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this week's news

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HANDBELL RINGERS

SBC annual meeting to launch NAMB

By Art Toalston
For Baptist Press

DALLAS — The Southern Baptist Convention's 1997 annual meeting in Dallas will make its share of history, with the launching of the SBC's new North American Mission Board among the highlights.

"We're going to celebrate a lot of things when we meet together," said SBC President Tom Elliff. Yet he described as "upmost" a yearning for "God to meet with us in such a remarkable fashion that, when all is said and done, we would come away gripped with a sense of urgency that we are closer than ever to the return of Christ ... a sense of urgency for reaching the world with the message of Christ."

Urgency is reflected in the theme of the June 17-19 SBC annual meeting, "To the Cross!" at the Dallas Convention Center, the 140th session in the 152-year history of the nation's largest evangelical body.

Elliff, pastor of First Southern Church, Del City, Okla., said he is praying for "a revived fellowship, a convention sold out to God and sold out to his purposes, willing to follow him wherever, at whatever the cost."

The vision for NAMB's role in advancing the evangelization of North America will be the focus of a 30-minute presentation Wednesday morning, June 18, including NAMB presidential nominee Robert Reccord and other live speakers as well as

multimedia segments. Reccord currently is pastor of First Church, Norfolk, Va.

Elliff listed other facets of the SBC meeting anticipated to add to this year's spiritual thrust:

(1) a time of covenant between the six SBC seminaries and the convention at large Tuesday evening, which Elliff said will underscore "the sense of sanctity and sense of adventure of the call of God."

Messengers will be given an overview of each seminary's history and vision, and each president will recount his call to ministry. The presidents will sign a covenant of faithfulness to SBC churches and Paige Patterson, president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in North Carolina, will preach on "The Cross and the Call."

(2) a time of missions challenge Wednesday evening, including various individuals from overseas and from U.S. pioneer missions fields whom Elliff described as "folks whose lives have been remarkably touched by God" through SBC ministries and now God is using to reach people in their respective regions. Additionally, Adrian Rogers, former SBC president and pastor of Bellevue Church, Cordova, will preach on "The Cross Over

the World," with the evening's music to feature a choir assembled from churches in the Dallas and Tarrant County Baptist associations, perhaps the largest choir ever assembled for an SBC session.

(3) a celebration of SBC ethnicity Thursday morning, including a Bible study by Ledtkey R. McIntosh, Native American pastor of Glorieta Church, Oklahoma City, and a sermon by international evangelist Luis Palau.

One issue of intense interest during this year's SBC will be whether Southern Baptists vote to boycott the Walt Disney Company.

In a widely publicized resolution

last year, messengers called on Southern Baptists to boycott Disney if the company refuses to change the increasingly "anti-Christian and antifamily trend" in its corporate decisions.

The SBC resolution asked the Christian Life Commission "to monitor Disney's progress in returning to its previous philosophy of producing enriching family entertainment."

CLC President Richard Land said April 9 he will make a report to the SBC Resolutions Committee. For now, he said, the monitoring is continuing. Disney's latest — See SBC, page 8



ELLIFF

TBC churches take note: Craig doesn't need any more cards

By Lonnie Wilkey
Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — Just like the Madelyn Murray O'Hair and Procter & Gamble petitions and letters (both of which are still false), another letter has resurfaced among Tennessee Baptist churches.

Though it has good intentions, the letter contains false information. The letter being circulated among churches claims that "7-year-old Craig Sheford has a brain tumor and has little time to live."

The letter goes on to note that "Craig turned in a wish to the Children's Make-A-Wish Foundation and expressed his desire to have an entry in the Guinness Book of World Records for the "Largest Collection of Business Cards Received by an Individual."

The letter asks for individuals to retype the letter on their

own letterhead and send it to 20 businesses or associates.

Don't do it.

The Baptist and Reflector contacted the Make-A-Wish Foundation of America to check the validity of the letter. In response, the foundation sent the following press release:

"An unauthorized chain letter encouraging people to send business cards to a seriously ill boy continues to generate thousands of pieces of mail each day, even though the boy is now healed and the family has requested an end to the mail.

The press release noted that in 1989 Craig Shergold (his real name), a young English boy "diagnosed with a terminal brain tumor, wanted to be recorded in the Guinness Book of World Records for receiving the most greeting cards. His wish was fulfilled in 1990 after receiving 16

million cards." The press release also stated the boy's tumor was successfully removed in 1991, yet the cards and letters continue with several variations of the last name, including Sherwood, Sherford, etc., and the fact that he now wants business cards.

According to Tony Leal Jr., chairman of the board of Make-A-Wish Foundation, the chain letter claims the foundation is involved. "This is not true," Leal said in the press release.

"Our organization is not, and has never been, associated with the letter. Yet, our office continues to receive numerous calls each month about the letter, diverting our staff time and resources from our mission. The Make-A-Wish Foundation requests that people stop sending business cards or greeting cards to Craig Shergold."

A 1993 article in the New

York Times explained the matter even further, noting it was not the Make-A-Wish Foundation which began the initial campaign in 1989. Instead, it was the Atlanta-based Children's Wish Foundation International. The 1993 article quoted Arthur Stein, president of the Atlanta foundation: "There's no way to stop it. Everyone keeps saying quit, and people ignore the pleas."

In the same article Stein said he suspects "we have surpassed 100 million cards" but noted they stopped counting once the number topped 60 million.

The Guinness Book of World Records has retired the category for most get-well cards, leaving Craig's 1992 record of 33 million cards unchallenged.

The Make-A-Wish Foundation has set up a special number to explain the matter (800) 215-1333, Ext. 184. ■

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Southern Seminary entering 'season of spring'

Compiled from BP & ABP reports

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Signs of newness and expectancy indicate Southern Baptist Theological Seminary has left "a season of definition" and entered "a season of spring," President R. Albert Mohler Jr. told trustees during their April 21-22 meeting.

Just as the children of Israel reached an historic juncture when God instructed them to "turn north" as described in Deuteronomy 2:3, God is calling Southern Seminary to turn north, Mohler said in his report to trustees. "The fact that students have come after this season of definition" is a sign of spring, he said. The season of spring will not be without financial difficulties, however.

Because funds from the Southern Baptist Convention are divided among six seminaries on average enrollment over a three-year period, Mohler said Southern Seminary can expect denominational funding to decline for at least two years.

The seminary's full-time equivalent enrollment has dropped from 1,685 in 1993-94

to 1,255 in 1995-96. During the same period, two other SBC seminaries — New Orleans and Southeastern — have experienced enrollment gains, further compounding Southern's loss in the share of funding through the SBC's Cooperative Program unified budget.

Officials at the school say enrollment has stabilized. Even if enrollment increases, however, the effect of the recent decline will weigh against the seminary in the funding formula for two more years.



MOHLER

"We are headed into the two years most likely to cause us budgetary restrictions," Mohler told trustees.

Trustees expressed frustration with being unable to provide salary increases but adopted a 1997-98 budget of \$15.77 million, an increase of 0.6 percent over the current year, without opposition.

Several trustees questioned the absence of salary increases.

Mohler responded that while he was not pleased with

the recommendation to forego salary increases, "we want to do what is necessary this year so we can move ahead in future years."

Tennessee pastor Rick White of First Church, Franklin, former trustee chairman who is rotating off the board this year, urged trustees to return to their churches and push for "more money to leave the state."

He advised trustees either to advocate for change in the way Cooperative Program funds are divided between state conventions and the SBC or to bypass state conventions entirely with Cooperative Program contributions from local churches.

Most lay people, he contended, are more concerned with the work of the SBC than with the work of state conventions. "They don't think so much in terms of state conventions as national agencies and boards."

Current trustee chairman Jerry Johnson of Colorado, echoed White, adding that the church he serves as pastor sends money directly to the SBC Executive Committee.

In other developments trustees learned of the addi-

tion of nine new faculty members including Robert Stein from Bethel Theological Seminary, St. Paul, Minn., as professor of New Testament interpretation and Tom Nettles of Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Deerfield, Ill. Mohler described Stein as "one of the most significant evangelical scholars" in the world and Nettles as "one of Southern Baptists' greatest scholars."

"When all of these are added together it amounts to one of the most significant groups ever added to any theological seminary," Mohler said.

The state of campus facilities also shows signs of spring, Mohler said. Construction is progressing on a conference center and dining facility. "The most important development in terms of student life," Mohler said, is the \$1.4 million renovation of classroom space in Norton Hall.

The seminary's mission is "not only sound and healthy, it is advancing," he declared.

All trustee officers were re-elected. ■ — This article was compiled from a Baptist Press story written by David Porter and an Associated Baptist Press Story by Mark Wingfield.

GGBTS trustees reopen music school

Baptist Press

MILL VALLEY, Calif. — Trustees of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary have altered their April 8 decision to close the seminary's Dixon School of Church Music and opted instead to restructure the music school to make it a "financially viable" part of the seminary program.

The new action was prompted by the voluntary resignations of church music school faculty members Craig and Beth Singleton in hopes of keeping the church music school open. Both the Singletons, whose resignations are effective July 31, did not wish to make a public statement about their actions.

"Such a turn of events has obvious impact on the long-term financial concerns of

the music school and warranted reconsideration of the matter by our board," said seminary President Bill Crews. "We want to honor the steps initiated by our faculty as they seek the best interests of the seminary and the benefit of the churches."

Trustees approved the new action by telephone poll over the April 18 weekend. "Their agreement was unanimous and a substitute motion was also unanimously adopted directing the president to restructure the church music program of the seminary in a way to make it financially viable," Crews said.

At their spring meeting April 8, trustees had declared a "financial emergency" in the school of church music and directed Crews to begin the process for closing the music school by July 31. ■

In North Dakota and Minnesota

Volunteers needed soon, but not now

Baptist Press

MEMPHIS — Prospective volunteers wanting to serve in flood-ravaged North Dakota and Minnesota will be needed, but not right away, according to the coordinator of Southern Baptist disaster relief.

Everyone wants to go in now, but it will be at least two to three weeks before cleanup operations can begin, requiring volunteers in

large numbers, said Mickey Caison of the SBC Brotherhood Commission, who is serving as off-site coordinator.

