

T E N N E S S E E ' S B A P T I S T & REFLECTOR

Page 166/ Number 43

Statewide Edition

November 8, 2000

CP giving record

For Baptist and Reflector

TWOOD — For the consecutive year, Ten-

aptists have had a year of giving through

erative Program. The 1999-2000 year

ended Oct. 31, Ten-aptist churches gave

797 through the Co-Program. The amount is a 4.36 per-

centage increase or \$1,420,424 over last year and is

over budget needs. The amount will be divided

among the Interna-tional Mission Board, North

an Mission Board, and church starts in

the state. We are grateful that Ten-

Baptists have re-sponded generously to meet

missions and ministry in our state and

the world," said TBC Director James

give all the glory to God. ■

Martin churches pray for area schools

For Baptist and Reflector

MARTIN — A show of support of parents to prayer walk in and around their children's schools last year has led churches of various denomina-

tions in Martin to extend and continue the effort this year. The city's Ministerial Alliance, a group of ministers from various denominational back-

grounds, met last year and discussed the possibility of organizing the churches in Martin for an "Adopt-a-Classroom" ministry for the purpose of praying specifically and regularly for each class in the schools.

The effort was led by Roger "Sing" Oldham, pastor of First Baptist Church, Martin, and Dave Reinhard, pastor of the First Assembly of God Church, according to Ken Bush, minister of education and administration at First Baptist.

Bush shared some of the background for the effort, noting that it relates to instances of school violence such as those found at Columbine High School near Denver, Colo., Pad-

ucah, Ky., and Jonesboro, Ark.

"Fear and helplessness has gripped our nation to the extent that many today are asking, 'What can be done? How can we protect our children?' " he observed.

"It is unlikely that we could ever put sufficient numbers of police officers inside our schools to make them completely safe. No amount of psychological screening could hope to find every young person or adult who might kill others in such a senseless way," Bush continued.

He noted those factors contribute to the lack of a sense of security and peace of mind among parents, teachers, students, and others.

However, Bush said, "there is security and peace to be found in the Lord Jesus Christ."

The Adopt-a-Classroom ministry became a reality last year after meetings with the Weakley County superintendent of schools, school board members, and school principals, Bush said.

They determined that no "church and state" issues would be violated, Bush shared, noting

that teachers and administrators in each of the schools were given the opportunity to indicate whether or not they wished to be included in the prayer ministry. "Much to everyone's excitement, 132 teachers and administrators responded affirmatively," Bush said.

Meanwhile, churches and various student ministries at the University of Tennessee-Martin were contacted to ask for groups such as Sunday School classes and others to commit to pray for a specific class. The prayers are offered during the group's regular meeting times and then once a year people gather for prayer walks around the schools.

Eighty groups representing 13 churches and four university ministries volunteered, Bush reported.

The prayer ministry received such a great reception that it is being continued this year with even better participation, Bush said, noting that there are 83 prayer groups from 14 churches, missions, and university ministries praying for 143 teachers,

administrators, and support staff, along with the 2,000 students in the four local schools.

Area principals are supportive of the efforts. "I believe in prayer and its power. Our students are faced with many temptations," said Nathaniel Holmes, principal of Martin Middle School.

"One of the driving convictions behind this ministry is the absolute confidence we have in our Heavenly Father who both hears and answers prayers," Oldham said.

"I look forward to the time in heaven when one of these young people walks to one of the prayer warriors and says, 'Were it not for the restraining grace of God wrought through the prayers of his people, I would have gone on a rampage back in the year 2000. But, by his grace, I was overwhelmed with self-control. It was this that drove me to seek Christ. Thank you for being a faithful intercessor.' "

Martin has crossed both racial and denominational barriers," Oldham continued.

— See Martin, page 3

As Baptists approve funding changes for SBC

For Baptist and Reflector

US CHRISTI, Texas — A 3-1 margin in the Texas Baptist ap-

proves the recommendations of the Study Committee that will reduce funding

for six Southern Baptist seminaries beginning in January.

The separate decision the afternoon, Texas Baptists

completely defund the Ethics & Religious Lib-

Proponents of the funding changes said they were precipitated by theological and political changes brought about in the SBC over the last 21 years as conservatives have reshaped the national convention.

However, the 6,664 messengers to the Baptist General Convention of Texas annual session refused to sever all ties to the SBC.

They overwhelmingly defeated a motion from the floor that would have cut all BGCT funding for SBC agencies, including the national convention's two mission boards.

The latter motion was made by a messenger who apparently did not support the other funding changes and said the convention might as well go ahead and cut all funding for the SBC in order to give churches a clear choice.

