

REFLECTOR

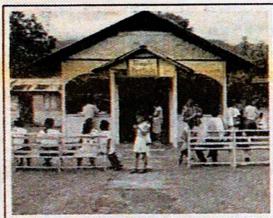
Volume 164 / Number 4

Statewide Edition

January 28, 1998

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week's
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HELPING IN COSTA RICA

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At annual State Evangelism Conference

Tennesseans challenged to magnify Jesus

By Connie Davis & Lonnie Wilkey
Baptist and Reflector

NASHVILLE — About 1,000 Tennesseans gathered for the annual State Evangelism Conference Jan. 19-20 in Nashville for inspiration and motivation.

The conference, which was held at Judson Church here, included the usual format of speakers and music, including a "Laymen's Night." However, this year it also offered information about Tennessee Reach, a "strategy for reaching Tennessee for Christ by the year 2000." In addition, training was offered on church evangelistic methods, a national evangelistic program, "People Sharing Jesus," and on creative evangelistic worship.

Speakers from other states

Richard Jackson of Brownwood, Texas, spoke twice on Monday. During the evening session he shared his struggles and insights on witnessing.

The retired pastor of North Phoenix (Ariz.) Church, and current director of the Jackson Center for Evangelism and Encouragement, said Christians "have not been charged with the responsibility of growing the church."

Jesus never told the disciples to build the church; he

told them, he said, to "get in on what God is doing. You see God has called us to Kingdom work."

Jesus gave only one assignment to his disciples, he noted, and Christians know it as the Great Commission in Matthew 28:19-20.

That fact can be very comforting to Christians, he explained, because it doesn't foster competition or comparisons. "Church work happens in different ways in different parts of the Kingdom," he explained. "You don't need to be concerned about what's going on in other churches as long as you're doing Kingdom work where you are."

Christians also should not be deterred by assuming the burden for "winning the world to Christ," he continued.

That assumption leads to the response that "the task is too big and besides, I've read the book and I know all are not going to be saved, so I can cop out."

Instead, Christians should understand the assignment of the Great Commission is an individual one, requiring a Christian to witness to "everybody in our world, in our normal traffic pattern," said Jackson.

Finally, Christians should realize why witnessing is so



TBC EVANGELISM SPECIALIST Ken Weathersby, left, welcomes two of the speakers at the annual State Evangelism Conference held last week at Judson Church, Nashville — evangelist Richard Jackson, center, of Texas, and Rick White, pastor, First Church, Franklin. — Photo by Connie Davis

difficult, said Jackson.

"The devil's not against anything except people coming to God."

Also Christians shouldn't police people's morals when witnessing. "He (God) didn't even say to check their theology," added Jackson.

"Do you understand how free your people will be when they understand they get to tell people about the love of God?" he asked the crowd.

"Evangelism is not a gift; it's an assignment. Brothers and sisters tonight, quit trying to grow the church; do the

task of evangelism," said Jackson.

Louisiana pastor Fred Luter Jr. of Franklin Avenue Church, New Orleans, spoke twice during the conference.

In his first message, "Running the Christian Race," Luter used the analogy of a relay race. There are two sides, he said, God and the devil. "We have the advantage. We already know the outcome," Luter said.

Though Satan knows he can't win he will try to take out individual team members. — See Tennesseans, page 4

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Hotel reservations needed for YEC

For *Baptist and Reflector*

BRENTWOOD — People planning to bring their youth groups to Nashville for the Youth Evangelism Conference March 6-7 need to make hotel reservations immediately, says Ken Weathersby, evangelism specialist for the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Hotels are wanting to release the rooms they have blocked for the YEC for a convention that is scheduled at the same time, Weathersby said.

He encouraged youth leaders to find the hotel information in their YEC packets and to make hotel reservations at once. ■

Southern Baptist aid arrives in North Korea

Baptist Press

PYONGYANG, North Korea — About 114 tons of aid from Southern Baptists — including some 70,000 children's coats donated between Thanksgiving and Christmas — arrived in Pyongyang, the capital city of North Korea, late Jan. 18.

Borne on the world's largest cargo plane, the aid was unloaded immediately. Coats were distributed to children whom officials feared would freeze to death this winter without protection from bitter temperatures sometimes dipped to 4 degrees below zero.

North Korean officials said children under 12 were at risk in the throes of an extended famine that has left them weakened and malnourished. They asked Southern Baptists

for up to 180,000 children's coats and various medicines.

Because of increased giving to Southern Baptist human needs funds, the Southern Baptist International Mission Board bought 25,000 additional children's coats from Asia and began shipping them into North Korea, said Bill Cashion, IMB consultant for human needs.

Cashion was part of a Southern Baptist delegation that arrived here Jan. 12 to meet with North Korean officials and was still in the country when the aid shipment arrived. He spent one full day helping deliver coats to needy children before returning to the United States.

He saw tall skyscrapers lit by candles and without heat. In one bitter-cold schoolroom

he visited, Cashion shot videotape of children waving and greeting him. As soon as he put down the camera, the entire group began hacking and coughing. "The coats and medicines we are bringing will literally save these children's lives," Cashion said.

The IMB chartered a Ukrainian-built Antonov AN-124, formerly designed as a Soviet military craft, to airlift the coats, plus 10 tons of antibiotics, anti-diarrhea medicine and vitamins, 21 tons of corn, and 30 tons, or two million servings, of dehydrated soup mix.

Late last year, Southern Baptists from throughout the U.S. responded to a "Coats for Christmas" drive sponsored by the IMB, Woman's Missionary Union, and the North American Mission Board. ■

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Evangelism thrust planned for Winter Olympics

By Chris Turner
For Baptist Press

NAGANO, Japan — The largest team at the 1998 Winter Olympics won't be competing for gold medals. It wants trophies for heaven.

More than 350 Christian volunteers and full-time ministers are ready for work when the Olympics begins Feb. 7 here. The group includes several Southern Baptist International Mission Board missionaries and 60 Southern Baptist volunteers.

The teams will work in cof-

feehouses set up for evangelism, in hotel information booths, as garbage collectors, and as chaplains. Christians are to be the only religious group represented by chaplains here, a city with one of the largest Buddhist temples in the world.

"This is a great time for outreach," said Michael Fox, chaplain with Athletes in Action. "We'll be having chaplains here from Russia, Switzerland, and Sweden, as well as Canada and the United States, since there will be athletes speaking various languages."

IMB missionaries see the Olympics as a perfect opportunity for the IMB to work with other Great Commission Christians to bring people worldwide to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. Southern Baptist missionaries will cooperate with Campus Crusade for Christ, Athletes in Action, International Bible Society, InterVarsity, Youth With a Mission, and the American Bible Society.

One approach to reach athletes will be wide distribution of the "Jesus" film in video form. "We've shipped 1,500 'Je-

sus' videos in multiple languages," Fox said. "We will give the videos to the athletes and officials in their language. Pray for openness on the part of the athletes to hear the Gospel."

"Mega-events like the Winter Olympics bring people together that would not normally (come together)," said Mark Snowden, media consultant for the IMB. "The Nagano sports evangelism outreach will serve as a catalyst for evangelism among many people groups for many months and possibly years." ■

Enrollment exceeds 10,000 students at SBC seminaries

Baptist Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Combined student enrollment for the 1997 fall semester at Southern Baptists' six seminaries surpassed the 10,000 mark, with only one of the schools reporting a decline in enrollment, seminary officials report.

Total enrollment stands at 10,090, an increase of 335 students and a 3.4 percent increase over the 1996 fall enrollment of 9,755. Enrollment at SBC seminaries accounts for approximately 14 percent of all students pursuing theological education in the United States and Canada, based on a comparison of statistics from a recent accrediting agency report.

The SBC seminaries officially compare fall-to-fall enrollment statistics based on the "non-duplicating headcount" of students enrolled in basic degree programs, pre-baccalaureate programs, and classes for academic credit.

In 1993, the seminaries began jointly

reporting their combined fall student enrollment through Baptist Press using registration data finalized in October. This academic year, to account for varied registration schedules at the six schools, the Council of Seminary Presidents agreed to report student enrollment at the conclusion of the fall semester.

The largest percentage increase was enjoyed again by Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C., with 1,495 students, 10.5 percent more than 1996. Its second consecutive year of record fall enrollments, Southeastern enrolled 142 more students than the previous year.

Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, increased its enrollment by 9.6 percent, with a total of 1,801 students. Southern Baptists' oldest seminary enrolled 158 more students than the 1996 fall semester.

Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo., reported an 8 per-

cent increase, with 696 students enrolled, 53 more than the previous year.

At New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, enrollment increased 5.31 percent, with 1,904 students enrolled, 96 more than the previous year.

Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, Southern Baptists' largest seminary, saw its enrollment go up 3 percent, for a total of 3,166 students, 89 more than 1996.

Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif., was the only school to report a decrease in enrollment. With an enrollment of 1,028 this fall, 15 percent less than 1996, Golden Gate dipped by 192 students.

Its first decrease in recent years, Golden Gate officials attribute the decline in enrollment primarily to not offering two special classes in the seminary's music program and leadership transitions in the Ethnic Leadership Development program. ■

Disney provides another reason to boycott

Baptist Press

WASHINGTON — A Washington-based pro-life organization has found another reason to boycott The Disney Company — it gives money to Planned Parenthood Federation of America, the country's leading provider of abortions.

At a Jan. 21 news conference unveiling a new advertising campaign aimed at informing the public of Planned Parenthood's agenda, Life Decisions International announced

it had added Disney to its list of boycotted corporations. LDI released a list of more than 60 corporations on its boycott list for their financial support of Planned Parenthood.

LDI joins the Southern Baptist Convention and other organizations, including American Family Association and Focus on the Family that have called for a boycott, of the entertainment giant.

In announcing Disney's addition to LDI's boycott list, Will Dodson, director of public

policy of the SBC Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission and a member of LDI's board of directors, said the SBC called for the boycott at its 1997 meeting because of mostly "internal policies ... we believe to be contrary to that which is best for society."

"Now we see that Disney is not just a company that ideologically embraces such policies, it also funds those organizations that would destroy the basic fabric of society," Dodson said. ■

Chapman attends meeting with Israeli prime minister

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — Morris H. Chapman, president of the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee, and other evangelical leaders attended a Jan. 19 meeting with Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu in Washington.