Volunteers should call the Dakota Southern Baptist Fellowship in Bismarck, N.D., at (701) 255-3765 for more information.

For the moment, Caison said Southern Baptist relief operations already in the region were adequately staffed. Volunteers at three

mobile kitchens were being relieved with fresh troops, as normally scheduled, from the Texas, Ohio, and Oklahoma state conventions operating their units in the flooded areas.

In just four days after operations began, Southern Baptists provided more than 25,000 meals.

Caison called on Southern Baptists to pray for the victims and volunteers involved. ■

Baptists help hungry Bulgarians

Baptist Press

SOFIA, Bulgaria — Southern Baptists have helped many Bulgarian Baptists survive a hard winter by providing \$130,000 worth of food and fuel through a relief program administered by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

Bulgarian Baptists hope this kind of response from Baptists in other lands will do more than just help their needy countrymen. They hope the aid also will help them win respect from their government, which has maintained an anti-evangelical stance in recent years. Less government interference, Baptist leaders say, will produce more evangelism and church growth.

A positive sign is the government's permission to receive aid from evangelical Christian organizations outside the country. Such aid had been banned.

Since November more than 28,000 food parcels provided by Southern Baptist hunger funds have been distributed by the Bulgarian Baptist Union.

About 4,000 Baptist families are receiving a monthly packet of basic foods and \$6 in local currency to help pay heating costs.

"The people in the churches have expressed deep gratitude for this assistance and have prayed for the Lord to give them the possibility to return this blessing to other needy nations," said Paul Ridgway, a Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board missionary based in Sofia. ■

Bob Reccord to accept NAMB presidency if elected

By Art Toalston
For Baptist Press

NORFOLK, Va. — Robert E. "Bob" Reccord told the Norfolk, Va., congregation he leads April 20 he will accept the presidency of the Southern Baptist Convention's new North American Mission Board, if elected by the agency's trustees in their inaugural meeting June 19 in Dallas.

Reccord, 45, pastor of Norfolk's First Church, was joined in the Sunday evening service by Morris H. Chapman, president of the SBC Executive Committee, and Bill Hogue, a retired California Baptist executive who led the presidential search by a 13-member group of NAMB "incorporators." Reccord was the unanimous choice of the search committee.

"I know I must be obedient to what God is saying to me at this

point," Reccord told the Norfolk congregation, according to *The Virginian-Pilot* daily newspaper April 21. "Tonight I would just ask you a big favor: Please love us enough to grant us a release to take that step, because we feel like it's a step we must take."

Chapman, in his comments, said Southern Baptists "are dead serious about saying we want to lead North America to Jesus Christ. We're talking tonight about shaping the history of America."

Later that week on April 24 Reccord spoke to news media following the first day's meeting of potential NAMB trustees discussing actions required by the board when it officially organizes June 19. The "incorporators" of NAMB hosted the April 24-25 meeting in Atlanta.

Reccord resigned in March as

chairman of the task force guiding the SBC restructuring, acknowledging at that time he was the probable nominee for the NAMB presidency.

As chairman of the Implementation Task Force, Reccord led in assisting the SBC restructuring which reduces the number of SBC agencies from 19 to 12 and creates the new mission agency NAMB.

Reccord earned master of divinity and doctor of ministry degrees from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, in 1975 and 1979, respectively, and a bachelor of arts degree from Indiana University in 1972.



RECCORD

Reccord and his wife have three children: Christy Joy, 20; Bryan Christopher, 17; and Ashley Nicole, 13.

The SBC's restructuring is to be completed at the annual meeting in June in Dallas. Following that meeting, the North American Mission Board begins operation with the election of a president, one of the first items for new trustees to decide. NAMB is a new entity resulting from the closure of three agencies: Home Mission Board, Atlanta; Radio and Television Commission, Fort Worth, Texas; and Brotherhood Commission, Memphis. The new agency will have about 350 employees.

NAMB is a key facet of the SBC restructuring, highlighting the desire stated in the "Covenant for a New Century" passed by messengers to the

1995 SBC annual meeting in Atlanta to reach "the United States and Canada for Christ, using every appropriate means of evangelization and church planting."

If approved in June, the NAMB share of the SBC Cooperative Program budget will be 22.79 percent, or more than \$33 million.

It will be second only in size in the SBC budget to the International Mission Board (formerly the Foreign Mission Board) with its 50 percent, more than \$74 million, of the budget. NAMB will have nearly 5,000 missionaries in cooperation with 41 state conventions/fellowships and 1,200 associations.

A second source of funding for the new agency is the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for home missions which, in 1996, totaled nearly \$40 million. ■

Historical Commission trustees honor staff, agency's legacy

By Kim Burke
For Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — Twenty-six trustees of the Southern Baptist Historical Commission gathered with the 10 members of the commission staff for what was an emotional last annual meeting of the agency April 21.

The focus of the meeting was to complete the transfer of the commission's work to the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives and the Southern Baptist Historical Society following the closure of the commission. The Historical Commission will be closed June 19 as mandated by SBC messenger approval of the convention's "Covenant for a New Century" restructuring.

Trustees approved a recommendation that all assets of the Historical Commission not otherwise assigned be transferred to the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives after the commis-

sion is closed.

Slayden Yarbrough, the commission's interim executive director, commended the staff for undergoing heavy burdens even before the dissolution of the commission was announced. The staff faced the declining health of the commission's longterm executive director Lynn E. May Jr. and his subsequent death.

"I cannot adequately convey how this staff in a quiet, caring manner assumed additional burdens brought about by Dr. May's illnesses," Yarbrough said. "And they did so in such a way that those of us who were trustees at the time did not realize the gravity of the situation. ... I unashamedly say that I have grown to not only appreciate all of you, but have grown to love each of you," he noted through the tears.

During the meeting, trustees voted to transfer a set of desktop publishing equipment, one set of office furniture, miscellaneous office equipment, and sup-

plies not needed by the SBHLA (as determined by Yarbrough and Bill Sumners, director of the SBHLA) to the Southern Baptist Historical Society upon the Historical Commission's closure. Trustees also voted to provide up to \$1,500 from commission funds to be used to transfer this equipment and the society's publication inventory to its new home at Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee.

In addition to honoring the staff and a reception, the celebration event included a slide presentation covering the history of the Historical Commission by Andy Rawls, director of audio visual services at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

"We can all look back with pride, knowing that the Historical Commission fulfilled its assignments with competence and care," Yarbrough concluded, "and in so doing we served not only Southern Baptists but the cause of God's kingdom." ■

Missionary dies in car wreck

Baptist Press

FLORIANOPOLIS, Brazil — Wendell "Boots" Blackwell, Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board missionary to Brazil, died Sunday, April 20, in a traffic accident.

Blackwell, 52, served as director of the evangelism and missions department of the Baptist state board in Santa Catarina, Brazil. He was returning from a preaching engagement when a vehicle reportedly crossed the highway center line and struck his car.

The Baton Rouge, La., native and his wife, Sherry, were appointed as missionaries by the FMB in 1981.

In addition to his wife, Blackwell is survived by five children: Jennifer, 19, Jonathan, 17, Jodi, 15, Joshua, 14, and Jill, 12. ■

CLC supports Istook revision to amendment

Baptist Press

WASHINGTON — The Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission has agreed to support new language proposed by Oklahoma Congressman Ernest Istook as a religious freedom amendment to the United States Constitution.

The April 21 announcement came exactly two weeks after the CLC sent to all members of Congress an analysis explaining why it refused to support language previously announced by Istook, a Republican. The three-page critique reaffirmed the CLC's advocacy of a constitutional amendment but said the agency would not endorse a proposal announced March 24 by Istook. That version was never introduced in the House of Representatives.

The new proposal, developed in an April 17 meeting in Istook's office that include CLC staff members, says:

"To secure the people's right to acknowledge God according to the dictates of conscience: The people's right to pray and to recognize their religious beliefs, heritage, or traditions on public property, including schools, shall not be infringed. The government shall not require any person to join in prayer or other religious activity, initiate or designate school prayers, discriminate against religion, or deny a benefit due to religion."

Istook said the coalition that endorsed his previous language remained fully supportive of the new proposal. That coalition includes the Christian Coalition and Focus on the

Family. School prayer advocate David Barton, a supporter of the previous version, said he opposes the new language.

The Traditional Values Coalition, another evangelical organization which had withheld support for the previous Istook proposal, joined the CLC in endorsing the new version.

The previous Istook language that the CLC and TVC did not endorse said:

"To secure the people's right to acknowledge God: The right to pray or acknowledge religious belief, heritage, or tradition on public property, including public schools, shall not be infringed. The government shall not compel joining in prayer, initiate, or compose school prayers, discriminate against, or deny a benefit on account of religion." ■



New State BSU Council

New State BSU Council members include, from left, front row, Rachel Larsen, East Tennessee State University, East Tennessee representative; Jeannette Grace, Austin Peay State University, vice president; back row, Stephanie Bass, University of Memphis, West Tennessee representative; Jeff Gibson, Tennessee Technological University, president; and Justin Randolph, Tennessee Tech, Middle Tennessee member-at-large. The council was chosen during the recent State Spring Student Conference. See additional information on page 7.



opinion

about letters to the editor

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

Partnership Prayer Requests April-May

- 30 — Pray for Gdaskn Church in Poland that needs 8-10 men volunteers to complete construction on an educational space in the attic.
- 1 — Pray for the Larry Hendricks missionary family in Costa Rica as they move from one rented house to another in Tukurrique.
- 2 — Pray for the Baptist State Convention of Michigan's Bible drill and youth speakers tournament to be held May 3.
- 3 — Pray for Faith Church in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada, that is without a pastor.
- 4 — Pray for Second Baptist Church of Poznan, Poland, and its members. The church has requested a four-six member volunteer team to do preaching, music, and evangelism in schools and public areas.
- 5 — Pray for the mission group that meets on missionary Ben Argil's front porch in San Rafael de Guapiles, Costa Rica. The mission is clearing land for a new building to be built by Tennessee volunteers.
- 6 — Pray for the Baptist State Convention of Michigan's church planting seminary to be held May 12-13 at Bambi Lake.

