those who are paying the price of sin without Jesus as Savior? That is exactly what Jesus saw as he gazed at the multitude around him that day. He was moved with compassion.

Jesus' compassion for the multitudes — ch. 9:36-38

Jesus saw people as victims of sin. His heart broke because they were controlled, and destroyed by it. Our culture today parallels that of Jesus' day. Today we see people consumed with alcohol, drugs, perverted lifestyles, and sexual sin. We also mourn the impact of rejection of God in the lives of many around us. The sins might be different, but they still destroy.

Jesus urged his disciples to pray for workers who would evangelize their world. Jesus asks the same of us today. He calls us to see our world through his eyes.

Empowering of the twelve — ch. 10:1

Jesus empowers those he sends. In verse 1, Jesus assures his disciples of his power and presence. Jesus' authority extends to every aspect of our lives. We never know

Explore the Bible Lesson

what will arise as we witness to others of Jesus' saving power, but Jesus promises to bless our faithfulness.

Names of the twelve — vv. 2-4

Matthew used the word apostle. The word means sent out ones. Later, the term came to mean those who had been with Jesus, and sent out by him. In the context of it's simplest meaning, we are all apostles. We are sent out to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Mission of the twelve to Israel — vv. 5-15

The disciples were instructed to go only to the Jews. The Bible says in John 1 that Jesus came into his own, and his own received him not. As God's chosen people, the Jews were the focus of Jesus' earthly ministry. God had prepared them for his coming.

A warning about persecution — vv. 16-33

It isn't easy to be a witness for Jesus in a hostile world. Jesus warned of the dangers. A Christian testimony has divided homes, cost people their jobs, and even cost some people their lives. (We are reminded that Jesus suffered and died for the Gospel also.)

The Gospel is a brilliant light. It isn't something to be hid, or diminished to fit the occasion. Verse 27 speaks of this fact. There is no shame in sharing the Gospel. Verse

28 reminds us that there is greater pain in not sharing the Gospel than in sharing it. The lives of those who are lost hang in the balance. There is

a price to pay, but it is worth it.

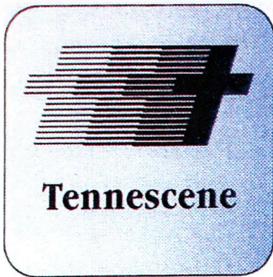
Call to faithfulness — vv. 34-42

You can't find peace by searching for it. You have peace when you have Jesus. The angels proclaimed "Peace on Earth ..." and it was. Jesus is peace. Jesus is also division to those who reject him. The fact of his presence among men forced conflict. Either he is God in the flesh, or he is an imposter. That is the debate he brought with him, and it still rages. Those who know him know he is God incarnate, and they have peace.

In verses 37-39, Jesus addresses priorities. To have our priority right, we must love Jesus more than even life itself. The temptation is to let materialism take the place of evangelism. In this lesson we see a heartbroken Savior compelling his children to bring others to him. "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations." ■

— Thom Tapp is pastor of Oral Church, Lenoir City.





Tennescene

missionaries

■ **John Robinson**, Baptist representative to the United Kingdom, is on the field and can be reached at Ty Chapel Calfaría, Heol Y Bedyddwyr, Penygroes, GYWNEDD, LL54 6NU, Wales. He was born in Cleveland, Ohio, and considers Waynesboro his hometown.

■ **Joe and Gloria Turman**, Baptist representatives to Central Europe Mission, are on the field and can be reached at Hlavacikova 2, 84105 Bratislava, Slovakia. She grew up in Haywood County.

■ **Daniel and Cara Wood**, missionaries to the Philip-

pines, are on the field and can be reached at Airport Road, San Fermin, Cauayan Isabela, 3005, Philippines. He has lived in Johnson City.

people

■ **Forest Hills Church**, Nashville, ordained **David Allen**, **Bob Mulloy**, **Steve Richards**, and **Rob Rogers** as deacons Nov. 3.

■ On Oct. 13 **West Jackson Church**, Jackson, ordained **Mike German**, **Kevin Stoope**, and **John Williams** as deacons. Also **Bill Shelton** was named a "life deacon."

leaders

■ **South Clinton Church**, Clinton, ordained **Kevin Atkins**, minister of music, Oct. 27.

■ **Glenn Wheeley** has been called as minister of music, **Swan Creek Church**,

Hampshire.

■ **First Church**, Savannah, has called **Andy Lee**, a student at **Union University**, Jackson, as interim youth director.