According to the *New York Times*, the private meeting

with the Israeli prime minister was attended by about 1,000 Christian and Jewish conservatives. The prime minister is in the nation's capital for meetings with President Bill Clinton and Palestinian leader Yasir Arafat concerning the stalled peace negotiations.

Chapman told Baptist Press he was "grateful to hear the prime minister's perspective

on the state of affairs of the region and his thoughts not only about peace in Israel but about other threats to peace around the world."

Chapman said he knows that Southern Baptists care about the Middle East, and "am quite sure that scores of thousands of them pray regularly for the region, its leaders, and its people. ..." ■

BSSB enjoys record year

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — Southern Baptist Sunday School Board President James T. Draper Jr. commended employees in a Jan. 16 chapel meeting for their "tremendous efforts" during the 1996-97 year.

"We have experienced a remarkable financial turnaround," Draper said, "in large part due to greatly improved products that are meeting the spiritual needs of churches and individuals."

Financially, the BSSB ended the year with record revenues of \$284.1 million, an increase of \$23 million or 8.8 percent over the previous year. Funds Provided from Operations, monies available after expenses, were \$14.4 million, an increase of \$4.6 million or 47.3 percent over 1995-96. Also, the board's one remaining debt was paid off during the year. ■

Stay on the alert, don't get caught napping

Before we dismiss the likelihood of a state-sponsored lottery and other gambling escapades — let's not be lulled to sleep by the deceptive quiet.

Truth is, "wheeling and dealing" can happen behind the scenes. Somewhere in those private rooms, gambling proponents may be devising strategy. They already may have a plan.

Some who are pushing for a lottery may tell us that "the people" need to make this decision about a state lottery.

"The people" elect legislators to make decisions, to make the best interests of all citizens top priority, to lead with integrity and honesty, to perform with excellence, and to expect citizens to do the same.

Letting the people make the decision is tantamount to saying that legislators should let the people make all important decisions. No, you say? You are right. That will never happen, but if this lottery issue is to be decided by Tennessee citizens (voters), then why not allow the citizens (us) to decide how much legislators are paid, for example?

Here's where the lottery question stands now. After last year's narrow approval by the senate, the issue of a referendum for a state-sponsored lottery must be passed again this year — in order to appear on the ballot.

And it would have to pass by a two-

thirds majority. Supporters and opponents agree that the senate doesn't have enough "yes" votes now to pass the legislation.

Both sides also imply that the votes are solid. However, most voters know that votes are never "solid" until the ballot is taken and the votes counted.

A defeat for the lottery bill this term means the issue effectively would be dead until after the turn of the century. Any similar lottery proposal would have to begin from the beginning, start from scratch.

And it would have to pass two successive legislative votes in order to be placed on the next gubernatorial ballot.

Bill Bates, who has been the voice of Tennessee Baptists on moral issues on Capitol Hill in Nashville for several years, says the lottery effort as yet has not caught fire this term.

He also reminds us that caution and concern must be our strategy. Bates himself will stay on the alert, and he urges Tennessee Baptists to do the same.

So this is a warning. Senator Steve Cohen of Memphis, who has spearheaded gambling efforts in the State Assembly for several years, has admitted he doesn't have enough Senate votes now to get a referendum on a lottery this November.

But his efforts a year ago led that close Senate vote through at the very last minute. Baptists, stay alert.

There is another way to get a state-

sponsored lottery approved. The State Assembly could approve a Constitutional Convention for a lottery, at which citizens would be represented by elected peers. That move, though not impossible, is not likely. Some legislators would not support it because they would prefer such a convention to be convened for other reasons.

The "reasons" for a state lottery are varied, and very weak — as we see it.

■ Our neighboring states have lotteries, why can't we? Why make Tennesseans travel out-of-state to participate in a lottery? *Answer:* No one can force another person to buy tickets. If other states make bad decisions, should we join them?

■ The money from the lottery would be used for education. Look at the college students in Georgia being educated with state income from their lottery. *Answer:* Remember that the state must employ management for the lottery, and they get most of the income. And, who would want their child educated with money that comes from "get rich quick" schemes!

■ People who disapprove of gambling would not have to participate. *Answer:* That's correct, but evil influences that follow bigtime gambling cost millions and millions of dollars from state tax money.

There are other reasons for opposition to gambling. And once it is approved, it cannot be controlled — and it spawns evil from itself. — *Wm. Fletcher Allen*



just for today

by Fred Wood,
pastor emeritus,
Eudora Church,
Memphis



Start with a smile

Older bank executive, introducing his young fiancé to his friends: "Here is my future wife."

Carl: "She's beautiful. Where did you meet her?"

Banker: "I just opened my wallet, and there she was."

Take this truth

Several truths are present in this little story. Something is worth what you're willing to pay for it. Isn't that the entire basis for the stock market on Wall Street? What do you consider as the highest value for your life?

Memorize this Scripture

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given unto you as well. — Matthew 6:33

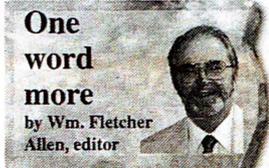
Pray this prayer

Lord, help me to be sure that what I think I want is really what I want. ■

Who said that?

I never go to see important people — or anyone else — without having the deep realization that I am — first and foremost — an ambassador of the King of kings and Lord of lords. From the moment I enter the room, I am thinking about how I can get the conversation around to the Gospel. — *Just As I Am*, by Billy Graham. Harper-Collins/Zondervan. San Francisco, 1997

Effort is as important as electronics — right?



learned, it's foolish not to adapt. No one likes to get left behind in the dust left by progress as it moves on.

So I realized, as many of you have, that progress can be good, especially good when we want to be an excellent server to our readers.

I also realized something else — but this was merely an affirmation of previous experiences.

Even the best computer systems, scanners, four-color processes, web pages, and the Internet — can only enhance the product. They can never totally replace it.

You have to begin with something precious, necessary, something that fills a vital need and does it with courage, integrity, fairness, and sensitivity. Put your top-of-the-line

electronic system in tune with those guidelines — and you can produce a reliable and desirable product.

That's what we are trying to continue with the *Baptist and Reflector*. This old "tried and true" messenger of Baptist life will be equipped to measure up to the scrutiny of the best judges — we believe.

Who are those judges? Why, the judges are you — you Tennessee Baptists.

The ideal situation is for each of those "judges" to approve (and support) our efforts — if not the finished product.

Forty-six years ago the *Baptist and Reflector* quoted another paper without comment, like this:

"If we print jokes, people say we are silly. If we don't they say we are too serious.

"If we stick close to the job all day, they say we ought to be out hunting news. If we do get out and try to hustle, we ought to be on the job.

"If we don't print contributions from other papers, they say we don't appreciate true genius; and if we print them, the paper is filled with junk.

"If we make a change in someone's copy, we are too critical; if we don't we are asleep on the job.

"If we clip things from other papers, we are too lazy to write them ourselves. If we don't, we are stuck on our own stuff.

"Now, like as not, some guys will say we swiped this from another paper. And we did."

We like our judges — faithful readers all — and measure our work by their support and cooperation. ☺☺☺

And now, turn to page 5, get involved with missions

Missions — hmmm — what does "missions" mean? *Do you know? Do you really care?*

One thing's certain, you can't describe missions with one word. Well, you could say missions is love or compassion or servanthood, or maybe caring.

But a better definition would encompass those words and many others.

"Missions" represents people, names, places, work, life, laughing, good news, helping, lifting up hearts, building, telling about Christ with words and deeds.

Missions is the story of Johannes Ndagodombe, and the story of Etienne Bitababaje — pastors in Burundi and Rwanda. They have several churches and missions, serving with dedicated laity, visiting and reaching people who live in huts on trails where no car can travel. Never mind, Johannes and Etienne don't have cars anyway.

Missions is the story of Katrina Knox, who grew up in Columbia, gave her life to Christ and became a nurse in Mukoma, also in Rwanda. She's still serving, in France now, until she can get back to Rwanda.

Missions is the story of Jeff and Ellen who gave their week's lunch money so they could not only pray, but send an offering to hungry children.

Missions is Dewey and Bobbie Dunn, medical people who had rather help heal hurting people in Venezuela and Chile — than to spend a weekend resting at Gatlinburg or Panama City.

Missions is Baptists like Tom Byrge, who leads groups of men to help repair damaged building or even put up new facilities — right here in Tennessee. No pay, of course. Like other volunteers we've mentioned, they do it because of the love of Christ and his shed blood.

Missions is thousands of Tennessee volunteers in partnerships, events, witnessing efforts, evangelism, teaching, preaching, medical and dental care, Backyard Bible Clubs, and dozens of other capacities.

Now, go ahead, turn to Page 5. It is the first of four pages in this issue of the Baptist and Reflector. Planned especially to provide all the information you need to get you started on a real mission venture.

Missions is love expressed in the lives of thousands of Baptists who have served Christ by ministering to people in Burkina Faso, Venezuela, the Philippines, Chile, Canada, Poland, Costa Rica, and Rio de Janeiro. And — in scores of other places at home and overseas.

Involvement in missions means you become a missionary in action! It means praying, giving, going. Look at pages 5-8. You'll learn how to do it! — *B&R*

Tennessee Baptists challenged to magnify ...

— Continued from page 1
Luter warned.

He offered five suggestions on how Tennessee Baptists can finish the race to reach their state for Christ.

Run by faith, lay aside every weight, lay aside every sin, finish the course, and keep your eyes on the goal, Luter said. "Jesus is the one who ran the race from start to finish. It may get difficult, but keep your eyes on Jesus and don't stop until you reach the finish line," he challenged.

In his second message, "Saving the Lost at any Cost," Luter reminded those in attendance "we're living in a sinful society where people are calling wrong right and right wrong." The solution to the problem is not more jails or programs, he said. "People need Jesus Christ."

Winning the lost at any cost requires caring, creativity, cooperation, and commitment, Luter challenged.

Message from NAMB

Darrell Robinson of the North American Mission Board, based in Alpharetta, Ga., spoke twice during the conference.

Robinson told conference participants on Tuesday morning the 1977 commitment by Southern Baptists to Bold Mission Thrust, a plan to tell everyone in the world about God, can be reached. Baptists can join about 150 denominations in Mission: America. The plan, a result of Billy Graham's ministry, is the same as that of Bold Mission Thrust, he explained.