Thank you!

This is a thank you note and though written specifically to the people of Nolensville Baptist, it could also be written to the other three churches I had the privilege of pastoring. I recently retired from Nolensville Church. I was called to my first pastorate in 1955. I have been blessed by each church I served. Some churches may mistreat pastors, but the four I served did not.

Thank you Nolensville Baptist for 13 wonderful years. My decision to retire was difficult. You loved my family. You helped rear my grandchildren. When I was ill you ministered to me. When my parents moved here you ministered to them with love and caring. You invited me to be part of your families. I laughed with you at weddings and cried with you at funerals.

You understood that my employment at the Baptist Sunday School Board had to take first place. You avoided making what you considered to be demands on my time. You willingly listened to supply preachers while I was at Glorietta and Ridgecrest. (Of course, a couple of my "friends" said, "We got to hear some good preaching for a change.")

You showered us with love, prayer, friendship, and gifts. Through the years you gave us much more than we deserved, and you did it joyfully.

Thank you for making our last pastorate a time to cherish forever.

Lowell F. Thompson
Antioch 37013

Thanks for sharing what many pastors probably feel about churches. Good relationships are always important to the pastor and congregation. — Editor

Parliamentarian

As editor you have certain rights and even responsibilities

but they do not include being spokesperson for all Southern Baptists or even any other Southern Baptist. In your remarks about Tom Elliff's choice of Barry McCarty as parliamentarian you have every right to disagree and to state your reasons. However, you made a lot of assumptions that went beyond your rights and responsibilities.

For example, you stated, "Evidently Henry's choice to stay within the family displeased the wrong folks." How can you make such an assumption? Why would you not simply assume that Tom Elliff thought Barry McCarty was the best parliamentarian available and chose to use him?

You made another assumption. "Even so, Southern Baptists have had to endure the hired parliamentary style of McCarty until 1995." How can you assume that? You further stated that Henry "sacked" McCarty.

What information do we have that would cause us to believe anything other than the fact that Dr. Henry simply selected the parliamentarian of his choice rather than "sacking" anyone?

If picking up the pieces of a fragmented body is your desire I would suggest "physician heal thyself." Rhetoric like "displeasing the wrong folks," "enduring the style of McCarty" not only assumes facts not in evidence, it is, in my opinion, divisive.

Charles D. Bailey
Louisville 37777

The editor does not claim to be a spokesman for anyone other than himself. — Editor

What's a name?

In a recent issue of the *B&R*, I read the front page article concerning a name change needed for the Baptist Sunday School Board. My big question is: what is a new name going to accomplish?

Have we gotten in the mode of changing things, just for the sake of change? What is to be gained from this change, or better yet, what is to be lost?

A well-known newspaper in my city ran an article on this matter, which caused me great frustration. The article said that a firm was hired to come up with a new name. The most shocking thing is that this firm is charging us \$80,000-\$90,000 to do so. If this is true, it is a total disgrace. The *B&R* didn't tell this little detail in their article.

This is far from being the kind of stewards that God wants us to be. Maybe we have too much money. I challenge all Southern Baptists to speak up before it is too late. A leaky bucket won't hold water and ours is rusting over.

Jeffery D. Moody
Jackson 38301

The cost figure was not given in the news article which came from Baptist Press, the news agency of the Southern Baptist Convention. — Editor

Conversion

Last February a meeting of the Christian-Jewish Symposium was held at Second Church in Memphis.

Some of the speakers said the meeting was long overdue. Indeed it was! And had we Baptists not have wasted the last 45 years fighting each other over how best to cram the ideas of one group down the throats of a second group, we could have participated in such a meeting many years ago. May God forgive, and especially the so-called "conservative" element, which is far less Baptist now than when the fight began.

At this meeting one pastor attempted to quell critics who were saying the resolution adopted by Baptists in 1996 was aimed at converting Jews to Christianity. He said the resolution was speaking about evangelism not conversion,

about sharing the good news of Jesus Christ.

But how can you share the good news and not hope for conversion? Is not conversion the child of evangelism?

Baptists do, and always have been seeking for conversion of Jews through faith in Jesus, the true Messiah. This was the greatest hope and heaviest burden on the heart of the apostle Paul. No preacher's heart yearned and ached for conversion of a people as did Paul's. It was his hope and prayer and pleading unto God that Israel would be saved even until the hour of his execution.

We Baptists should not, cannot seek less than did Paul!
Leonard W. Riley
Memphis 38115

Innovative giving

I am pastor of First Church, Dover. Our church has a rich tradition in support for the Tennessee Baptist Children's Home. This year I wanted to encourage the church to support the ministry even more than in past years.

For many years our church, as well as many churches in our convention, spends hundreds of dollars buying small gifts for mothers in attendance during worship services on Mother's Day.

I suggested to our church council that instead of buying gifts, we should donate that money, in honor of the mothers of FBC to the Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes. They agreed this would be a wonderful way to share even more of the blessings of God.

We also plan to donate money to TBCH in honor of our FBC fathers in June for Father's Day.

I would challenge other churches to think of new ways to support our Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes.

Terry Kirby, pastor
First Church
Dover 37058

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH

by Thom Tapp



Searching for leader who's 'ready'



Qualifications of a leader are important for many reasons, at any level. I Samuel records the story of how Israel sought a king, and God led them to a young man

named Saul.

We don't know for certain whether Saul had ever done anything that would have led people to see him as a leader.

In fact, Samuel had difficulty in putting him into the kingship. Saul hid "among the baggage." Notwithstanding all the apparent failures of Saul as a leader, God knew him to be capable, suited for the leadership of Israel.

By Wm. Fletcher Allen, Editor

Thousands of Southern Baptists place their retirement financial stability in the Annuity Board. An old joke quotes a pastor as saying, "If the convention ever splits, I'm going where the Annuity Board goes."

That's good thinking and planning. But the Annuity Board, helping State Conventions and individuals to become financially stable, is not going anywhere. In fact, its trustees already have named a search committee to find a president to replace Paul Powell, who will retire after next year.

The 12 basic qualities, traits, and characteristics they desire are good for any leadership position.

We share them:

The new president should be a man of vision, compassion, and humility.

He should be an ordained Southern Baptist minis-

ter with successful ministry experience, meeting the requirements given in I Timothy 3: 1-17.

He must understand Southern Baptist polity and convention organization. He must support the SBC by affirming the *Baptist Faith and Message Statement* of 1963, promoting the Cooperative Program, local church identification with convention missions and ministries and loyalty to agencies and institutions.

He must understand and embrace the fiduciary responsibility of the Annuity Board.

He must have ability to recruit and willingness to rely on professionals.

He has attained an appropriate level of educational preparation.

He must demonstrate an approachable management style.

He must have proven leadership skills.

And he must demonstrate outstanding communi-

cation skills.

These qualifications, though perhaps not all-encompassing, are good, proper. The search committee wants input.

Nominations should

be made with the consent of the nominee and sent with a written resume to: Chairman J. Ray Taylor, Presidential Search Committee, 3695 Encanto, Ft. Worth, Texas 76109.

Southern Baptists realize the importance of the Annuity Board's leadership. The search will spark high interest, and no doubt, many prayers. Glenn Weekley, pastor of First Church, Hendersonville, is a member of the nine-man committee.

Getting God's man is the goal. **B&R**

Pay close attention — this one needs erasing

Forgotten perhaps since the 1996 General Assembly took their 1996 hiatus, is a gambling bill that was approved "overnight."

That law allows simulcast parimutuel betting in Tennessee on horse races broadcast from tracks in other states. Of course, a race track would have to be built somewhere in Tennessee first.

As soon as legislators and the public realized what had been slipped through, efforts began to repeal the provocative law.

That effort resulted in HB-1668 which would re-

peal the law. The bill now seems destined to waste away in a House subcommittee. A vote on the bill has been thwarted three times by a House State and Local Government subcommittee. That committee apparently wants the betting law to stay on the books.

The law evidently was passed to help bring a horse racing track to Shelby County. Any county that approved horse racing by referendum could do the same.

Gambling is gambling. We encourage Tennesseans to contact their representatives about this noxious law and repeal it now. **B&R**

Just for today

By Fred Wood pastor emeritus Eudora Church, Memphis

Start with a smile

Husband to wife: "By the way, did you put my cooking outfit in the bag? I'll want to fry some of the fish we catch."

Wife to husband: "Yes, dear, and you will also find a can of sardines there too, and some crackers and cheese."

Take this truth

The laid plans of mice and men often go astray! That's

not literally what Bobbie Burns wrote, but that's a good translation. Thank God for those who understand you and provide a

"backup plan" for you in case your plan does not succeed.

Memorize this Scripture

Go to the ant, thou slug-gard; consider her ways and be wise: which having no guide ... provides her meat in summer, and gathers food at harvest. — Proverbs 6: 6-8.

Pray this prayer

Lord, help me to have common sense and be at least as smart as some animals we call dumb. ■

— Comments may be addressed to Fred Wood at 726 Forest Lake Drive, Memphis.

So what if you don't make the team; who cares?

When I was about 12 the first real spark of baseball touched my life. I remembered my two older brothers "horsing around" with a ball, two gloves, and maybe a bat on Sunday afternoons. We weren't allowed to play real games on Sundays.

Then, almost before any of us realized it, they were in high school and college, and too busy working toward paying their way. Then came the Army.

I heard other boys talking about baseball. But most of all, the newspaper's daily wrap-ups of yesterday's major league games amazed me, and my home town had a semi-pro team that was very good.

I was hooked. The fire of baseball burned fiercely in my heart every spring and summer.

Late afternoons when I had done my work, I spent hours hitting dirt clods with an old bat.

I played imaginary games, throwing the ball up and catching it, sometimes throwing it up on the tin roof of the house and let it roll down into my tattered glove.

one word more

— by Wm. Fletcher Allen, editor

One spring I summoned the courage to try out for the high school team.

I had gobs of false courage. Why, hadn't I read all those tips from major leaguers printed on cereal boxes? And hadn't I played in some "pick-up" games at recess?