— See Texas, page 3

Tennessee BSUs 'make the campus different'

For Baptist and Reflector

MURFREESBORO — The contributions of Baptist Student Unions in colleges and universities across Tennessee are detailed in a recently-released book written by Charles L. Nored, Baptist collegiate specialist at Middle Tennessee State University here.

Make the Campus Different: Seventy-five years of Baptist Student Union in Tennessee describes the work of BSUs between the years 1922-1997.

The book traces the progress of BSU ministry in Tennessee.

"There are movements that involve countless people, many years, and the work of God and yet are never committed to an accessible historical record," observed Bill Choate, collegiate ministries specialist for the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

"Now, Charles Nored has pulled together the 75-year history of the efforts of Tennessee Baptists to reach college students for Christ," Choate observed.

Nored compiled the history from personal interviews, state convention office files, National Student Ministry files, volumes of back issues of the *Baptist and Reflector*, and local BSU historical files.

The book will be available for purchase dur-



CHARLES L. NORED, right, Baptist collegiate specialist at Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, presents a copy of his new book *Make the Campus Different: Seventy-five Years of Baptist Student Union in Tennessee* to James Porch, executive director of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

ing the annual meeting of the Tennessee Baptist Convention next week in Germantown at the Tennessee Baptist Historical society booth. The cost is \$25.

All proceeds after expenses will go to the MTSU BSU Missions Endowment Fund, according to Nored. ■

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Marler joins TBC's Church Growth Development Group

For Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — Ken Marler, a staff member of LifeWay Christian Resources, Nashville, has been named adult growth specialist, Christian Growth Development Group, Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Marler worked for LifeWay for 15 years and also was a pastor of two churches in Mississippi.

He is a graduate of Mississippi College, Clinton; and New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary.

Marler and his wife, Jan, have four daughters. ■



MARLER

Mississippi Baptists decide against BF&M statement

Baptist Press

JACKSON, Miss. — A total of 1,558 messengers from the 2,073 Mississippi Baptist churches met in the 165th session of the Mississippi Baptist Convention (MBC) Oct. 31-Nov. 1 at First Church here and ratified without opposition a record Cooperative Program (CP) budget of \$30,047,997 for 2001.

Messengers also re-elected Kermit McGregor, pastor of First Church, Mendenhall, to a second one-year term as president. In his president's sermon that followed the election, McGregor appealed to Mississippi Baptists to avoid the infighting and name calling that has engulfed other Southern Baptist groups. "We are priests, in the pulpit and in the pews. Lest we forget, his name is Jesus," declared McGregor.

Several messengers had proposed resolutions endorsing the 1963 version of the Baptist Faith and Message or the 2000 revision of that document, but the resolutions committee pointed out that the Mississippi Baptist Convention had never officially adopted any version of the confessional statement.

Messengers did approve a resolution acknowledging the Bible "as our final authority for faith and practice." ■

Federal court upholds moment of silence in Virginia

Baptist Press

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — A Virginia federal court on Oct. 30 upheld a law requiring the state's one million public school students to observe a daily "moment of silence" at the start of the school day, the Internet news site CNSNews.com reported.

Rejecting arguments that the law blurred constitutional lines separating church and state, Chief U.S. District Court Judge Claude Hilton said Virginia legislators stopped short of mandating that students pray during the moment of silence.

In the wake of a seeming rise in violence in public schools across the country and a breakdown in school discipline, Virginia lawmakers this year required that schools set aside a moment at the start of the school day for silent reflection, according to various wire service reports.

The new law, which took effect July 1, amended a 24-year old state statute allowing schools to voluntarily hold a moment of silence at the start of the day to allow students to "meditate, pray, or engage in any other silent activity."

The American Civil Liberties Union, representing nine public school students, had sought to block enforcement of the new law on the grounds that it promoted religious practices in the schools and was unconstitutional.

The ACLU, which in September failed to obtain an injunction against the legislation, plans to appeal the ruling by the state federal court, according to media reports. ■

'Miracle' occurs in Orlando church

Baptist Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — A miracle happened on Sunday at First Baptist Church here. At least that's what pastor Jim Henry called it.

Church members dug into their pockets and pledged more than \$3.2 million in one morning to expand their church. Henry was still reeling Sunday afternoon, Oct. 30.

"It's an awesome experience," he said. "It's God-sized. We saw God do something only he can do in people's hearts.

That much money in that short a time — God had to do it."