The NAMB has developed Celebrate Jesus 2000 to compliment the goal. Robinson also referred to Tennessee's version, Tennessee Reach.

It's possible to reach the goal, said Robinson, because it is clear that "this is a movement of God.

"Now I've heard a rumbling

about our convention that some of our number believes God doesn't intend or desire for all men to be saved," he declared. It's not true, according to the Scripture, he added.

One reason people aren't learning about God is that church leaders are at denominational offices "competing with one another for religious positions and authority. And I tell you, our churches are getting tired of it," Robinson proclaimed.

He encouraged Christians to witness to others. Then church events like revivals will be effective. "I'll tell you, not many are coming in here (church) without us going out and getting them."

He also suggested prayer walks and block parties as evangelistic tools for churches.

Messages from Tennessean in evening sessions

Rick White, pastor, First Church, Franklin, addressed both evening sessions of the conference. In his first message, White spoke on "Magnifying Jesus By Loving One Another."

He said he is surprised at the number of Christians "who are mean-spirited and nasty," said White.

He noted the New Testament instructs Christians 37 times to love others, and that it is more important than knowledge, faith, generosity, and accomplishments, said White.

Southern Baptists should avoid the errors of the Pharisees, who were the religious right of the first century church, yet were unable to love, he warned.

Southern Baptists may have faith, orthodoxy, and right doctrine, "but right doctrine should change our attitude and our behavior," he declared.

If Christians, especially the Southern Baptist family, are going to magnify Jesus by reaching the world "it's going to start by magnifying Jesus

by loving each other," concluded White.

In the conference's closing message on Tuesday, White challenged Tennessee Baptists to love the people Christ died for.

"God expects us to be the salt in the world. Let's do it in the context of God's redeeming love for all men and women," he said.

White noted Christians need to "develop real relationships with men and women who don't know God and lead them to the Kingdom."

"May we as Tennessee Baptists magnify Jesus by loving the people he died for. May it be said by them about us, 'Thanks for caring,'" White concluded.

Message from TBC executive director

The executive director of Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board ministries, James Porch, spoke on Tuesday morning.

He said despite the freedoms Tennesseans enjoy, many are "in spiritual bondage." To reach such people, he would have two emphases if he were working once again in a local church. He would learn about the local culture of the people and he would try to discover the concerns and struggles of the people there, said Porch.

"Do you ever wonder what folks are carrying out there in the pews?" he asked.

"This has been the toughest year of my life," Porch said. He explained his wife, Lynn, still fights cancer, his mother died on his birthday, and his son has dealt with turmoil in his life.

To deal with these concerns, Porch said he has relied on God's grace day by day. "You don't have to let it tear you up and bind you. ... We can be set free in Christ," referring to the Apostle Paul's response to a personal problem in Romans 7.

This kind of freedom is a release to be a unique individual

and to know Christ in a way that is as yet unknown to each person, he explained.

"Don't wait too long to tell your people about the message of freedom in Christ, because you just don't know what kind of bondage they may be in," concluded Porch.

Messages from other Tennesseans

No matter where a church is located, God is still building his Kingdom, Nashville pastor Kevin Shrum told conference participants.

Shrum cited his own church, Inglewood, as an example. Once a prominent church in east Nashville, the community changed. Near the church today is a prostitute strip, Shrum said. Yet, he said, "God not only dwells with the rich, he's still in the midst of taking common people and building his church amid the sin on Gallatin Road."

Shrum credited his congregation for being pray-ers and cited that as a factor for recent growth at Inglewood.

"God is not in the funeral business. He's in the resurrection business and he can do it at your church," Shrum said.

Memphis evangelist Phil Glisson provided insights on how to be an evangelistic preacher.

A person must preach with a call, preach continually, preach with courage, preach content, and preach with conviction, Glisson observed.

"Our people need to know we really believe what we preach," Glisson stressed.

Ray Newcomb, pastor of First Church, Millington, encouraged those attending the state evangelism conference to "magnify Jesus with fishing." Basing his text on Luke 5: 1-10, Newcomb noted the fishermen, who had fished all night, and caught nothing, responded to Jesus by listening, launching out, and letting down their net. "When God says it, do it," Newcomb reminded.



Newcomb acknowledged there will be problems throughout one's ministry, but the key is to "major on Jesus, don't major on the problems."

He encouraged pastors and others to make the commitment the fishermen made. "They forsook all and followed Jesus."

When it comes to evangelizing the lost there has to be a "commitment to believe God's Word, believe he'll bless it, and go do it," Newcomb challenged.

Citing evils in society such as homosexuality and abortion, Tennessee Baptist Convention President Doug Sager observed "we better not try to accommodate God's Word to our world view." He noted there is only one way for lost people to come to Christ. "If you don't believe theologically that men are lost and that Jesus is not a way, but the way, then you're not going to be evangelistic," Sager said.

Basing his message on Jonah, Sager observed God is "a God of second chances." Jonah recognized his mistake and repented. "God will honor faith wherever it is found — that is in Ninevah as well as anywhere else," Sager said.

Brentwood pastor Mike Glenn reminded conference participants it is not only the church's responsibility to win the lost, but also to disciple them and send them out to win others.

"Bringing people to the Kingdom is a great and glorious first step, but that is a first step," said Glenn, pastor of Brentwood Church.

"We as members of the professional clergy need to understand that our success is not determined by the crowds we draw, but the leaders we send out," he challenged. **B&R**



BLIND VIETNAM WAR veteran Jerry Currey of Tulip Grove Church, Old Hickory, speaks during Laymen's Night.



VISITING AT the conference are Fred Luter Jr., New Orleans pastor, and Joel Wood, pastor, First Church, Hixson.



SINGING WITH Squire Parsons, music evangelist of Leicester, N.C., is the Tennessee Baptist Chorale directed by Julian Suggs of TBC Executive Board ministries.



The Macedonian Call

Partnership/Volunteer Missions Newsletter

Featuring news from Tennessee Baptists' four partnerships — Canada, Michigan, Rio de Janeiro, and Costa Rica

Partnership/Volunteer Missions Team, TBC; P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, Tenn., 37024

Phone (615) 371-2021; FAX (615) 371-2014

From your missionary

Putting the Volunteer Puzzle Together

This special issue of the "Macedonian Call" is designed to help you put the Volunteer Missions Puzzle together. Today as never before there are enormous opportunities for volunteer mission service.



SHARP

You have heard of Partnership Missions, Disaster Relief, World Changers, Enterprisers, Innovators, Activators, Journeymen, US-2ers, International Service Corps, Students, Tentmakers, and many more. There are several pieces to the big volunteer missions puzzle.

I trust this special edition will serve as a valuable missions resource for years to come.

God Bless,

Jerry

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How do you fit in the puzzle?

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The value of Southern Baptist missions volunteers

By Jerry Rankin, president, International Mission Board
For *The Macedonian Call*

God is continuing to call Southern Baptists to international mission service in record numbers. The International Mission Board has had four consecutive years of record appointments with 590 new missionaries commissioned in 1996.

However, the Great Commission was not restricted to those who respond to a special call to missionary service. The command of our Lord to go and make disciples of all nations was intended for all of God's people in every church and every born-again believer.

In our efforts to promote giving and our annual missions offering it has often been said, "Not everyone can go, but everyone can give." However, that is not true. There are opportunities for practically anyone and everyone who is willing to participate in short-term volunteer projects overseas.

Working along side our missionaries in strategic volunteer projects, volunteers are able to interface with lost people of another culture to share their faith in Jesus Christ. They are able to provide ministries in massive numbers that go beyond what the missionary would have been able to do. Volunteers are also able to provide encouragement and support to struggling national churches and lonely missionary families.

What are the benefits of participating in a volunteer mission project overseas? It will be an eye-opening experience as you are personally exposed to the needs of a lost world. It will be a faith building experience as you see the marvelous way God is working to bring people to saving faith in Jesus Christ. It will be a life changing experience as you see God's Spirit use you in unexpected ways.

Actual research has shown that those who participate in volunteer missions give more generously and sacrificially than they did before they experienced volunteer missions. They also become more committed to inter-

cessory prayer. Many of them recognize the potential in their lives for missionary service.

Many churches have been radically changed by involving their people in volunteer missions. It is not an "either/or" proposition.

People are more committed to serving needs at home, more diligent to witness, and to be more faithful to their churches after experiencing volunteer opportunities overseas. After all, obedience always brings blessings. ■



FAMILY PHYSICIAN Bryan Chastain from McMinnville examines a patient in a rural health clinic in Costa Rica. — Photo by Missionary Sue Smith

Executive Board ministries director recalls his first missions trip

By James Porch, executive director, TBC Executive Board ministries
For *The Macedonian Call*

I vividly recall my first volunteer mission trip. Our church, First Church of Tullahoma, sponsored a youth and adult mission trip to Michigan in July 1981.

Over the next 12 years, similar groups from that church would make at least one and sometimes two mission trips to Michigan each year. During that season of mission efforts, both of our children, Scott and Terri, would spend at least one summer in Michigan, engaged in

specific mission tasks.

My flood of memories from those years includes the beautiful Michigan countryside, the discovery that a soft drink is a "pop" up North, and rediscovering that teens never sleep. There were the constant presence of aches, pains, and smashed fingers, the amazing joys of nightly devotions and share times, and memory of eight-year-old Trena.

Trena lived just down the street from the park where we hosted our first Backyard Bible Club (BYBC) in 1981. We literally found her during a Sunday afternoon door-to-door survey.

The first day of BYBC, she was

given a new Bible. No child ever clutched a toy more than the way Trena held that Bible.

The next day she returned for BYBC carrying the Bible in pieces. One of her siblings had torn it the night before BYBC. We gave Trena another Bible. Somehow the copy of the Holy Scripture survived the week. Each day as she returned to the BYBC, the new Bible remained intact. Each day she was greeted with a hug and a smile from her new friends. During the week, Trena learned a simple Bible verse — God is love.

I remember the last time I saw her. Early Saturday morning she

came back to the park as we were packing to go home. She still held to that Bible. As we drove off, she waved with one hand and held tenaciously to her New Testament with the other hand.