I didn't doubt that I could play shortstop as good as anyone!

I got permission from my father. He probably knew I wouldn't last long — but he encouraged me. I had to wrangle my transportation.

Coach gave me a scruffy uniform fit for a misfit, sold me a huge pair of shoes, and gave me a try-out.

Some of the highlights include a fantastic outfield catch one day which everybody attributed it to luck, getting on base four times in one game because the pitcher was walking everyone, and getting hit in

the head by a pitch and having the guys remark how brave (or dumb) I was.

My "luck" ran out quickly. The red-haired boy got the shortstop spot because my shins stayed bruised I got tired of walking home after dark. I gathered a lot of splinters on the bench. I couldn't hit a fast ball — and I came to my senses.

I chose tennis — which I still play; and later, running, which I still do, and I know that I can be joyful in what God leads me to do. I never had the ability, and desire can only take you so far.

Later, I fell for softball, playing and coaching. These present memories are more to my liking. But I still like baseball, and have been pursuing my favorite team faithfully for several decades.

I also have learned that God is awesome in giving us spiritual gifts and ability. He nudges us toward using them. Knowing and do his will is more important than any "trivial" pursuit! ■



ALLEN

Words, music to popular hymn written on airplane flight

On a moment's inspiration, R. Maines Rawls wrote both words and music in 1968 while on a flight from Nashville to Dallas for an engagement.

He was serving as director of field service in the Baptist Sunday School Board's church recreation department.

When he returned to Nashville, he completed the manuscript copy and shared it with friends.

I recall how he came to my office and said he had something he wanted to show me. He sat down at the piano in my office and played and sang the song.

I was greatly impressed and told him we would publish it.

The hymn first appeared in *Some*

Hymns we sing

— by Wm. J. Reynolds, Southwestern Seminary

Songs for Fun and Fellowship No. 3 (1968), and later in the *Baptist Hymnal* (1975).

A graduate of Mercer University, Macon, Ga., Rawls did graduate work at George Peabody College and Scarritt College, both in Nashville.

He formerly served as state secretary of Church Training and Baptist Student Work for the Alabama Baptist Convention.

In 1944 he came to the Baptist Sunday School Board and worked effectively in several responsible positions be-

fore retiring in 1981.

"Take My Life, Lead Me Lord" is sung in many churches as a hymn of commitment and consecration.

As a hymn of invitation, it is very effective, for its three stanzas say, "Take my life, lead me, Lord," "Take my life, teach me, Lord," and "Take my life, use me, Lord."

Editor's Note: One of the vital life signs of Southern Baptist life is the music and hymns sung in the churches. The rich heritage music among Southern Baptists is easily recognized in the singing of the people. William "Bill" Reynolds, editor of the 1975 Baptist hymnal, is faithful in helping us to know the history. ■

Memphis church develops bond from missions

By Connie Davis
Baptist and Reflector

MEMPHIS — During 1996-97, Second Church, Memphis, conducted its largest foreign missions effort.

For about nine months the congregation planned, raised money, recruited workers, and collected items for the event. Then recently 35 people, 22 of whom are members of the church, traveled to Honduras. The volunteers provided health care to people there, reported Becky Wilson, coordinator of the effort.

The impact on the church is that the congregation plans to

launch the effort again, despite its magnitude.

To raise money, the church held two main fund-raisers, a Christmas home tour and a golf tournament. Members not only raised the needed \$10,000, but they discovered that the events were effective as a witness to the community, explained Wilson.

The community also responded when the team gave its report to the congregation, noted Wilson. About 300 gathered for the report during a Sunday evening service, she noted.

Wilson said she got involved by participating in the annual

health care venture to Honduras directed by Union University, Jackson. She is not a health care worker, but is an attorney who was a federal prosecutor for the Western District of Tennessee based in Memphis.

Wilson learned that health care teams are not limited to health care workers. She served as a photographer for the Union team after being recruited by her father, Don Webb of First Church, Jackson, a dentist. She continued her work as a photographer for the Second Church team in addition to leading the group.

Wilson participated on the

Union teams two years and then recruited two members from Second Church for the effort. She noticed that the

team provided —

- ▶ care for 1,993 clinic patients
- ▶ care for 249 dental patients
- ▶ 8,432 prescriptions
- ▶ 510 pairs of eyeglasses, which were distributed
- ▶ care for 683 animals
- ▶ 2,245 bags of clothing, which were distributed
- ▶ 16 worship services
- ▶ 622 children ministered to

team observed —

- ▶ 118 people make professions of faith



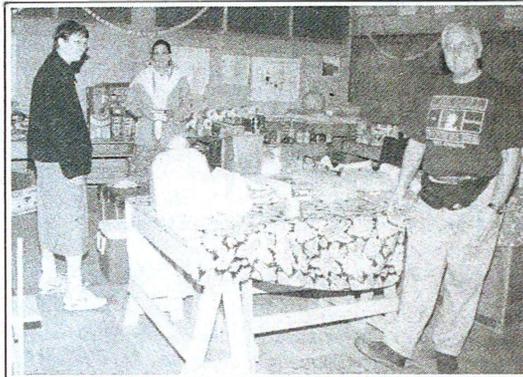
group had a bond because of the missions experience.

And she has noticed that exists for this year's group, but because the group was larger, the bond has unified much of the congregation. The unifying factor, said Wilson, is a "heart for missions."

"I hope this report will encourage other churches to do something similar," she said. *B&R*



HOLDING a child is Spence Wilson of the church.



KITCHEN CREW members preparing for work are, from left, Dorothy Westmoreland; Sharon Ludwig, ministerial associate for children at Second Church; and Jim McLain.



CONDUCTING a dental clinic are workers, from left, Barbara Elliott, Kevin Reed, a translator, a Honduran dentist, Pam Harris, and another Honduran dentist. — Photos by Rebecca Webb Wilson

Executive Board hires Mark Miller

For Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — The Church Growth Development Group of Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board Ministries has named Mark Miller, minister of education, Hilldale Church, Clarksville, as adult specialist, effective April 28.

Miller, a native of Jackson, has served Hilldale Church for six years. He also was minister of education, First Church, McAllen, Texas, 1988-1990; minister of education and youth and minister of education and administration, Markam Street Church, Little Rock, Ark., 1985-

88 minister of youth, First Church, Edom, Texas, 1983-85; and minister of music and youth, Calvary Church, Parsons, 1980-83.

Miller considers his home church First Church, Lexington. He is a graduate of Union University, Jackson; and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

In Cumberland Association, he has been ASSISTeam director, Discipleship Training director, and Vacation Bible School director. *B&R*



MILLER

International ministry of church holds reunion in Tokyo, Japan

For Baptist and Reflector

NASHVILLE — About 40 former members of the international ministry of Brook Hollow Church, Nashville, held a reunion April 19 at Tokiwadai Church in Tokyo. They were joined by Nashvillians Dorothy Jackson and Judy Dalton, who serve as teachers of the ministry.

The reunion is a sign that strong relationships are formed among the internationals and Americans in the ministry which are continued when they return to their native countries, said Katherine Bean of the church. The gathering was planned by one of the former members in Japan and enabled Jackson and Dalton to visit Japan for the first time. Many Japanese visit Nashville for extended periods to work or study at Vanderbilt University, explained Bean.

The church's ministry is 12 years old and has helped people from 32 different countries. *B&R*

Shelby Association calls Wilburn

For Baptist and Reflector

MEMPHIS — Shelby Association has called Ronnie Wilburn as director of missions, effective May 1.



WILBURN

Wilburn, pastor, Meridian Church, Jackson, for 12 years, and president, Tennessee Baptist Pastor's Conference 1993-94. Wilburn also has served as pastor of West Church, Hickman, Ky.; West Side Church, Trenton; First Church, Clifton; and Victory Heights Baptist Church, Cleveland, Miss. He is a graduate of Delta State University, Cleveland, Miss.; Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, Memphis; and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky. *B&R*

New Executive Board employees



The TBC Executive Board Administrative Services Group recently welcomed three new employees to its staff. From left are Linda Carrington, secretary, Camp Linden; Art Darden, facilities/support services manager; and Susan Mason, secretary, Camp Carson. The two secretaries will handle reservations for all groups using the camps for meetings, conferences, and retreats. Churches, associations, and individuals may now reserve camp accommodations directly through the camp offices: Camp Carson (423) 623-2764 or Camp Linden (615) 589-2622.

700 gather at largest state handbell festival



Tennessee features

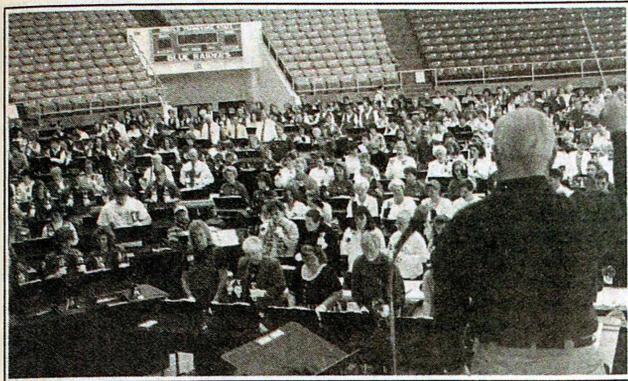
For Baptist and Reflector

MURFREESBORO — The largest Tennessee Baptist handbell festival ever held drew 56 choirs of about 700 members from Memphis to Mountain City April 18-19. The festival was held at Middle Tennessee State University's Murphy Center in Murfreesboro.