Henry, a Tennessean and former pastor of Two Rivers Baptist Church, Nashville, wanted the money to buy 8.2 acres of land on L.B. McLeod Road, which is adjacent to existing church property. The land is critical because it will give the church a visible presence on a busy road and add important space to the 130-acre campus. It was put up for sale by the RC Cola corporation; Henry told church members about the opportunity to buy it in August.

He said he learned from God in January 1999 that he should move to get that land when the time seemed right. In years past, it was too expensive. But at a negotiated \$3.2 million, it was possible.

Henry said he asked the congregation to join him in his mission. He asked everyone to donate at least one week's salary.

Church spokesman Steve Smith said there was "a lot of consternation" among church officials about whether they'd raise enough money. Even if everyone followed the one-week-salary guideline, the amount would reach only \$2.5 million.

But Henry said he kept the faith. When the pledge cards were tallied, the amount came in at slightly more than \$3.2 million. ■

BGCT action opens door to non-Texans

Associated Baptist Press

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas — Churches outside Texas that affiliate with the Baptist General Convention of Texas now will be allowed to serve on convention committees and boards.

Messengers to the BGCT annual session approved the change Oct. 30 here. With only scattered opposition, messengers gave the required second affirmation to a constitutional amendment that removes geographical limitations on nominees for convention committees and boards.

The Texas convention has not previously limited churches outside the state from joining the convention and already counts about a half dozen congregations from other states among its cooperating churches. Those churches generally are in border communities.

Texas Baptist leaders, however, have said they have no

intention of actively recruiting churches from outside the state. If churches from states desire to seek affiliation with the BGCT, they welcome as they always have been, the convention has said.

"We're not bent on forming a new denomination," said President Clyde Glazene

Graham readies for Florida crusade

Associated Baptist Press

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Billy Graham said despite lingering health problems he is able to preach at last week's crusade in Jacksonville, Fla. that it is unlikely to be his last.

Speaking to reporters Oct. 31, two days before the start of the famous evangelist's 31st annual crusade in Jacksonville, Fla., Graham said he was recovering from a muscular ailment with his jaw that is painful for him to speak. He said the condition is treated with medication.

"I am happy to report I feel better than I have in a long time," he said. "I am looking forward to many more years of ministry, God willing," he said.

Following his Middle Tennessee crusade last June, Graham was hospitalized for three months at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., where he was treated for fluid in his brain. He was unable to attend an international conference in Amsterdam this summer because of his health.

Graham, who suffers from Parkinson's Disease, is panicked in Florida by a brain tumor, which he reported prepared to fill in for him if needed. ■

SBTC to assist S

Baptist Press

IRVING, Texas — Southern Baptist entities hurt by the Texas' defunding of the Southern Baptists' Convention to help meet the shortfall, said SBTC Executive Director Jim Richards.

Richards announced "Great Commission Plan" that will deliver half of state undesignated revenue above the new state constitution's annual budget to agencies impacted by the BGCT vote. ■

Small Evansville church offers \$5,000 to assist Rhea County School Board in event of lawsuit

By Sumerlin
to Baptist and Reflector

EVANSVILLE — Rhea County School Board members do not stand alone in their fight to ensure Bible teaching in the

small church has pledged the available \$5,000 to cover court costs if the board is taken to court on the issue.

The congregation of High Point Baptist Church in Evansville, with just under 30 members, discussed giving the money after the school department was threatened with a lawsuit in September by the Evansville, Wis.-based Freedom Religion Foundation. The Dayton family had come to the foundation that

their elementary-age children are receiving Bible teaching by "fundamentalist" Bryan College students. Students from Bryan College teach non-mandatory Bible classes in the schools. Attendance is voluntary.

In a letter to the school board the organization claimed violation of the rule of separation of church and state and said it would file a lawsuit against the school system unless it discontinued the classes, according to a report in the *Chattanooga Free Press*. School board members voted instead on Oct. 10 to continue the program.

Pastor E. David Jordan of High Point Church recently submitted a letter to the editor of the *Herald-News* in Dayton in support of the Bible program.

"Let me say to the family who brought the complaint, 'You may not believe in the Bible and that's your privilege, but most people around here do and that's our privilege,'" he wrote. "We have too long let a small group of atheists dictate to us. It's time to put a stop to it, and your arms are too short to box with God."

Jordan said that if a lawsuit arises, his church members will pull together to help out the school department with court costs, and he encourages other churches to do the same.

"It is time for the churches to stand up and be counted. It may be now or never," he said. "It's time to stand behind our school board."

Jordan said he remembers when Bryan students came to

his school at Garrison to put on skits and read Scriptures to his class. His grandchildren and great grandchildren now enjoy the Bible teaching in Rhea County schools, he said.