Now over 15 years later, I wonder about her. I can only hope and pray that the Bible's truth seeds, planted that week, have produced an abundant harvest in her life. I pray that she continues to hold to the Word of God as she held the Bible that day. This to me is part of the great essence of Volunteer Missions. We go, we share, and we wait for God to do His abundant work. ■

Acteens Activators/ Activators Abroad

Looking for a short term missions volunteer opportunity for the teenage girls in your church? Acteens Activators is just the program.

Acteens Activators is a volunteer program of missions involvement for Acteen girls and their sponsors. Through involvement, Activators have the opportunity to touch lives in the name of Christ through VBS, Back Yard Bible Clubs, inner city ministries, ethnic ministries, ministries to the elderly, personal witnessing, resort ministries, ministries to youth and children, and at camps.

Activator applications are available from the state WMU office. Applications are due in December. Please contact state WMU ministry specialist Amanda Day at (615) 371-7919 for applications. This program is sponsored by state and national WMU with the cooperation of the North American Mission Board.

Each year missionaries request Activator groups because of the training they receive. There is a minimum of 65 hours of required training. There is also a required training weekend, sponsored by the state WMU where teams meet other teams, fellowship, exchange ideas, and receive 15 hours of their training. The training in-

cludes: personal Bible study, personal witness training, project preparation, and cultural study. The Activator team is responsible for financing their own trip.

Acteens Activators is often the change agent as teenage girls decide to live a missions ministry lifestyle. They discover the world around them and the needs in their own backyards.

Another volunteer program of missions involvement for older Acteens is Acteens Activators Abroad, sponsored by the state and national WMU in cooperation with the International Mission Board.

Activators Abroad must meet all the requirements of Acteens Activators plus be: at least 16 years old or have completed tenth grade; and able to serve at least two weeks. The team must include one adult and two Acteens who have had one year or more experience in the Activator program.

Requirements for Activators are:

- ▶ be an active Acteen
- ▶ be at least 15 years old or have completed the ninth grade ■



Student Summer Missionaries

Student summer missionaries are students who have completed their freshman year in college and are available to serve in the summer for up to 10 weeks. Opportunities are available nationally and internationally for college and seminary students.

International (Options)

▶ **BSU**

Students who serve through their state student missions program normally receive some or full financial support. For an application or available positions, contact your local BSU minister or Rodney Wilson, Collegiate Missions ministry specialist at (615) 371-7925 or 1 (800) 588-2090.

▶ **IMB/Partnership Missions**

Students applying directly to IMB/Partnership Missions are responsible for the bulk of their expenses. Students provide their own travel funds and

insurance. In some instances, the student is responsible for part of the expenses on the field.

For more information and a list of available positions, contact Terry Sharp or Kim Huff, Partnership/Volunteers Missions Team, (615) 371-2021 or 1 (800) 588-2090.

National (Options)

▶ **BSU/NAMB**

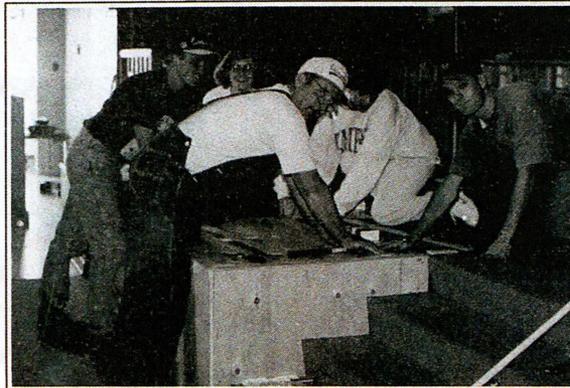
Students, who serve through their state student missions program or NAMB, receive travel funds, a stipend, and insurance for each student. The local field to which a student is assigned is responsible for housing, meals, and local transportation while the student is serving.

For an application or additional information contact Rodney Wilson, Collegiate Missions ministry specialist at (615) 371-7925 or 1 (800) 588-2090, or NAMB, Student Volunteer Mobilization, at 1 (800) 462-VOLS.

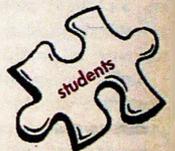
▶ **Partnership**

Students who serve in a partnership project are responsible for their travel funds and insurance. The local field provides housing, meals, and local transportation while the student is serving.

For additional information and list of available projects, contact Kim Huff or Terry Sharp, Partnership/Volunteer Missions Team, at (615) 371-2021 or 1 (800) 588-2090. ■



TENNESSEE BAPTIST STUDENT UNION missionaries remodel a church in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.



Student Semester/ Quarter Missionaries



Students usually serve 15-20 weeks in the fall or winter/spring term. Students may extend for additional terms if requested by the local supervisor and approved by NAMB.

Requirements are:

- ▶ have completed sophomore

year in college

Round trip transportation from home or school to the field is provided along with room and board, insurance, and stipend.

For additional information or to apply, contact Rodney Wilson, Collegiate Missions, at (615) 371-7925 or 1 (800) 588-2090, or NAMB, Student Volunteer Mobilization, at 1 (800) 462-VOLS. ■

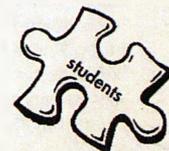
Sojourners

A Sojourner serves six to 10 weeks during the summer. They work in pairs, on teams with other Sojourners, or with college-age student summer missionaries.

They serve primarily in inner-city Baptist Centers, new church work settings, and resort areas. Sojourners serve under the supervision of missionaries or pastors who assign responsibilities and give directions.

Qualifications are:

- ▶ junior year of high school completed
- ▶ Christian maturity
- ▶ an interest in missions
- ▶ good health
- ▶ parental approval and support
- ▶ unquestionable character
- ▶ single



Expenses are:

- ▶ housing, meals and transportation on the field are provided by the place of service
- ▶ transportation to and from the assignment location

must be provided by parents, friends, the church and/or the Sojourner

Sojourners serve without pay.

NAMB provides limited insurance coverage, but it assumes no other financial obligations.

For more information or an application, contact Rodney Wilson, Collegiate Missions ministry specialist, (615) 371-7925 or 1 (800) 588-2090, or NAMB, Student Volunteer Mobilization at 1 (800) 462-VOLS. ■

Team releases video

The new video produced by the Partnership/Volunteer Missions Team is now available. It is an inspiring and musically enhanced version of reaching and "Answering the Macedonian Call."

Produced by Positive Productions in Hendersonville, the seven-minute video shows Tennessee Baptists experiencing missions and informs viewers of missions opportunities. It also highlights the current and past partnership relationships with countries/states.

This video is available from your local Baptist association office, or call TBC Partnership/Volunteer Missions Team at 1 (800) 588-2090 or (615) 371-2021. ■

Innovators

Innovators are college students who participate in short-term missions service while working in secular jobs to support themselves. Innovators open many opportunities for witness with the secular world.

Resort areas are the prime targets. Year-round work is possible as are other short-term assignments during the school year.

Expenses are:

- ▶ students are responsible for their transportation to and from

their places of service and for local room and board

▶ the local supervisor assists in providing or locating employment and low-cost housing.

NAMB provides limited health and accident insurance coverage.

Requirements are:

- ▶ schedules usually include 40



hours on the secular job and 8-10 hours of supervised ministry on the missions field

- ▶ one completed year of college
- ▶ deadline to apply is March 10

For an application or additional information contact: Rodney Wilson, Collegiate Missions ministry specialist, at (615) 371-7925 or 1 (800) 588-2090, or NAMB, Student Volunteer Mobilization at 1 (800) 462-VOLS. ■

World Changers

World Changers is a coeducational missions program of missions education and missions involvement. World Changers is a ministry of the North American Mission Board.

World Changers offers hands-on missions experiences in a prepackaged approach where all the logistics of lodging, meals, construction, ministry, and worship are provided for you. World Changers partners with community agencies, associations of churches, state conventions, ministry centers, and local churches to meet needs in a community.

Requirements for High School World Changers are:

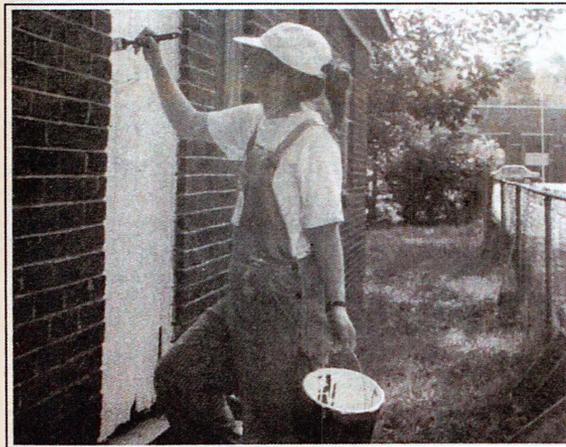
- ▶ Christian youth who have completed one of the grades 9-12
- ▶ youth groups must be accompanied by a counselor of the same sex for every 1-5 participants
- ▶ each senior high week will have a specifically designed "collegiate" track

▶ each project has different requirements depending on the World Changers events

Projects exist for:

- ▶ Young Adults
- ▶ Single Adults
- ▶ Senior Adults
- ▶ College Students

For more information or for an application, contact: Tim Bearden, TBC, at 1 (800) 558-2090 or (615) 371-2026; NAMB, Student Mobilization at 1 (800) 462-VOLS; or on the Internet at www.namb.net/wc. ■



PAINTING a home in Memphis during the past summer as part of a World Changers' World Tour is Tara Blake of Ooltewah Church, Chattanooga.

Partnership Missions

Opportunities exist as never before for Tennessee Baptists to share the Good News of Jesus Christ to a lost world. These opportunities are available for youth to retired people.

Through Partnership Missions, Tennessee has partnered for three years with Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, and Michigan. Volunteers can serve from a few days up to four months.

Partnership Missions offers hand-on missions experiences in a prepackaged approach where all the logistics of travel, lodging, meals, construction, other ministry related items are provided. We work in partnership with our missionaries and national leadership in providing strategic projects.