The annual event, which provides training and evaluation for handbell choirs, also has been held

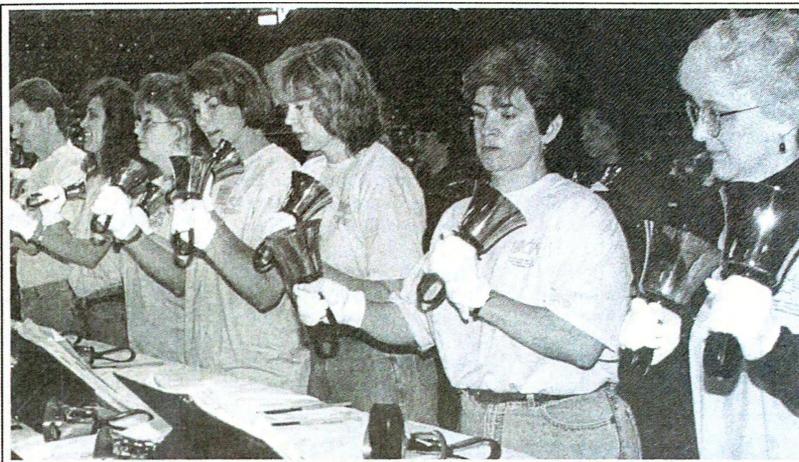
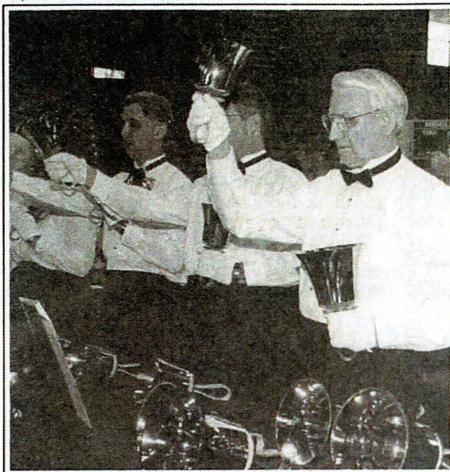
in several regions of the state, reported Julian Suggs of Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board staff. The state-wide event and growth of handbell choirs in the state allowed for the record setting attendance, Suggs said.

Classes covered individual ringing, basic and advanced techniques, and solo and ensemble ringing. *B&R*



▲ **LEADING** THE mass choir of handbell performers is Howard Starks, one of the clinicians of the festival. Starks is from Florence, S.C.

▶ **PARTICIPATING** from Crieewood Church, Nashville, are, from left, Royce Armstrong, Stephen Campbell, and Raymond Medley.



MEMBERS OF A CHOIR from Southeast Church, Murfreesboro, ring as part of the mass choir at the festival. Members are, from left, Christopher Bailey, minister of music; Ginna Hamby; Jennifer Ledbetter; Gayle Jordan; Mary Woodson; Lesa Williams; and Carolyn Shadwick. The name of their choir is Jubellation Handbells.

Student Spring Conference draws about 300

For Baptist and Reflector

COOKEVILLE — About 300 college and university students gathered for the annual State Student Spring Conference at First Church, Cookeville. Students commissioned 32 of their own to serve as summer missionaries. The missionaries are funded by state Baptist Student Unions. They will be working with Southern Baptist missionaries around the world. *B&R*



ATTACHING name tags to each other are Jeannette Grace, left, and Natalie Corp, both of APSU and both summer missionaries appointed to Tennessee.



MARI WILES, left, of West Hills Church, Knoxville, and **Tim Holcomb** of the TBC Christian Growth Development Group were speakers for the event.



AFTER BEING COMMISSIONED the 32 new Baptist Student Union summer missionaries pose for a photo. They will serve in four countries besides the United States, nine states, and in Tennessee. — Photos by Ircel Harrison



TBC EXECUTIVE BOARD staff members Rodney Wilson, left, and Bernie Morgan, right, visit with Ivy Dixon of UT - Martin, who will serve as a missionary in Nevada this summer.

SBC annual meeting to launch North American ...

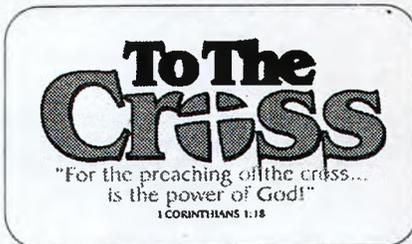
— Continued from page 1
foray into the nation's culture wars is the Disney-owned ABC sitcom "Ellen" embrace of network TV's first openly homosexual lead character.

In business sessions, messengers will act on a proposed record SBC budget of \$148 million in Cooperative Program support for more than 4,200 missionaries working among 336 people groups in 127 countries and 4,800 home missionaries across the United States.

The new NAMB formally will be launched in an organizational trustee meeting June 19 after the convention adjourns. Thus, this year's SBC annual meeting will bid farewell to the Home Mission Board, Brotherhood Commission, and Radio and Television Commission — the three agencies merging to form NAMB — along with several other SBC entities closing

under the convention's "Covenant for a New Century" restructuring, such as the Historical, Stewardship, and Education commissions.

A Thursday morning video will recap each outgoing agency's history, accomplish-



ments, and prayers for the SBC's sharpened Great Commission focus for the 21st century.

The restructuring, initially approved at the 1995 meeting in Atlanta, reduces the number of SBC agencies from 19 to 12 and, according to SBC officials, will provide an estimated

monetary savings of approximately \$34-\$41 million over five years to be made available for evangelism and church planting.

The 1997 meeting will be the fifth time the convention has been held in Dallas, with previous visits to the city also in 1985, 1974, 1965, and 1894. The 1985 Dallas meeting drew 45,519 messengers — the SBC's all-time high registration total.

Interestingly, when 14,277 messengers register at the Dallas meeting it will mean one million messengers have attended annual SBC meetings since its beginning in 1845.

According to SBC Registration Secretary Lee Porter's projection, this year's meeting should register about 15,000 messengers. Last year in New Orleans, 13,706 messengers were on hand.

As has become the tradition

at these large once-a-year meetings, "CrossOver Dallas," an evangelistic blitz of the metropolitan area, will precede the SBC sessions as will a host of other meetings such as the Pastor's Conference and the Woman's Missionary Union annual meeting.

SBC President Elliff will be nominated for a traditional second one-year term. A previously announced challenger, Texas bivocational minister of music Dan Bates, said April 7 he will not be a nominee.

Elliff will deliver his presidential address on Tuesday morning. The first election of officers will be at 2:20 that afternoon.

The convention sermon will be delivered Wednesday morning by the CLC's Land, who has titled his message, "The Watchmen and the Vision," based on Jeremiah 6:13-17 and Proverbs 29:18.

The convention's music director will be **James D. "Jim" Whitmire, minister of music**

at Bellevue Church.

A shuttle discount between a number of downtown Dallas hotels and the Dallas Convention Center aboard the DART/Light Rail System will be available for \$8 for four days, while shuttle service between Market Center-area hotels and the convention center will be available at a cost of \$10 for four days, \$8 for three days.

Organizers said hotel rooms are still available in the Dallas area, but to guarantee reservations the SBC housing form needs to be returned. Messengers who had reservations for the Wyndham Anatole Hotel, which unexpectedly canceled its SBC room block in March, are being relocated to other hotels.

Food service is planned in the convention center for lunches and dinners at reasonable prices, a spokesman said, and DART/Light Rail Service will be convenient to a number of restaurants in the West End area of Dallas. ■

SBC program highlights

The following is a condensed version of the SBC program with times and main features. For a copy of the schedule, as released by Baptist Press, send a self-addressed stamped (64 cents) envelope to *Baptist and Reflector*, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, Tenn., 37024.

Tuesday, June 17

- 8:15 a.m. — Morning Session Begins
- 8:30 a.m. — Call to Order
- 9 a.m. — Bible Study, David Ring
- 9:25 a.m. — Introduction of Motions and Resolutions
- 9:45 a.m. — Executive Committee Report (First)
- 11:10 a.m. — President's Address
- 1 p.m. — Afternoon Session Begins
- 2 p.m. — Committee on Nominations Report
- 2:20 p.m. — Election of Officers (First)
- 2:35 p.m. — Executive Committee Report (Second)
- 4:40 p.m. — Election of Officers (Second)
- 6 p.m. — Evening Session Begins
- 6:20 p.m. — Election of Officers (Third)
- 6:40 p.m. — Introduction of New Motions
- 7:20 p.m. — Seminary Presentation (includes message by Paige Patterson)
- 8:40 p.m. — Call to Commitment

Wednesday, June 18

- 8:15 a.m. — Morning Session Begins
- 8:30 a.m. — Election of Officers (Fourth)
- 9:25 a.m. — Previously Scheduled Business
- 9:50 p.m. — Committee on Resolutions (First Report)
- 10:10 a.m. — Introduction of NAMB Board
- 10:40 a.m. — Election of Officers (Fifth)
- 11:05 a.m. — Convention Sermon, Richard Land
- No Wednesday Afternoon Session
- 6 p.m. — Evening Session Begins
- 7:05 p.m. — Missions Emphasis (includes message by Adrian Rogers)
- 8:35 p.m. — Call for Commitment

Thursday, June 19

- 8:15 a.m. — Morning Session Begins
- 8:35 a.m. — Bible Study, Ledtkey R McIntosh
- 8:55 a.m. — Previously Scheduled Business
- 9:05 a.m. — Committee on Resolutions (Final Report)
- 9:30 a.m. — A Celebration: Reflecting on the Past, Rejoicing in the Future
- 11:00 a.m. — Speaker, Evangelist Luis Palau

Pastors' Conference seeks Holy Spirit

Baptist Press

DALLAS — It's more than just a theme for this year's Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference: "The Outpouring of the Holy Spirit in Dallas, Texas."

It will be an answer to the prayer and fasting of the conference's president, Ronnie Floyd, his church, and others asking God to anoint the June 15-16 sessions in the Dallas Convention Center prior to the June 17-19 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention.

"Pray ... pray ... pray ... pray for a mighty outpouring of the Holy Spirit," Floyd exhorted, for the Pastors' Conference "to take the Gospel to each subculture in America and the unreached peoples of the world."

Speakers are:

Sunday, June 15, 1:45-4:30 p.m. — Bruce Perkins, pastor, Grapevine, Texas; Stan Coffey, pastor, Amarillo, Texas; Harold O'Chester, pastor, Austin, Texas; Keith Thomas, pastor, West Palm Beach, Fla.

Sunday, June 15, 6-9:30 p.m. — Adrian Rogers, pastor, Cordova; Wellington Boone, Wellington Boone Ministries, Atlanta; K.A. Paul, founder, Gospel to the Unreached Missions, Houston

Monday, June 16, 8-11:35 a.m. — Johnny Hunt, pastor, Woodstock, Ga.; James Merritt, pastor, Snellville, Ga.; Edwin Young, pastor, Houston, Texas; Rick Warren, pastor, Mission Viejo, Calif.