Rhea County Director of Schools Sue Porter said the news of the small church's generosity and concern gave her "chills."

"I am absolutely thrilled about this. I thought we had 99.9 percent support from the community and this confirms that. The board appreciates it from the bottom of our hearts," she said. ■ — Sumerlin, a member of First Baptist Church, Dayton, is a staff writer for the *Herald-News* in Dayton. The story is printed with permission from the *Herald-News*.



Martin churches ...

— Continued from page 1

"It has also created positive opportunities for several of the area pastors to be more involved in advisory roles to area principals and in the planning stages for community-based programs which support our schools," he said.

"Ultimately it has brought honor to our Heavenly Father as numerous believers have been empowered to speak openly about their faith and confidence in the Lord Jesus Christ. A significant spirit of revival has impacted a number of our local churches," the Martin pastor observed. ■

Texas Baptists approve funding changes for Southern Baptist ...

Continued from page 1

Believe our vote here decided the Cooperative Program, said Greg Smith, pastor of First Baptist Church in Dallas. "It appears where we're at is a national convention from the SBC."

Messengers wanted nothing to do with Smith's proposal, but it was approved by one of the most important votes of the day, with a 74 percent majority.

\$4.3 million in money diverted from the SBC seminaries to three Texas Baptists — Truett Seminary in Waco, Logsdon School of Theology at Dallas, and Hispanic Baptist Theological School in San Antonio. The vote was taken by a 74 percent majority, with an estimated 80 percent of the messengers voting in favor of the recommendations.

\$736,291 diverted from the SBC Executive Committee to "Texas priority" projects such as Hispanic ministry and human welfare programs, and \$364,582 diverted from the RLC will go to the Texas Baptist Life Commission.

The vote was taken by ballot, and a messenger requested use of a more detailed procedure. The vote was 74 percent favorable with 4,194 votes in the affirmative and 1,426 negative.

In spite of the changes, the board still will forward more than \$12 million to the SBC International Mission Board next year and more than \$5.5 million to the SBC North American Mission Board.

Bob Campbell, chairman of the Seminary Study Committee, was elected by the BGCT last year, and he gave an overview of his commit-

tee's six-month study, which had been published in a 100-page volume nearly eight weeks prior to the convention.

In a 15-minute presentation, he highlighted the opportunity the committee believes exists in Texas to train ministers and the need to strengthen ministry among Hispanics.

Of the 48 Baptist colleges and universities in the United States, eight are located in Texas, Campbell noted. Yet 46 percent of all ministerial students attending Baptist universities are enrolled in Texas Baptist schools, he added.

"If any of those 3,623 students decides to go to either Truett Seminary or Logsdon School of Theology, they will pay more tuition than it will cost them to go to one of the six SBC seminaries. That is not right; it is not fair," Campbell said. "Their calling is sure, but they do have financial considerations. And so we believe there needs to be something done to aid them."

Hispanics represent the fastest-growing population group in Texas, he said, yet Hispanic ministers are having to drop out of Hispanic Baptist Theological School because they cannot afford the \$35 per semester hour tuition.

"We send a great deal of money outside this state for theological education," Campbell said. "We spend very little in this state for theological education. We would like to take a new look at that."

"We are spending \$14.90 on the six SBC schools while both Truett and Logsdon must split \$1," he added. "These schools cannot grow in that environment. Our students cannot afford to go there."

Meanwhile, the six SBC

schools "have changed theologically," Campbell reported. "That is a fact. It is true. Nothing illustrates that better than the 2000 Baptist Faith & Message statement."

For the first time, the Baptist doctrinal statement has been made into an "instrument of doctrinal accountability," he said. "It demands a rigid adherence. You cannot be a professor (at the SBC seminaries) unless you adhere only to the 2000 Baptist Faith & Message."

It is not good enough, he explained, for a potential professor to sign the Bible itself but not affirm the SBC's document.

"You cannot be a professor there, nor can you serve on any board, commission, or committee of the SBC unless you are willing to adhere to the 2000 Baptist

Faith & Message statement. That means a large number of you cannot serve.

"They want your money. They do not want you," Campbell concluded.

During the 30-minute period allotted for discussion of the Seminary Study Committee report, messengers soundly defeated two attempts to amend the report.

One of those amendments, offered by Bubba Stahl, pastor of First Baptist Church of Boerne, would have spread the seminary funding changes over a three-year period.

Apart from the attempted amendments, only two messengers actually spoke to the recommendations themselves.