Partnership Volunteer opportunities include:

- ▶ evangelism
- ▶ church planting
- ▶ construction
- ▶ medical
- ▶ music
- ▶ social ministries
- ▶ church development
- ▶ Vacation Bible Schools
- ▶ Back Yard Bible Clubs
- ▶ creative ministries (drama, puppets, mime, clowning)
- ▶ sports evangelism (basketball, volleyball, soccer)

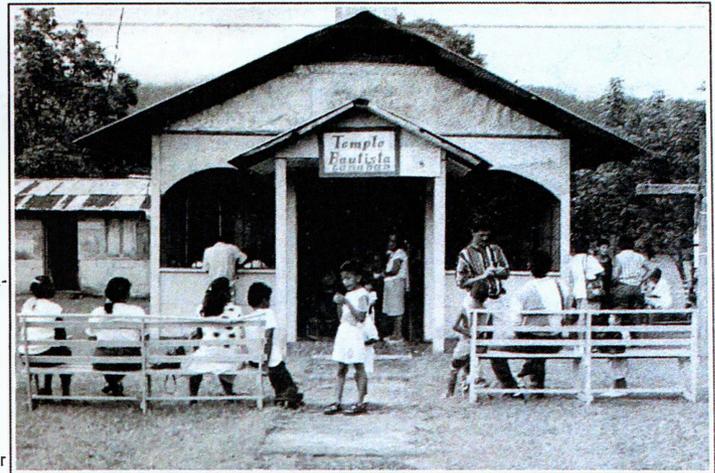
These opportunities represent only a few of the many options.

Partnership volunteers requirements are:

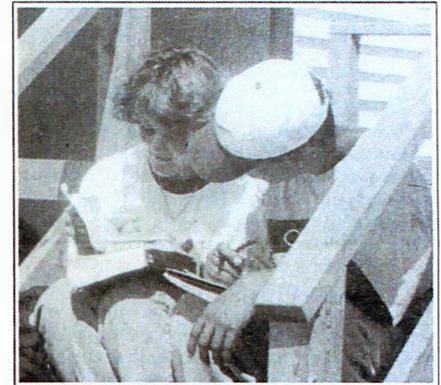
- ▶ personal commitment to Jesus Christ
- ▶ a willingness to work
- ▶ readiness to witness to faith in Christ
- ▶ flexibility



- ▶ active membership and participation in a South-



MEMBERS of Canaan Church in the southern part of Costa Rica gather during a health care clinic held in June 1997 by Tennessee Partnership Missions volunteers. The congregation is in the community of La Fortuna near Ciudad Neily.



WITNESSING to a boy at the Muskoday First Nation reserve in Saskatchewan, Canada, is Heather Payne, a student at UT-Martin.

ern Baptist church

- ▶ 15 years of age and older
- ▶ good health

The Partnership/Volunteer Missions Team will assist you in the preparation of your missions trip. For a list of available projects contact: Terry Sharp or Kim Huff, Partnership/Volunteer Missions Team, at (615) 371-2021 or 1 (800) 558-2090. ■

Volunteers in Tennessee

With the formation of the Partnership/Volunteer Missions Team of the Missions Involvement and Awareness Group, a listing of Tennessee volunteer opportunities is now available to you and your church.

You can now call our toll free phone number to receive a listing of dozens of exciting volunteer missions opportunities. These opportunities range in length from a weekend, a week, a summer, or even longer.

Types of projects available are:

- ▶ Vacation Bible School
- ▶ Back Yard Bible Clubs
- ▶ creative arts presentations

- ▶ resort ministries
- ▶ inner-city ministries
- ▶ rural ministries
- ▶ construction
- ▶ sports clinics
- ▶ food and clothing distribution

For a listing of Tennessee Volunteer Missions opportunities, contact: Kim Huff or Terry Sharp, Partnership/Volunteers Missions Team, at 1 (800) 558-2090 or (615) 371-2021.

Projects exist for:

- ▶ Youth Groups



- ▶ Adults
- ▶ Senior Adults
- ▶ Individuals
- ▶ College

Need a Volunteer?

Contact Partnership/Volunteers Missions Team for a Volunteer Missions Project Request Form. Let us help you get out the word to potential volunteers.

Call Kim Huff or Terry Sharp, Partnership/Volunteers Missions Team, at 1 (800) 558-2090 or (615) 371-2021. ■

Families on Mission

Consider taking your family on a family missions trip or get with another

family or two to do a project. Most projects can be done by a family or a group of families.

Let us help put together a family missions trip. Contact Partnership/Volunteer Missions ministry assistant, Kim Huff, at 1 (800) 558-2090 or (615) 371-2021. ■



The Macedonian Call

Mission Service Corps



Missions Service Corps (MSC) enlists adult volunteers who will provide

their own expenses and serve full-time (20 hours per week) for four months or longer in home missions and evangelism areas.

MSC volunteers serve as:

- church staff
- apartment ministers
- student directors
- literacy missionaries
- camp cooks
- chaplains
- church and community ministry coordinators
- teachers
- church starters
- church construction workers
- resort workers

These opportunities represent only a few of the many categories of service.

What Are Tentmakers?

Tentmakers are MSC volunteers who fund their ministry of ten through employment. Tentmakers have an impact on a community not only through

their ministry, but also through their jobs.

To obtain an MSC application or for additional information contact: Dick and Ann German, TBC MSC volunteer specialists, PO Box 10, Winchester, TN 37398. Or call the Germans at (931) 962-0333. ■



MEETING a woman in Poland are Dick and Ann German, Missions Service Corps volunteers, from Winchester.

Enterprisers/Enterprisers Abroad

Enterprisers and Enterprisers Abroad, sponsored by the state and national WMU office in cooperation with the North American Mission Board and the International Mission Board, provide women an opportunity to be involved in home and foreign missions volunteer ministries.

The Enterprisers team participates in 50 hours of training. This training includes team building, witness training, spiritual development, cross-cultural training, ministry training, and Baptist doctrine. A plan for training is available from the state WMU office.

There are opportunities to participate in international projects such as teaching English as a second language in China and participating in construction projects at home.

Contact the state WMU office for more information about these projects. Call WMU ministry specialist Amanda Day for applications and training plans at (615) 371-7919 or 1 (800) 558-2090. ■



Disaster Relief

Southern Baptist Disaster Relief is Christian love in action, and meeting urgent needs of hurting humanity in crisis situations. Volunteers respond to disasters in a variety of ways. Disaster services involve providing personnel, equipment, and supplies.

A few ways volunteers can be involved:

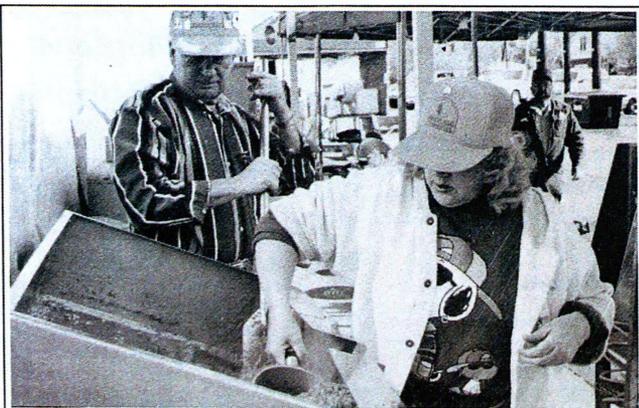
- advisory/advocacy
- airlift kitchens
- chainsaw crew
- child care
- clean-up team (mudouts or debris pickup)

- counseling/pastoral care
- elder care
- emergency medical
- evacuating
- feeding
- reconstruction

Requirements are:

- contact state Disaster Relief director
- complete necessary training (Tennessee offers ongoing training)
- be ready to serve
- Southern Baptists, male or female

For more information and future training dates contact: Tim Bearden, State Disaster Relief director at 1 (800) 558-2090 or (615) 371-2026. ■



SERVING MEALS during the floods which struck Madisonville, Ky., last year are Ollie Stewman and Wilma Jones, Disaster Relief volunteers from Tennessee.



International Service Corps

Persons serving in International Service Corps (ISC) spend from four months to two years on the foreign missions field meeting priority needs in support of Southern Baptist missionaries.

ISC volunteers fill requests for teachers, youth workers, health care professionals, secretaries, and other critical assignments.

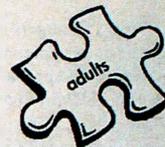
Requirements are:

- have a sense of God's leadership
- have education, skills and/or experience to match the job request
- be at least 21 years old
- be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States
- be an active member of a Southern Baptist Convention church for at least two years

International Mission Board funds are available on an as-needed basis up to full support.

You may choose to provide part or all of your support.

Contact the International Mission Board at 1 (800) 789-4693, or the Internet address at IMB.ORG. Or call Terry Sharp, Partnership/Volunteer Missions Team, at 1 (800) 558-2090 or (615) 371-2021. ■



US-2ers

US-2 missionaries serve nationally through the North American Mission Board for two years in one of the following areas: Church and Community Ministries, Church Planting, Student Ministries, Resort and Innovative Ministries, Evangelism and Internationals/Seafarers.

Qualifications are:

- four-year degree from an accredited college or university
- age 30 or younger at time of application
- active membership in a Southern Baptist church for at least two years prior to application
- conversion experience
- good physical, mental health
- interest in missions service

Benefits are:

- travel expenses to and from the place of service
- food, housing, and utilities allowance, based on local costs
- operating expenses including local transportation usually are covered by local groups
- miscellaneous funds for additional expenses
- life and medical insurance
- severance pay at the end of two years service
- a scholarship for seminary or graduate school after two years of service

For more information contact Terry Sharp, Partnership/Volunteer Missions Team, at (615) 371-2021 or 1 (800) 558-2090, or NAMB, Student Volunteer Mobilization, 1 (800) 462-VOLS. ■



Journeymen

The Journeyman program is available for single college graduates, who are willing to commit to two years of service overseas. Journeymen service along side career missionaries filling a variety of assignments.

Applicants must be:

- growing Christians with a sense of God's leadership
- single
- at least 21, but under 30 prior to Journeyman training
- graduates of an accredited four-year college or university

➤ active members of a Southern Baptist church for at least two years.

For applications, contact International Mission Board at 1 (800) 999-3113 or use the Internet address at IMB.ORG. For additional information, call Terry Sharp, Partnership/Volunteer Missions Team, 1 (800) 558-2090 or (615) 371-2021. ■



The State of Carson-Newman College

Report to the faculty — Jan. 22, 1998

By Cordell Maddox, Carson-Newman College president

If a twelve hour sesquicentennial clock had been set in 1851 to alarm in 2001, each hour would represent 12.5 years. According to my calculation, the time on that clock would be twenty minutes to midnight. And so as I begin my 21st State of the College report, I want to ask this question: It's 11:40. Do you know where your college is?