Monday, June 16, 1:10-4:20 p.m. — O.S. Hawkins, pastor, Dallas; Ken Freeman, evangelist, San Antonio; Claude Thomas, pastor, Euless, Texas; Jack Graham, pastor, Dallas

Monday, June 16, 6-9:45 p.m. — Bill Bright, founder/president, Campus Crusade for Christ, Orlando, Fla.; J.C. Watts Jr., U.S. representative, 4th District-Okl., Washington; John Maxwell, founder/president, INJOY, San Diego

A special session for pastors' wives and other female Christian leaders will be offered on Monday from 8-11:35 a.m.

Floyd said he hopes the special session will provide them spiritual help "to embrace the ministries of their husbands." ■

Rankin, Lotz headline WMU annual meeting

Baptist Press

DALLAS — Foreign Mission Board President Jerry Rankin and Baptist World Alliance General Secretary Denton Lotz will highlight the June 15-16 Woman's Missionary Union annual meeting.

The yearly gathering of WMU members and guests will be held at the Dallas Convention Center Arena on Sunday and Monday prior to the June 17-19 SBC annual meeting. Sessions begin at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday and conclude Monday evening around the theme, "Beyond the Walls."

The Sunday afternoon session will feature the FMB re-

port and recognition of foreign missionaries. Rankin will be joined by his wife, Bobbye, and a host of missionaries in a presentation entitled, "Create New Ways to Share God's Love."

Lotz will keynote the Sunday evening session (7:30) which will include recognition of home missionaries and the 1997 Acteens Panelists.

The morning (9:30) and afternoon (2:00) sessions on Monday will emphasize the work of WMU. The Monday morning sessions will include addresses by WMU Executive Director Dellanna O'Brien and WMU President Wanda Lee.

The sessions also will feature a Sunbeam Centennial celebra-

tion and reports on special WMU projects as well as election of officers for 1997-98.

The Monday evening (7:00) session will feature Robert Smith, the Carl E. Bates professor of Christian preaching at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky. He will join the faculty of Samford University's Beeson Divinity School this fall.

Each session of the meeting will open with a theme interpretation by MissionsUSA Live, a performing arts group sponsored by the Home Mission Board. Author and speaker Jennifer Dean will close each session with a time of meditation and prayer. ■



Tennessee

people

■ First Church, Jonesborough, will honor **Glenna Barron** for 29 years of service as church caretaker. A reception in her honor will be held May 18. For more information, call (423) 753-3441.

■ Valley Grove Church, Knoxville, ordained March 23 as deacons **Howard Athley, Tim Bush, Trent Hamilton, Rick Hill Jr., Butch Inman, Don Reagan, and Richard Rickels**.

■ Georgetown Church, Georgetown, recently honored **Hazel Bacon** for 55 years of service as an accompanist of the church. She has served as both pianist and organist and will continue to serve as organist. Bacon was honored in two services one Sunday and with a reception which was a surprise to her. She was given several gifts, including a two-night stay in Gatlinburg.

leaders

■ **George Williams**, interim pastor, Marble City Church, Knoxville, was honored for 55 years of ministry April 20 by Second Church, Clinton. Williams served the Clinton church from 1952-78.



Tennessee samplers

Art of worship

By Jim Growden, pastor Hillcrest Church, Nashville

Down through the years I have observed many worshippers in church. Some have a good experience and some do not! It's all up to the individual. Let me share some suggestions for worship.

► Think of worship as an art, with definite rules to follow; an art you must acquire.

Previously he served as pastor of Crouches Creek Church, Jellico, and after retiring from the Clinton church has served as pastor, Norwood Church, Knoxville.

■ Goodsprings Church, Etowah, has called **Arnold King** as pastor.

churches

■ **Lincoln Heights Church, Tullahoma**, had revival April 6-11. Benny Jackson, evangelist based in Germantown, spoke and Lloyd Smith lead the music. Several people rededicated their lives and three made professions of faith.

■ A recent revival at **Laneview Church, Kenton**, resulted in 18 people making professions of faith and many rededicating their lives. Floyd "Lammie" Lammersfeld, evangelist based in Gleason, spoke.

■ **Third Church, Nashville**, will hold revival May 4-8. Billie Friel, pastor, First Church, Mount Juliet, will speak and Mike Daniel, minister of music of Third Church, will lead the worship.

■ **Trinity Church, Cordova**, will hold a Divorce Recovery Seminar each Sunday in May at 9:30 a.m. The sessions and speakers include "Help From the Bible," Earl C. Davis, pastor; "Liking Yourself After Divorce," Travis Lunceford; "Parenting After Divorce," Gail Larkins; and "The Explosive Power of Divorce," Don Doyle. For more information, call (901) 759-5955.

■ **Hickory Hills Church,**

► Spend a quiet Saturday evening and get plenty of sleep. Get ready for Sunday.

► Worship regularly (every Sunday). A doctor's prescription to be taken regularly is not effective if taken occasionally.

► Come to church expecting great things. When you expect to receive a blessing, you usually do.

► Come to church prepared for enjoyment. Worshiping is a radiant and happy experience, not a place for gloom.

► **Do not bring problems to church.** Don't bring ill will to God's house. A grudge blocks the flow of spiritual power. Pray that God will always have control of you.

► Practice the art of spiritual contemplation. In church, think about God and beautiful things — peace, love, and joy.

I think you get the idea. Bring someone to Bible study and worship every



RECEIVING a certificate for 26 years of service as minister of music, **Hillcrest Church, Nashville**, is **Jesse W. Gleaves**, right, from **Julian Suggs** of the TBC Executive Board staff, on April 6. On the same day **Elsie M. Gleaves**, wife of Jesse Gleaves, was honored for 37 years of service as the church's treasurer.

Mount Juliet, will hold revival May 4-7. Dean Haun, pastor, Hermitage Hills Church, Hermitage, will speak. Musical guests will be Gary Buck, music director, Richland Church, Nashville; Barry Voorhies, music director, First Church, Joelton; and Tim and Amy Wuester, music evangelists based in Gallatin. For more information, call (615) 754-2575.

■ **Calvary Church, Knoxville**, will host a one-day seminar, "The Dynamics of Anointed Bible Preaching," featuring Stephen Olford on video and David Olford and John Balmer. Registration is \$30 before May 16. For more information, call Bob Bowman at the church at (423) 523-9419.

■ **Clingan Ridge Church, Cleveland**, will host a School of Puppetry and Performing



HELPING install a steeple on the building of **Riverview Church, Newport**, is a worker perched on the roof. The church will dedicate the steeple May 25 at 2 p.m. Following the service an open house will be held. The church is issuing a special invitation to founders of the church.

Arts Ministries seminar May 12 from 6:30-10 p.m. It will be led by Puppet Productions of DeSoto, Texas. Training will cover puppetry skills, stage and prop construction, sound and lighting, illusion, ventriloquism, juggling, and balloon sculpture. The cost is \$12 for pre-registration or \$15 for regular registration. Enrollment is limited. For more information, contact Sharon Ramsey at the church at (423) 472-3511.

■ **Northbrook Church, Jackson**, will hold an open house May 4 from 2-4 p.m., for its new facility and a dedication service will be held at 3:30 p.m. The church was founded in 1993 and met on the campus of Union University for nearly three years. For more information, call the church at (901) 824-1993.

■ **First Church, Livingston**, will hold revival May 4-8. Ken Jordan, a former pastor now serving in

Conway, Ark., will speak.

■ **Boiling Springs Church, Baxter**, will hold revival May 4-7. Allan Lovelace, former pastor of Cleveland, will speak. Mark Pyburn will lead the music.

■ **Lincoln Avenue Church, Newport**, will hold revival May 4-7. Roger P. Freeman, pastor, First Church, Clarksville, will speak. For more information, call the church at (423) 623-2903.

churches

■ **New Duck River Association** will host a World Missions Conference May 4-7. Twenty-four churches are participating. Terry Sharp of the Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board staff will speak at a May 3 rally for the conference. For more information, call (615) 684-6592.

Sunday. Thank you for letting me be your pastor. ■

Grasping eternity

By Michael S. Lester, pastor North Etowah Church, Etowah

A parent overheard a conversation between her two children. Eight-year-old Debbie asked six-year-old David, "Do you know about Jesus?" When he replied negatively, big sister continued, "Sit still, 'cause this is real scary."

After explaining the Gospel as only an eight-year-old could, she popped the question. "Now, David, when you die, do you want to go to heaven to be with Jesus, God, your mommy, daddy, and big sister, or do you want to go to hell to be with the devil and bank robbers?" David thought a moment, then replied, "I want to stay right here."

Eternity is a concept too difficult for adults to fully grasp, much less a child.

Some of our fears of the unknown are eased by comforting promises about a heavenly home. I imagine it was during an especially difficult time that Vance Havner wrote, "The hope of dying is the only thing that keeps me alive."

Many look to the church only to provide assurances of a peaceful hereafter. They wrongly assume that Christ's resurrection means nothing in the here-and-now. The apostle Paul wrote of his desire to "know Christ and the power of his resurrection ..." Philippians 3:10. The resurrected Christ empowers us to live a new life, even when we "stay right here." ■

Articles included in "Tennessee Sampler — views, insights" are written by Tennessee Baptist church and associational leaders. The articles are chosen for publication from newsletters of churches and associations. The *Baptist and Reflector* does not necessarily concur with the views expressed.

Tennessee missionary seeks water to baptize converts

By Randy Pool
For Baptist and Reflector

Editor's Note: Pool is a native of Millington and former pastor of Raleigh North Church, Millington; Oak Grove Church, Milan; and FBC, Clifton. He and his wife, Cynthia, of Trenton are Southern Baptist missionaries in Honduras.

SAN LORENZO, Honduras — April is normally the hottest and driest month for southern Honduras and this year was no exception.

The small streams evaporate in cracked clay. The larger rivers, which have swelling currents during the rainy season, can now be crossed at less than waste-deep levels.