■ **Mark Thompson** has been called as minister of youth at **First Church**, Millington. He formerly served a church in Ohio.

the schools

■ **David P. Gushee**, associate professor of Christian studies, **Union University**, Jackson, has been named one of 50 "Up-and-Coming Evangelical Leaders" by *Christianity Today* in its Nov. 11 edition. The honor recognizes individuals 40 years of age or younger who will impact the evangelical world well into the next century. Formerly with the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., Gushee is the principle author of the 1994 Southern Baptist Convention's widely quoted state-



PRESENTING a gallon jar of coins is **Tate Horne**, second from left, and his wife, **Pauline**, members of **Westel Church**, **Rockwood**, to **Charles Christopher**, pastor. The gift was a birthday offering presented on Oct. 20, the 95th birthday of **Mr. Horne**, for a sound system for the church's new building.

ment on abortion clinic violence. He is the author of two books.

■ **Union University**, Jackson, will hold "Lunch and Learn," Nov. 19. The event is a quarterly program for area senior adults. **Waymon Jones**, president, **United Tennessee League Inc.**, Nashville, and his wife, **Pat**, a UTL staff member, will speak. For more information, call (901) 661-5160.

■ The School of Nursing at **Belmont University**, Nashville, has named **Karen Baker** as director of health services.

churches

■ The **Honduras Mission Team** of **Second Church**, **Memphis**, will host a **Holiday Home Tour** Nov. 23-24 from 1-5 p.m. This home tour will benefit a health care effort in Honduras. About 30 volunteers will make up the team. For more information, contact the church at (901) 682-3395.

■ **East Union Church**, **Jackson**; **First Church**, **Bemis**; and **Pleasant Hill Church**, **Jackson**; presented

the "Judgment House" drama Oct. 28-30. As a result 171 people made professions of faith and many others made other spiritual decisions. A total of 1,002 people viewed it.

■ A team of 22 from **Alpha Church**, **Morristown**, helped a church in **Nashport, Ohio**, lead **Backyard Bible Schools** there in August. The combined group held four BYBCs each in the morning, afternoon, and in the evening at different sites in the county. They worked with 165 youngsters, of which 40 made professions of faith. **Glenn Smith**, the pastor of the church in Ohio, reported the church has found 214 prospects from the effort.

■ The drama department of **First Church**, **Rockwood**, will present the play, "A Change in the Wind," Nov. 17-18 at 7 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, call the church at (423) 354-3300.

■ The puppet ministry of **Cherokee Church**, **Memphis**, will present a **Living Christmas Tree** on Dec. 6 at 7 p.m., Dec. 7 at 3 p.m., and Dec. 8 at 6 p.m.



BREAKING GROUND for the **Activities Building** of **Oakwood Church**, **Chattanooga**, Oct. 20, are, from left, **Jim Woodruff**, **Toby Ayre**, **Sam Mosier**, **Curt Gee**, **Larry Malone**, **Charlie Rucker**, **Bob Snyder**, **Steve Carroll**, a businessman, **Harry Mixon**, **Bill Pinson**, **Wilda Lewis**, **Billy Hartman**, and **Jack Fitts**, pastor. The center will house a tennis court, walking track, exercise room, and meeting area.

Association hosts tent crusade

For *Baptist and Reflector*

COVINGTON — The 36 churches of **Big Hatchie Association** held a "Here's Hope: Jesus Cares for You" Crusade Oct. 13-17 under a tent in Covington.

Two hundred and forty people made spiritual decisions, reported **S. Ray Jones**, director of missions. Of those, 169 were professions of faith, 21 for reassurance of salvation, 28 for rededication, and 24 in other categories. About 11,500 people attended the five-night event.

Jones said other positive results occurred. "The people of the churches got to know each other better and discov-

ered the joy of working together," he said. In addition, new leadership and an excitement about the association's identity and mission was discovered, he added.

"Some people say that the day of mass evangelism is over," he noted, but **Big Hatchie** disproved that notion. Many people who made spiritual decisions did not have any church preference or involvement.

"A crusade is hard work, but the results are worth the effort," he concluded.

The crusade used a 2,500-seat tent from **Christ for the World Ministries**. The speaker was **Kelly Green**, evangelist of **Brandon, Fla.**, and

Jamie Parker of **Cordova** was the music evangelist. ■



CRUSADE leaders **Jamie Parker**, left, musician, of **Cordova**, and **Kelly Green**, evangelist of **Florida**, pose during the event.

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