This is an exciting moment in time, and history is unfolding before our very eyes. We can witness the changes or we can take part in the changes which will define Carson-Newman in her 150th year, only eight semesters from now. Or as the saying goes, we can make it happen, watch it happen or wonder what happened.

In past state of the college reports, I have reflected on changes, successes, and challenges. Much has been accomplished and progress has been made. This is a greater Carson-Newman than I ever dared to imagine. And it is because of the one constant which remains each year. People like you. I want to begin by expressing gratitude to the faculty and staff. I thank you for your hard work, for your achievements as individuals and as a college, for your dedication, for the renewed enthusiasm that you bring to your job. Thank you for caring about students, caring about each other, and caring about the future of Carson-Newman. Thank you for caring about a job in which you are growing hearts and minds.

I am reminded of a story told by William Graves, editor of *National Geographic* magazine. He said, after a celebrated international career on the stage, the world famous violinist Jascha Heifetz took a job as professor of music at U.C.L.A. When someone asked him why he had left the glamour of performing to become a teacher, Heifetz answered, "Violin-playing is a perishable art. It must be passed on; otherwise it is lost." Then he went on to say, "I remember my old violin professor in Russia. He said that if I worked hard enough someday, I might be good enough to teach."

To be a teacher is one of the highest callings in life. I hope you are happy and excited as you pass on not only knowledge, but also intrinsic values that must not be lost for future generations.

In this 11th hour of the college, it is essential for all of us to refocus our energies and renew our strength with wings as eagles. The students of the graduating class of 2001 are in your classes today. It's almost midnight. Do you know where your college is?

We have just closed what might be called the decade of the strategic plan. It was 10 years ago that the Board of Trustees approved a document that outlined 12 initiatives by which Carson-Newman could enrich its program and establish itself as one of the premiere colleges in America.

The plan called for the college to launch a \$50 million capital campaign. I never had a doubt that we had the talent on campus to achieve national academic excellence. It was the \$50 million part that I wasn't sure about. Needless to say, there have been some sleepless, Maalox nights!

Thankfully, on Nov. 15, 1997, we celebrated victory with the conclusion of the "Of Minds and Miracles" campaign. At the close of the fiscal year we crossed the finish line with \$51.6 million given by 8,882 donors. I believe with all my heart that Carson-Newman is much stronger today because of victory in this, the largest campaign in the college's history.

One of the most dramatic successes during the campaign was endowed scholarships which grew from 236 scholarships totaling \$2.4 million to 372 scholarships totaling \$8.3 million. Also, the annual fund raising base of the college expanded \$2 million, rising from \$4.3 million to \$6.3 million.

In response to the request of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, we are in a campaign asking our churches to participate in a special effort to help their own young people have an opportunity to be a part of the Carson-Newman experience. Forty-one churches have already established or added to endowed scholarships. These churches have pledged \$3.3 million toward the \$10 million goal for this campaign and we still have two years to go.

We concluded the fiscal year 1996-97 with an excess of revenues of \$157,021 and endowment growth of 8.49 percent or \$1,512,267. Our current endowment is \$19,327,974.

During the strategic plan decade, financial aid has more than tripled from \$5.2 million in 1987-88 to \$16.6 million in 1997-98. More and more this aid is taxing the institutional budget. We have to stretch and struggle to

keep up with the financial needs of many students who simply cannot afford college costs without financial help. And so, we must continue our commitment to building endowment and maintaining affordability through scholarships.

Last year, there were 2,171 donors to the scholarship fund with a 21 percent increase in participation — the highest level of alumni annual giving ever. Over \$800,000 was given to this fund to assist students. But the need will continue to grow for these funds to help bridge the ever-growing portion of the college's annual budget which is set aside for financial aid. So if you have not given this year, I encourage you to participate in the scholarship fund.

Where is Carson-Newman as the minutes to midnight tick away? In terms of enrollment, we are right on target. Spring Semester registration is complete, and we have 2,210 students, our tenth straight semester of record enrollment. In the 1997 fall semester, Carson-Newman was a college of 2,308 students, also a record.

In these final months of the 20th century, we are seeking to set the course for what Carson-Newman will be when the college's Sesquicentennial arrives in less than four years. There are two primary means of defining what a college is: by its academic program and by the development of its students.

This year's theme, Growing Hearts and Minds, addresses these two key components, and so in these terms, how is Carson-Newman measuring up? I am convinced the college has a sharp mind as shown by her academic repu-

tation: the only college in Tennessee to make the top 10 on all three lists in the 1998 Best Colleges Guide published by *U.S. News & World Report*. Among liberal arts colleges in the region, we are ninth in overall quality, third in best values, and fifth in the most efficient category. And let me add, that most efficient may sound less impressive than the other rankings, but in a sense it is the most important measure for our supporters because it underscores the integrity of the college in using gifts wisely.

What is Carson-Newman and what will she become by 2001 and beyond? We have been for 147 years and are today committed to the Christian liberal arts tradition as the best way to educate young people. But changes are taking place all around us in technology and the delivery system for education. And we must continue to respond to the needs of a changing world with innovative academic programs. New programs are underway and doing well in the areas of long-term health care, the graduate program, the post-baccalaureate in health professions, athletic training, music theory, and the international program.

The adult education program has been reorganized to strengthen an area which will be of growing importance to the Carson-Newman of the new millennium. The program has been renamed the Evening and Weekend College.

The resources necessary to undergird the academic program continue to grow as the educational needs of our students expand and change. I have often referred to this quotation of Margaret Mead: "We are now at the point where we must educate people in what nobody knew yesterday, and prepare them for what no one knows today, but what they must know tomorrow."

What we teach and how we teach requires up-to-date, state of the art equipment, technology, and facilities. During the past year, there have been significant upgrades in computerization across campus, making it faster and easier to access more information. We opened the Ted and Drama Russell Conference Room to showcase the very best available technology and design. The Carson-Newman library was chosen as the first Appalachian College Association JSTOR site. The JSTOR or journal storage is a complete system for browsing, searching, retrieving, and gaining access to the backfiles of important scholarly journals via the Internet.

The mind of Carson-Newman, as defined by its academic program is one of the best you can find. And one of the things that truly sets the college's academic program apart is that it's not just about the mind. Our mission is to teach with heart and seek to touch the spirit in all that we do both inside and outside the classroom.

We are growing hearts and minds of students. And the heart of Carson-Newman is one of Christian values in relationships to others and service to God, the community and the world. As I stated before, there is no exclusive domain for the heart of Carson-Newman. It permeates everything that we do.

The office which most directly seeks to provide an enriching environment for the growth of heart and spirit is Student Affairs. And if the heart of Carson-Newman is defined by the quality of Student Life, then I think we can say without hesitation that Carson-Newman has a strong heart. This year, Carson-Newman led the state, the region, and the nation in terms of awards, recognitions, and leadership roles held by our Student Affairs personnel. The Ernest L. Boyer Laboratory for Learning was dedicated March 17 and has received the highest marks from education experts across the nation.

Jesus said in Matthew 7:20, "Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them." And what are the fruits of Carson-Newman and her students? During 1997, Campus Ministries provided a variety of mission education and ministry experiences: 1,200 students participated in local community missions, 220 students were involved in short-term mission trips, 204 served in 12 states during spring break, 80 were summer missionaries in 19 states and 5 countries.

In 1997, our students celebrated 12 years of ministry through Appalachian Outreach. This partnership with the community brings together area volunteers and Carson-Newman students to provide a wide range of services which otherwise may not be available. Last year 60 homes were repaired by 400 volunteers who served in this program.

The student operated emergency housing shelter, Samaritan House, is in its tenth year of providing ministry, food, and shelter to families in need. During the past 12 months, 47 families and 109 individuals were given emergency housing, food, and clothing. Wow!

The people of Carson-Newman also serve as stewards through the multi-disciplinary focus on the resources and needs of Appalachia. Our faculty members have received grants to provide environmental education and assistance through internships and volunteer work. As we are growing hearts and minds, we challenge our students who in turn improve the environment and enrich the lives of others in our community and the world. It is a worthwhile endeavor. Teaching through service is a labor of love.

It's almost midnight. Do you know where your college is going? As a part of Strategic Plan II, a comprehensive study is underway to prepare a campus inventory and long-term master plan which will identify and schedule the upgrading of facilities, technology, land use, and campus improvements. We must focus on the future through a plan which will strengthen the Carson-Newman of tomorrow.

Finally, Carson-Newman has maintained throughout its history a strong relationship with the Baptists of Tennessee. A partnership defined by mutual trust, support, and care for each other. The investment of Baptists in this college has in return provided committed graduates who live and serve in churches throughout our state. Co-operative Program support in dollars provided by the state convention reached an all-time high in 1997 with over \$2.4 million given to Carson-Newman. This support coupled with our Church Endowment Campaign will help secure our future as a high quality, affordable Baptist college.

This is a time of opportunity and urgency, a time to embrace our identity, face the unknowns, overcome the challenges, strengthen the bonds with our constituencies, and rally the support of those who can provide and secure the resources necessary for a strong future. We must seize this moment to encourage unprecedented participation of alumni, Baptists, and other friends to support their college.

The dawning of a new century must challenge all of us to shake loose from apathy and to take hold of those things that really matter. And I believe that Carson-Newman matters, that Christian education matters, that teaching values in a Christian environment matters, and that a quality liberal arts such as this college provides is not a luxury but a necessity.

Thank you, faculty and staff, for your belief in Christian education, your leadership, and your hard work. Because of your dedication, in my opinion, the state of Carson-Newman is strong and when the clock strikes twelve the college will be prepared, ready and eager for the challenges and opportunities of the next 150 years.



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On average, half of Baptist church members inactive

By Mark Wingfield
For Associated Baptist Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Pick up the latest copy of your church directory and start thumbing through it. As you go, count the faces or names of people you haven't seen at church lately.

If you attend an average Southern Baptist church, you will have marked off two of every seven people by the time you reach the end of the directory. And if your directory includes what Baptists call "non-resident members," you will have marked off every other name.