The lack of water poses a problem for baptisms, but it is a problem worth having. For

the first two Sundays of April I waded the Pespire River in southern Honduras in search of water deep enough in which to plunge the new believers of two separate congregations, both of which are still reaping harvest from an international crusade held earlier this year. For the



POOL

small country of Honduras, the harvest is great and growing.

A year of evangelism and preparation proceeded the recent 10-day crusade which involved more than 300 people from nine countries. The

theme was "There Is Hope — Jesus Christ."

More than 22,000 professions of faith were reaped through these campaigns.

With so great a response, finding water to baptize these

new believers is a wonderful problem to have. As Honduran Baptist churches labor toward the 21st century, they are finding the harvest truly plentiful and the Lord of the Harvest faithful to save. ■

Classified

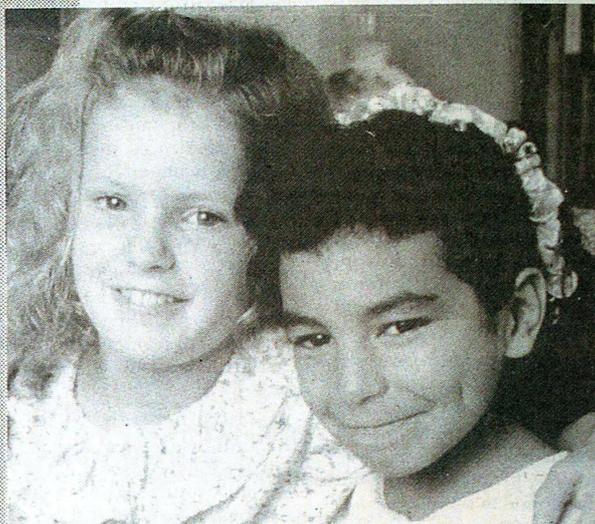
MINISTER OF MUSIC: Bivocational minister of music needed at Lynn Garden Church, Kingsport. Write Lynn Garden Baptist Church, P.O. Box 4035, Kingsport, TN 37665 or call (423) 246-2562.

FOR SALE: Sixty-eight oak finished padded church pews; good condition; \$175 each. If taken as lot, price negotiable. Call South Harriman Baptist Church at (423) 882-1816, M-F, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

OPENING: Northside Church, Milan, seeks full-time minister of youth and worship to lead and coordinate the music ministry and to work with youth and children and assist the pastor in visitation, etc. Send resumes to Larry Hart, Northside Baptist Church, P.O. Box 589, Milan, TN 38358.

MINISTER OF MUSIC & YOUTH: First Baptist Church, Parsons, is searching for a full-time Minister of Music and Youth. Interested and qualified individuals may submit resume to: FBC, P.O. Box 69, 210 Tennessee Avenue South, Parsons, TN 38363, Attn: Damon Mays.

Joining
Hands;
Healing
Hearts



On Sunday, May 11, Mother's Day will come and go just like any other day for a lot of children because difficult family circumstances have left them without the tender, loving relationships of their moms.

There is no appropriate substitute for a mother but Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes is there for children who have needs.

1997 Mother's Day Offering Statewide Goal: \$1,275,000

We offer loving care, counseling, and spiritual guidance to the abused, neglected, and abandoned children of Tennessee.

So please remember the children on Mother's Day. Help us to help every child who needs us. Your gift makes all the difference in *their* world.



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Seeking experienced pastor, seminary graduate, for SW Virginia Southern Baptist Church. Please send resume to: Pastor Search Committee, PO BX 711, Abingdon, VA 24212, by May 31.

Seeking
Davies-McLean Baptist Association is accepting resumes for director of missions. The association consists of 58 churches in Davies and McLean counties in Western Kentucky. Mail resumes to Davies-McLean Baptist Association, c/o Chairperson Marilyn Sanders, 1003 Scherm Road, Owensboro, KY 42301. Deadline for resumes is June 6.

TO HIM BE GLORY FOREVER
Gracewood Baptist Church Sanctuary Dedication
May 4, 1996 10:30 A.M.

Gracewood Church, Olive Branch, Mississippi, Northwest Association, has just completed their new 620 seat sanctuary. Dedication day will be May 4, at 10:30 A.M. The theme for the service is *To Him Be Glory Forever*. The service will feature special music, recognition of special guests, and messages from Dr. Bill Causey and Dr. Ronnie Mitchell. The public is invited to the dedication service. A meal will follow at noon. Please notify the church if you plan to stay for the noon meal. Gracewood is located 1/2 mile South of State Line Road in DeSoto County. Dr. Ronnie Mitchell is the pastor.

Freedom

By Gary Rickman

Focal Passage — Romans 8:1-17

We live in a society that places a very high value upon freedom. What does being free mean? A person with a Hedonist attitude would answer freedom is being able to do anything you want. On the other side, there are those who say freedom is not a license to do anything you want, that it carries a great burden of responsibility ... a responsibility so great they do not think true freedom can exist.

The Bible states the Christian can know freedom. In John 8:32, Jesus states, "... you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." Many Christians readily accept the freedom from sin offered in Christ, but they miss the truth that Christ also has freed them to live strong lives of peace and joy. We experience this freedom under the Holy Spirit's direction.

In this week's lesson we learn living in the Spirit is not to be an occasional impulse but is to be the day-by-day, normal Christian experience which will give us freedom.

The focal passage identifies four areas of life where the Christian is given freedom.

The first is stated in verses 1-4. The Christian is free from the law. The new life in the Spirit brings freedom from the slavery of sin. The law could not do this because it was made "weak" by sin. Christ provided the moral power to meet the law's demands. Having trusted Christ, the Christian experiences victory over sin by the indwelling Holy Spirit.

In verses 5-9a the second freedom is from sin's control. This freedom is shown by contrasting two kinds of life. There is the life which is dominated by sinful human nature whose focus and center is self, and there is the life that is dominated by the Spirit. The life dominated by selfish desires and controlled by sin is on the way to death. The Spirit-controlled life is growing in its walk with Christ, allowing the Spirit to give victory over sin, and producing his fruit in their lives.

The third is freedom from death (vv. 9b-11). "The body is dead" because it is full of sin, and sin leads to death (Romans 6:23). Because Christ is in our lives, his righteousness makes our spirits alive. Christ not only gives life to our spirits, but his Spirit also indwells in us. As the Spirit raised Jesus from the dead, he also will raise us up.

The fourth freedom is freedom from fear (vv. 12-17). By God's Spirit we have been placed into a new family by adoption. The Roman practice of adoption included four benefits. First, the adopted gained all of the rights and the privileges in the new family. Second, the adopted person's old life was wiped out completely, even old debts. Third, the adopted person became an equal heir in the new father's estate. Fourth, the adopted son was completely the son of the new father. By having been placed into a new family we no longer are responsible for the debt of sin and sin no longer has control over us; instead, we gain all the rights and privileges that come from being God's children. Since we are inheritors of all that God has to offer, why should we fear?

As Christians we are free from sin's power and enslavement. We are free in Christ to enjoy life as he intended it. We are free to enjoy an intimate relationship with God. We are free to experience his glorious inheritance. Yet only as we surrender to him and live under his control do we experience this freedom. ■ — Rickman is Church Staff Leadership Group Leader, TBC Executive Board.

The Redeeming Lamb

By Larry Kirk

Focal Passage — Revelation 5:1-10

The Winchester home in San Jose, California, is an unusual attraction. The massive structure sports many windows and doors. Some are located in unusual places, such as windows in floors and doors that open into walls rather than rooms.

Our lesson today begins with the opening of yet another unusual door (v. 1). Through this heavenly door John was invited to "come up here" and see the "coming attractions." Upon the right hand of the One seated on the throne was a scroll (book-on-a-roll) of unparalleled significance. It was filled to overflowing and sealed seven times to ensure the secrecy of its decrees. It contained a full account of what God in his sovereign will had determined as the destiny of this world. or as one commentator said, it contained the "title deed to earth."

Family Bible Lesson

The gauntlet was thrown down to men and angels, to principalities and powers, to thrones and dominions. Who of God's creatures was fit to rule the world? The only response was silence. This silence of the breathtaking moment was broken by John's weeping (v. 4). It was as if the long-awaited kingdom would never come — as if Satan's control of the affairs of the universe would be without end.

Into this moment of hopelessness came the ever comforting phrase, "Weep not" (v. 5). There is One who is worthy — the Redeeming Lamb.

There is a principle here we do not need to overlook. In the midst of the darkest hour, in the deepest sense of hopefulness, when no one on earth — no matter how great in the faith — can offer any solution, do not despair as those without hope. God never leaves himself

without a man and will never leave us to man.

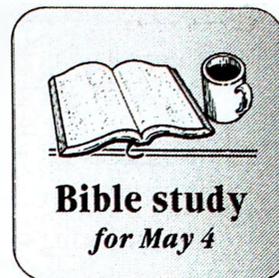
"In the midst of the throne ... stood a Lamb." How could John have missed him? Not only was he, as the song says, "there all the time," he was center stage. Oh, how often we miss the Lord. In the midst of the church, in the midst of a stirring sermon, in the midst of praying, we can still miss the Lord if we focus upon the problems around us.

With one small swipe of the heavenly brush, John paints a large word picture. The word, "Lamb," here is not the usual word — it means "little lamb." Get the picture? Against the powerful forces of Satan, against the millions of militant foes massed on earth and in hell, God sent a "little lamb." But it was no regular lamb. This lamb is one with the "seven horns" of omnipotence and the "seven eyes" of omniscience. His power is perfect, full, complete beyond withstanding.

Is it any wonder that the heavenly choir broke forth with a new song for a new king? And this heavenly choir is no graded choir — it is an international choir. As we were reminded in Costa Rica among language barriers, music will be the language spoken in heaven. And we will all be on key and in tune. What a miracle.

Our Lord is worthy of such praise because he "has redeemed us to God." Redemption carries with it the idea of exchange. In exchange for Christ's death, we are brought into a right relationship with God. It should be noted that we are not simply redeemed. Rather, we are redeemed "to God." We are not redeemed wanderers. We are in the family of God — a family of priests and rulers (v. 10).

Who is worthy? The Redeeming Lamb. ■ — Kirk is Evangelism/Mission Strategies Group Leader, TBC Executive Board.



Receiving God's promises

By Tim Holcomb

Focal Passage — II Samuel 7:8-17

A friend shared a Scripture verse with several people at her retirement dinner. She wrote the text on a business card. She instructed us to put the card into our Bibles. Over time, the card would fall out of my Bible and call me back to this verse. "God who has called you into fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ, is faithful," I Corinthians 1:9.

In recent months, God has described to me what faithful means. His activity has not been any different in my life, however, his spirit's work in my life has sensitized me to understand this activity. God is faithful. David knew that in his day as well.

David becomes king. In these verses, God's work among his people is developed in David's becoming king. "You will shepherd my people Israel, and you will become their ruler," (v. 2). God's call was clear and distinct to David. As David went about his life controlled by this call, God's leadership was apparent. Several events define the credibility of God's activity and the behavior of David.

Elders of Israel came to David to make a pact with him.

David conquers Jerusalem and

Explore the Bible Lesson

makes it his capital. Jerusalem was a strategic city easily defended and non-political. David gives Jerusalem a secondary name "the city of David." The Scripture reconfirms David's credibility as king ... "And he became more and more powerful, because the Lord God almighty was with him."

Gifts were given to David for his palace and again God confirmed his credibility as king ... "had exalted his kingdom for the sake of his people Israel."

David defeats the Philistines. Another action that affirms the credibility of his becoming king. The Lord answered David ... "Go, for I will surely hand the Philistines over to you."

David celebrated the retaking of the ark of the covenant, then he dances in celebration into Jerusalem. His wife Michah chastises his behavior. David again clarifies his call as king. "It was before the Lord, who chose me rather than your father or anyone from his house when he appointed me ruler over the Lord's people Israel."

God makes promises to David. David wanted to bring praise to God. He said, "Here I am, living in a

palace of cedar, while the ark of God remains in a tent." (v. 1). David sets out to build a temple for the ark of God.

Nathan the prophet affirms David's action in building a temple. David's desire brought this response from God, "... I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make your name great, like the greatest men of the earth."

God blesses David for his desire to honor him. Several items reflect the way God blesses David: David would be blest through his descendants; David's kinsmen would be held accountable. God loved David so much, that sin would not separate them, but would bring correction; David would experience commitment from God based on grace; David's throne would be established forever.

Every time my retired friend's card drops from my Bible I'm reminded of God's faithfulness. God has made a commitment to each of us. The spirit's work in our lives makes his call credible and thus he is faithful.

So what? In what ways is God faithful in your life? What promises is God making to you today? ■ — Holcomb is Christian Growth Development Group Leader, TBC Executive Board.



**SBC '97
related meetings**

Dallas Prayer Walk Slated

Baptist Press

DALLAS — Hundreds of sites need to be prayed over during a June 12-13 Prayer Walk preceding the June 14 CrossOver Dallas evangelistic thrust, according to Jana Young of Dallas Association, which is coordinating both initiatives.

This year marks the first time a prayer walk has been formally incorporated into CrossOver activities prior to the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Baptists interested in participating in the Dallas Prayer Walk can contact Young's office at (214) 324-2803.

Young encourages those who can't be there for the Prayer Walk to pray for all CrossOver participants. ■

DOMS to consider committee report

Baptist Press

DALLAS — A study committee report focusing on the purpose and structure of the 475-member Southern Baptist Conference of Associational Directors of Missions will be the main item of business when the organization holds its annual meeting June 15-16 at the Adams Mark Hotel at 400 N. Olive Street here.

The study was approved during last year's DOM meeting. A summary of the committee's report is slated to appear in the association's May newsletter.

During the meeting DOMS also will hear from Calvin Miller, professor, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; Bill Pinson, executive director of the Baptist General Convention of Texas; and others.

The Sunday evening banquet will feature Dennis Swanberg of SWBTS. ■

Musicians mark 30 years of compositions

Baptist Press

DALLAS — The Southern Baptist Church Music Conference, which holds its annual

meeting June 15-16, will mark the 30th year of commissioning church music compositions.

Conference sessions will be held at First Church, Richardson, prior to the June 17-19 SBC annual meeting here.

The conference began its tradition of commissioning compositions in 1967. Many of the compositions remain in use in Baptist churches, said Bill Green, conference president from Oklahoma.

Three compositions will be unveiled this year: an anthem, "Holy in the Highest," by Robert Sterling of Nashville; a hymn, "Sound the Word and Share God's Love," by Hugh McElrath, Louisville, Ky.; and a children's song, "All Around This Wonderful World," by Joseph Martin of Austin, Texas.

The conference begins at 2:15 p.m. on Sunday and concludes with a 7 p.m. Monday evening worship service featuring the Singing Men of Texas, encompassing more than 200 ministers of music from five regional choirs across Texas.

This year's W. Hines Sims Award for outstanding contributions to Southern Baptist music life will be presented to **Genter Stephens**, a retired New Orleans (La.) seminary professor and former Tennessee Baptist Convention staffer (1952-55). ■

Hispanic group to celebrate 10th anniversary

Baptist Press

GARLAND, Texas — Cooperation — with each other and with all facets of Baptist work — was a key commitment 14 men made 10 years ago in founding the Southern Baptist Hispanic Fellowship, according to Bob Sena, director of the Home Mission Board office of Hispanic ministries.

The fellowship's 10 years will be celebrated during its June 14-15 annual meeting at Primera Iglesia Bautista Nueva Vida here prior to the SBC annual meeting June 17-19 in Dallas.

More than 3,000 Hispanic congregations are now a part of Southern Baptist Convention life. ■

Campus ministers set 20th meeting

Baptist Press

FORT WORTH, Texas — The 20th anniversary of the Association of Southern Baptist Campus Ministers' first annual meeting will be celebrated during the organization's June 13-15 sessions at Southwestern Baptist Theolog-

ical Seminary here.

ASBCM, now with 125 members, held its first annual meeting in June 1977, following its organizational founding the previous year in Norfolk, Va.

This year's keynote speaker will be Calvin Miller, Southwestern professor.

For registration information, contact Bob Ford at (205) 435-7020. ■

Evangelists' program includes Tennesseans

Baptist Press

DALLAS — Two Tennessee Baptist evangelists — Henry Linginfelter of Alcoa and Ron Herrod of Loudon — are slated to speak at the annual meeting of the Conference of Southern Baptist Evangelists June 18 from 1:30-4:30 p.m. at First Church here.

Another Tennessee evangelist — J. Harold Smith of Newport — will be recognized for 60 years of service.

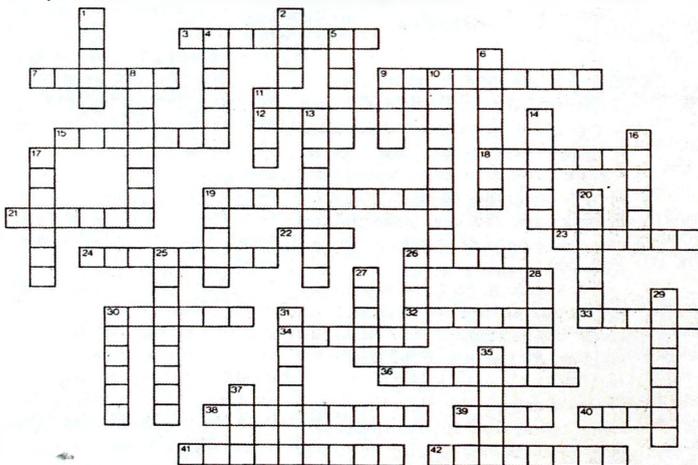
The other featured speaker will be W.A. Criswell, pastor emeritus of First Church, Dallas.

The evangelists' annual business breakfast will be held June 17 at 7:30 a.m. at the Hyatt Regency. ■

For Adults and Teens

The Book of Mark

People and Places of Passion Week -Mark 14-16



DOWN

1. Opposite of man
2. ... the Baptist
4. Thief
5. Elisha's master
6. Criminal released by Pilate
8. Follower of Jesus
9. Female servant
10. Garden of ...
11. Queen's husband
13. Where Peter denied Christ
14. Opposite of mother
16. Simon's city (who carried cross)
17. City where Christ went after resurrection
19. Disciple named Simon

20. Copiers of scripture
25. Joseph of ...
26. Brother of John
27. Opposite of free
28. Owner of slaves
29. Army men
30. Number of disciples
31. The mountain called the skull
35. Jesus ...
37. King of the ...

ACROSS

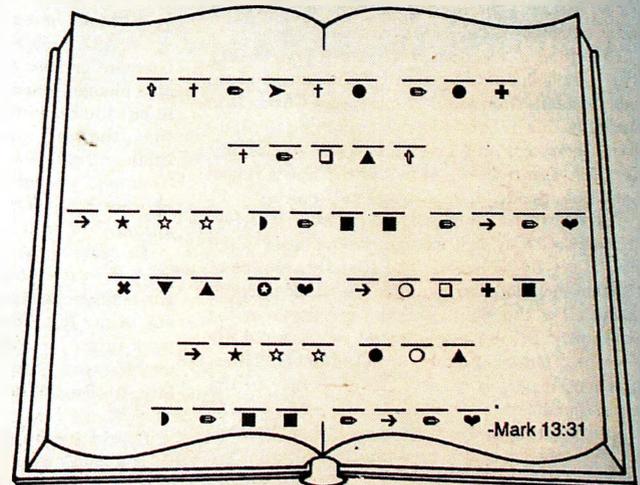
3. Captive
7. Protectors
9. Mary ...
12. Judas ...
15. Instructor
18. City of Simon the leper

Fun for the Family

Just for Kids

The Book of Mark

Use the code at the bottom to fill in the blanks.



CODE

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 * † ‡ § ¶ · ¸ 9 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

"Fun for the Family" is a new feature of the *Baptist and Reflector* that will appear regularly. If you get stumped on answers, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to *Baptist and Reflector*, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, Tenn., 37024 and we will send you the answers.