According to the latest data available from the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, 31.8 percent of Southern Baptist church members are "non-resident" members, said Chip Miller, a consultant with the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

That means they no longer live in the area where they hold church membership.

While that problem is vexing, an even greater issue is the number of church members who haven't moved but are nowhere to be found at church, Miller said. Across the Southern Baptist Convention, 20.7 percent of all church members are "resi-

Three factors keep members coming

Associated Baptist Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — The best remedy for inactive church members is to catch them before they drop out, Chip Miller advises.

While it may not be obvious to those who aren't looking, people on their way out the church's back door almost always give clues of where they're headed, said Miller, a consultant with the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

One simple indicator is worship participation. For example, a person or family may begin moving farther back in the sanctuary on Sunday mornings than where they usually sit. Their worship attendance may become less frequent before they stop attending altogether.

Sunday School attendance may begin sliding as well, Miller said. Or a person may stop attending committee meetings or participating in some other group or activity. Or parents may begin letting their children drop out of church activities as an early step toward a full exit.

The extensive research of John Savage on

this topic shows that "a pattern of attendance indicates what's going on at a deeper level," Miller said.

Particularly with worship and Sunday School in a Baptist church, if anyone is absent seven consecutive Sundays, "he's in trouble," Miller warned.

Another key is to understand what keeps a person bonded with a church, Miller added.

He cited three essential factors:

(1) The person's faith is being fed.
(2) The person is part of a group where people know his name and he finds identity and support.

(3) The person has a sense of ownership in what the church is doing.

"When one, two, or three of these begin to unravel, you've got trouble," Miller said.

The best way for a church to prevent people from sliding away from active participation is to learn to listen, Miller said.

But in addition, keeping an accurate record of attendance and then reading those records also is vital, he said. ■ — Mark Wingfield

dentatives," he said.

Taken together, that means 52.5 percent of all Southern Baptist church members could be classified as inactive, Miller said. "The older the church and the bigger the church, the more likely you'll fit this profile," he said.

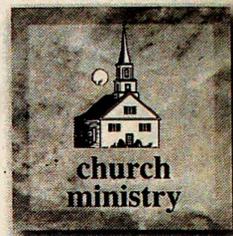
And the percentage of inac-

tive members in Southern Baptist churches is increasing. The current figure of 52.5 percent is up 2.4 percent from the previous year.

"If that doesn't get your attention, what will?" Miller asked. "If this trend continues, how much longer can we stay in business?"

Yet, Miller said, churches commonly overlook inactive members and instead focus their energies on reaching new prospects.

"It's pretty easy for us who are well-connected to say, 'Phooey on them! Why should we waste our time with them when there are so many other



people out there to be reached?" Miller said.

But Miller said churches have a responsibility to minister to all members, both inactive and active.

"Until they die or move away, they are still our responsibility," he said. "Some of these are hard to like; they've caused us grief. But if we're not caring for them spiritually, probably no one else is either."

And for anyone who has been frustrated by the futility of attempting to maintain contact with an inactive church member with no apparent result, Miller has some advice. Don't give up. "When we have tried and tried and said, 'She's hopeless,' we have taken on a judgment of God. But God says no one is hopeless."

Statistics demonstrate that inactive church members can be reclaimed into the life of the church, Miller added. "Fifty percent of currently active church members have dropped out of church at some time in their lives." ■

Churches take steps to renew commitment of inactive members

By Laurie A. Lattimore
For Baptist Press

MUSCLE SHOALS, Ala. — Most churches' membership rolls may look good on paper but are nowhere close to an accurate reflection of active service.

"I call it the sin of forsaking the local church," said Jeff Noblit, pastor of First Church, Muscle Shoals, Ala., who has a prepared sermon on the topic he preaches once a year. "We have taught this generation that that is OK."

At First Church, Noblit has turned to discipline to enforce active service if members are to remain on the church roll. Acknowledging it is not always popular with those who receive a reprimand, Noblit said it is scriptural to remind Christians of their commitment to the local church. If that commitment is not taken seriously at First Church, the church takes action.

"Forsaking the church is a serious sin according to Scripture, and we're not loving people if we don't call attention to that," Noblit said.

On Nov. 2, First Church held a dismissal service in

which names were read of all members who had not responded to a letter from the church asking if they were willing to be active servants to stay on the church roll. While most of the 700 who were deleted could not be found anywhere or had transferred to another church, Noblit said a certain percentage were members who "willfully, openly said they don't want to be active."

"Not serving the local church is a blatant, public dishonoring of Jesus Christ, the head of the local church. There is no way to be disloyal to the church and not also to Christ," he said, noting, "God has given us a biblical response to dealing with sin."

Jim Swedenburg, director of church administration for the Alabama Baptist State Convention, said Baptists traditionally have not taken members off the roll. In the past, the only way to have your name removed was to transfer membership, move, or die.

"It is pretty hard to get off a Baptist church roll," Swedenburg said. Saying he personally wouldn't like being taken off a roll by a church, Swedenburg acknowledged it is frustrating

for pastors to have one-fourth or even one-third of their members inactive. "There are so many ways to view it, but there is no rule. Churches have the right to take the initiative," he said.

Admitting his approach may not be very orthodox for most Baptist churches, Noblit said he's not trying to win any popularity contests. There are two rolls Christians join, he said: heaven's roll through salvation and God's service roll of Christians active in the church.

"We just ask people to show up one time every six months," Noblit said, joking that they don't get the FBI out to check.

Lindy Martin, interim pastor of First Church, Chalkville,

Ala., recently re-enforced the importance of church membership for that congregation.

Rather than deleting members from the roll, the church gave members a chance to reaffirm their commitment to service in the church.

"It was a way to support what we are doing and a chance to find people we are missing," Martin said. Every person on the roll was sent a letter about "Roll Call" Sunday, and many "missing" members were contacted by their Sunday School class.

While this was somewhat of a "cleaning house" effort, Martin said it was a positive way

to remind church members of their commitment to service in the local church. "For a church to be a success, it needs to know who is really working toward the success of the church," Martin said.

Noblit doesn't look at his method as negative; rather, it is his obedience to one of God's commands in the Scriptures.

"We're not trying to prove how tough we are," he said, noting there have been a lot of "sweet victories" out of the dismissal service, in that many members realize they have slipped into a rut and needed a push from the church. ■

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Friendship love

By Ron Blankenship

Focal Passage — I Samuel 20:1-42

The ancient philosopher Aristotle said, "Without friends no one would choose to live, though he had all other goods." Aristotle spoke of qualities every close friend will possess. These qualities are seen in the biblical friendship of Jonathan and David, as well as in John 15:9-17.

Joy in one's company. Jonathan and David enjoyed each other's company. Everyone needs three to five close friends, not simply acquaintances or casual friendships. Jonathan and David had a deep, affectionate love for one another. The New Testament calls it storga love, not a homosexual relationship, but a deep friendship.

Pleasure is fleeting and dies when it is not entertained. A true friendship finds joy in companionship, sticks by you when you are right, and cares enough to grow in the relationship to confront wrong. Jonathan supported David when Saul, Jonathan's father, desired to kill David. Jonathan at first found it difficult to believe his father would think such evil, and would have confronted David's accusations were he lying, but David proved to be telling the truth.

In the Gospel of John we read, "As my father loved me, I also have loved you, abide in my love ... these things have I spoken that your joy may be full" (15:9-10). Jesus Christ wants to have a friendship with us that is full of joy.

Usefulness/purpose. Jonathan and David made a long-term commitment of purpose to one another's friendship by making a covenant with each other. A covenant is a partnership of purpose, someone who helps us make life useful and meaningful. Friends help one another without expectation of anything in return.

Joan Delaplaine told about the time she began to ascend Masada in the Holy Land. After one third of the way she couldn't go on. The guide held her hand and helped her take one step at a time until they reached the top. A friend helps to transform our heated burnout to heated energy because he or she walks with us. With such love by our side many things are possible that would not be otherwise.

Christ wants to be a friend who brings purpose and usefulness to our lives. Jesus said, "You are my friends if you do whatever I command you ... I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit." Christ motivates us to do our best.

Mutual admiration/wishing others good. Jonathan and David wanted the best for each other. Jonathan gave David the clothes of a prince when they first met. Even though David's death would open the way for Jonathan to be King, Jonathan was not jealous of David's accomplishments.

Jonathan told his friend, "You shall be King over Israel and I shall be next to you." I like the Living Bible's version of Luke 6:38: "Treat others the way you would like to be treated." Jonathan empathized with David as he felt Saul's hatred.

There are two seas in Palestine, both result from the flow of the river Jordan. The Sea of Galilee is fresh with trees, fish, and life in and around it. The river Jordan flows south to the Dead Sea, a body of water with no green trees, no splash of fish, and no song of birds. The difference is simple. The Sea of Galilee receives but does not keep the river Jordan. The Dead Sea, though, keeps every drop it gets; this allows deadly sediments to remain and kill all the life. Friendship is like the Sea of Galilee.

Jesus spoke these words: "Greater love has no man than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends." In the book, *The Green Journey*, an Irish priest remarks, "I would exchange all the esteem in the world for a friend." That is especially true when the friend is Jesus. — Blankenship is pastor, Haywood Hills Church, Nashville.

Confirming our call

By Hal Poe

Focal Passage — II Peter 1

In verse 10 Peter refers to making "your calling and election sure." Taken by itself, this passage could cause some confusion about the nature of salvation. The passage is preceded by a list of good qualities that might lead a person to think that if they do them, then their salvation will be confirmed, like a 90-day trial period. Paul has a phrase that can create the same impression if taken by itself. He encourages Christians to "work out your salvation" as though it involves the accomplishment of set expectations.

Family Bible Lesson

It is important to note that Peter's encouragement comes at the conclusion of a discussion that begins in verse 3 in which Peter makes clear that God has already "given us everything we need for life and godliness." Life and godliness are the opposite of death and sinfulness. Furthermore, God has already given Christians "his great and precious promises" (v. 4). As a result, Christians "participate in the divine nature," or as Jesus said to Nicodemus, they have been "born again." The matter of making one's calling and election sure are not so much an issue of salvation as they are a matter of demonstrating one's salvation.

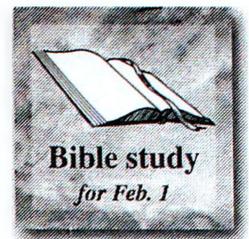
Peter speaks in verse 5 of "giving all diligence" or to "make every effort" to demonstrate a variety of qualities which he enumerates in verses 5-7 so that Christians will "neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ" (v. 8). The presence of these qualities does not produce salvation, rather these qualities make a person "sure" of their salvation (v. 10). Here Peter is using the language of spiritual growth which he shares with Paul and which originated with Jesus. The use of the word "unfruitful" indi-

cates these qualities represent the opposite situation, or "fruitfulness."

Jesus used the language of "fruitfulness" at the Last Supper to describe the relationship between himself and a believer. Those who abide in Christ bear much fruit and demonstrate that they are his disciples. Jesus explained during his ministry that a person is known for their true self by the fruit of their lives. The relationship with Christ is essential for the production of fruit, but Christ produces the fruit in a person. He creates the positive qualities of life which represent aspects of the character of Christ now living within the believer. Instead of the term "relationship," Peter uses the terminology of ancient Israel when he speaks of the "knowledge" of God in Christ.

Knowledge for the ancient Hebrews was not merely a matter of information, facts, and data. One could know about a person without knowing the person. Personal knowledge meant intimate knowledge that only comes in personal relationship. When the Bible speaks of the most intimate of relationships between a husband and wife, it speaks of "knowing." Within this same idea, the Bible speaks of the church as the Bride of Christ. The intimacy of our relationship to Christ makes possible the gradual additions of attributes to human character that change us over time. The theological term for this change of character is "sanctification" or how God makes us holy.

Peter explained that we obtained everything that pertains to life and godliness (or holiness) through the "knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue" (v. 3). Then he says that these qualities make sure we will not be barren or unfruitful in this "knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ" (v. 8). These qualities are not a complete list of all the qualities that Christ brings, but like Paul's list in Galatians 5:22, they suggest what the fruit of living in Christ is like. He has called all Christians to grow up like this. — Poe is dean, Academic Resources and Information Services, Union University, Jackson.



Resisting sexual temptation

By Rocky Churchwell

Focal Passage — Genesis 39:7-21

As Christians, we are to avoid every kind of evil. I Thessalonians 5:22 tells us, "Abstain from all appearance of evil." But avoiding evil is kind of hard to do when you live in a world where you are surrounded by evil. Everywhere you look, in the work place, at home on the TV, down at the corner movie theatre, in the magazines and books you read, and just about anywhere else, there are temptations calling you to come and sin.

Okay, so if it is almost impossible to live outside of a world filled with hidden, and not so hidden temptation to do evil, how do you and I avoid it? We avoid evil by avoiding tempting situations, and by seeking the will of God in every situation. In this way, evil can't get a toe-hold on your life.

Take for instance the story we find in Genesis 39, about Joseph and the temptation set for him by Potiphar's wife.

As we pick up our study from last week, we find that Joseph had been

Explore the Bible Lesson

carried to Egypt, and sold to Potiphar, an Egyptian and one of Pharaoh's officials. God blessed Joseph, and through this blessing, Potiphar was blessed as well. Potiphar could see the "gold mine" that he had in this young fellow so he made him attendant over everything he had. Joseph's success at this point also brought him some problems as well.

We are told in verse six that Joseph "was a goodly person, and well favored" meaning that he was quite handsome. Potiphar's wife couldn't help noticing, and decided she wanted this good looking and successful young man.

I have heard arguments that Joseph should not have been in the house with Potiphar's wife when Potiphar was out of town and the servants were gone, especially after all the times she had tempted him before. But I really wonder how many times Joseph could have

avoided this situation before it finally caught up with him. Whatever the case, we find that Joseph was able to do the right thing by running from the clutches of an evil woman.

As often is the case, when evil finds that we are not going to give in to it, it finds another way to manifest itself. Potiphar's wife was a smart one. She appealed to her husband's sense of pride. Joseph was thrown into prison unjustly, while the real culprit seemed to win. But, God knew the truth, and was able to see Joseph through this situation, and help him come out on top.

Doing what is right may not always keep us out of trouble. In fact, it might be easier to simply go along with the evil that Satan sets before you. We are forced to ask ourselves, "Does what I am tempted to do honor God?" If it doesn't, then flee the situation and the evil it represents. We must always remember, people whose values come from God can resist sexual, and any other temptation that comes along. — Churchwell is pastor, First Church, Jamestown.

state events

■ **A Conversational English Workshop** sponsored by Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board ministries, will be held Feb. 20-22 at First Church, Manchester. It will train people who would like to teach English as a second language to people. The training will be 6-10 p.m. on Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. on Saturday and 1-5 p.m. on Sunday. Lee Ann McAninch, a literacy missions specialist, will lead it. Deadline for registration is Feb. 6. Fee is \$20. For more information, call the Duck River Association at (931) 455-5072.

churches

■ **Forest Hills Church, Nashville**, will hold a Kid Bargains Consignment Sale Feb. 28 from 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. It is sponsored by the youth of the church for missions. The youth need spring and summer children's clothes, toys, maternity clothes, and baby items for consignment items. For more information, call Melissa Wooten at (615) 591-0566.

■ A team from **First Church, Goodlettsville**, will work March 10-24 in Temuco,

Chile. The volunteers will finish a building at the Baptist children's home there and will visit several churches. Openings are still available on the team. For more information, contact Jerry Heflin at (615) 859-1346.

■ **Grace Church, Nashville**, will hold a marriage enrichment seminar Feb. 20-21 entitled "Home Improvement 101." Dickson Rial will lead it. It will be 7-9 p.m. on Friday and 9 a.m. - noon on Saturday. For reservations call (615) 865-6262. Following the seminar, Rial will lead a revival at the church Feb. 22-25. John Baker Thomas will lead the music.

■ **Greater Vision** will perform a concert Feb. 1 at 7 p.m. at **Hillcrest Church, Lebanon**.

deaths

■ **Robert "Bob" E. Mulloy**, associate dean of the Mike Curb Music Business Program at Belmont University, Nashville, died Jan. 22 after a long illness. While an employee of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Mulloy attended Belmont University and served as music minister at Una Church. After graduation from the school he attended Peabody College, Nashville.

HONORING Bob Polk recently on his retirement as director of missions, Watauga Association, and his wife, Ruth, is Ron Owen, left, moderator and pastor, Grace Church, Elizabethton. Polk, who served the association for seven years, retired Dec. 31. The Polks were given love offering gifts from the churches.



JOE LEDFORD, left, and other Baptist volunteers help parents shop at a Toy Store in Elizabethton sponsored by Hale Community Ministries of Watauga Baptist Association and Carter County Community Services Council. Toys and food baskets were distributed to 725 low-income families through the annual ministry. Baptists served as volunteers, donated over \$3,700, and gave more than 1,000 toys. Ledford is a member of Lynn Valley Church, Elizabethton.



EMPLOYEES OF the Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board were honored recently for length of service. From left are Dene Mashburn, WMU, 10 years; James Porch, executive director-treasurer; Denise Scott, Communication Services Group, 5 years; and Carole Hayner, Executive Leadership Group, 20 years.

During his graduate studies Mulloy began teaching at Belmont and he served as music minister at Brook Hollow Church. Several years later he was named assistant professor of music at Belmont. In 1972 he was appointed to head the school's new music business program. In 1990 Mulloy was named director of the program. For 15 years he directed "The Reasons," a music group at Belmont. A member of Forest Hills Church, Mulloy is survived by his wife, Pat, who is on the staff of Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive

Partnership Prayer Requests

January - February

28 — Pray for the continuing work in San Rafael de Guapiles, Costa Rica. IMB missionaries Keith and Pam Travis are helping minister there.

29 — Pray for the new student ministry at Saginaw (Mich.) Valley State University. It is being sponsored by Southwest Church and the Bay Area Baptist Association based in Saginaw. Thomas Chandler serves as student work coordinator for the association and is the church's pastor.

30 — Pray for Christians to pray together for spiritual awakening in Canada.

31 — Pray for the families of the staff of the Michigan Baptist convention.

1 — Pray for Bennie Creel, director of missions, Sweetwater Baptist Association, and the other volunteers from the association who are serving this week in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

2 — Pray for the churches without pastors in Michigan.

3 — Pray for the spiritual renewal weekend to be held Feb. 6-8 at Cambrian Heights Church, Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

Board ministries based in Brentwood, and children, Terri Dixon and Leonard. Memorial gifts should be given to the school's Bob Mulloy Music Business Enrichment Fund.

■ **Merrill D. Moore Sr.**, 93, of Maryville died Jan. 16 at a health care center. He was director of promotion for the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention and the first executive director of the Stewardship Commission, SBC. He had been president of Tennessee College for Women, Murfreesboro. Moore also was pastor of First Church, Selma, Ala.; First Church, Newport; Immanuel Church, Nashville; and Brook

Hollow Church, Nashville. He was a graduate of Mississippi College, Clinton; and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky. Moore was a member of Monte Vista Church, Maryville. After retirement in 1971 he served as a missions volunteer. Memorial gifts should be given to the Monte Vista Church Building Fund.

leaders

■ **Tommy Ferguson** has been called as pastor of Ivy Memorial Church, Nashville, effective Feb. 8. Formerly he was pastor, Hickman Church, Hickman, for three years; pastor, Fountain Head Church, Portland; outreach minister, Rayon City Church, Rayon City; and youth and outreach minister, Radnor Church, Nashville.

■ **First Church, Oneida**, has called **Allen Matthews** as minister of education/administration, effective Jan. 1.



PHIL GLISSON, right, pauses during the recent meeting of the Tennessee Fellowship of Vocational Evangelists at Judson Church, Nashville, with its new officers. From left are Tim and Amy Wuester, Gallatin, music coordinators; Don Womack, Memphis, vice president; and Benny Jackson, Germantown, president.



BREAKING GROUND recently are leaders of First Church, Kenton, and businessmen, from left, John Shelton, Steve Kendall, and David Searcy, businessmen; Joe Stephens; Wayne Perkins, pastor; and William Duren. The church will build a family life center including classrooms, offices, gymnasium, kitchen, and fellowship hall.