Other messengers were waiting at microphones to discuss

the funding changes when the allotted time for debate expired. Messengers rejected a request to extend debate, then voted to adopt the changes.

The proposal to redirect funding from the SBC Executive Committee and ERLC sustained less debate, although messengers turned back the one attempted amendment that would have defunded all SBC entities.

At two points in budget presentations, BGCT Treasurer Roger Hall explained that no church will be forced to give in a manner it finds objectionable.

"We do respect and do have the church-directed giving approach," he said. "If there is any question at all, we call or contact your church. That has been the case. That is the case. The church has the choice." ■

SBC leaders' concern over Texas discussed in 1995

Associated Baptist Press

DALLAS — Differences between conservative leaders of the Southern Baptist Convention and the moderate-led Baptist General Convention of Texas have broken into public debate only recently, but SBC leaders were quietly discussing the "situation in Texas" at least five years ago, according to minutes of a 1995 meeting obtained by the *Baptist Standard*.

The four-paragraph document, titled "Atlanta Minutes, May 26, 1995, 12:00 Noon," is signed by Paige Patterson, president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C. Patterson identifies himself below his signature as "unofficial secretary for an unofficial, uncalled meeting in a historically significant room in the Marriott Hotel Airport, Atlanta." An ad hoc group of conservatives has met privately for two decades to orchestrate the direction of the SBC.

Whether the Atlanta meeting was one of those meetings is not clear in the minutes, and a number of participants contacted for comment would not elaborate. The meeting was held less than one month prior to the SBC annual meeting, also held that year in Atlanta. Minutes show that 16 men

were present.

Among the "concerns" discussed at the meeting, the minutes state that Jack Graham and O.S. Hawkins, both of Texas, led a discussion "about the situation in Texas." Exactly what that situation was and what was said about it are not reported.

Hawkins, when contacted Oct. 25, said he did not recall the meeting. Graham was unavailable for comment, his secretary said.

LifeWay Christian Resources President Jimmy Draper confirmed attending the meeting and others like it through the years. In 1995, Texas and other state conventions were discussed only generally, Draper said. "In those meetings, I don't remember the BGCT being the object of concern. It has come to focus only recently."

The minutes say that Adrian Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church, Cordova, presided, and he began the meeting by asking Patterson to give "a brief update of the general situation of the convention." They also indicate Paul Pressler of Texas assessed the appointments made by then-SBC President Jim Henry of Orlando, Fla. Pressler noted 27 of the 70 "seemed to be strong conservatives," but "there seemed to be 16 that were unfortunate appointments." ■

Small rural church gives meaning to cooperation

By Lonnie Wilkey, editor

As Tennessee Baptists prepare for our annual meeting next week, we would do well to learn a lesson in cooperation from a small, rural church in Western District Baptist Association.

In September I had the privilege of participating in an On Missions Celebration in that association. On Sunday morning I spoke at Oak Hill Union Church outside of Paris.

Oak Hill is not the typical Tennessee Baptist church. Yes, it is indeed Baptist, but it shares facilities with Methodist and Cumberland Presbyterian congregations.

And, it has done so for 116 years.

Union University administrator Paul Veazey serves as the interim Baptist pastor at Oak Hill. Baptists have the service once a month and twice a month, every other month.

Veazey notes the three different groups get along extremely well with each other. They share a common Sunday School. The offering taken on the fourth Sunday of the month is used for upkeep of the building and facilities. A Sunday School offering pays for those materials and expenses.

Each congregation keeps the offering taken up on "their" Sunday. Out of that offering, the Baptists give to the association and through the Cooperative Program, Veazey explained.

Each congregation has its own identity and they respect each other's opinions, Veazey said.

There's where we as Tennessee Baptists could take a lesson. We are never going to agree with each other on every item. But we can work with each other cooperatively as long as we treat each other with respect. Isn't that the Christian way?

Next week Tennessee Baptists will deal with some difficult issues. We can let them divide us, or we can work together and find amicable solutions.

Proposed changes to the TBC bylaws already have been scrutinized. Positives of those changes have been addressed fully. There are those, however, who oppose the changes. That is their right as Tennessee Baptists. Opportunities to discuss the proposed changes are on the program. We, as Tennessee Baptists, regardless of whether we agree or disagree on the changes, are obligated to address the matter with a Christ-like attitude and spirit. To do anything less would be an insult to God.

It has come to my attention that there are some who want the convention to go on record affirming the Baptist Faith and Message statement adopted by messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention in June.

This could prove to be a divisive matter because Tennessee Baptists do not agree on this issue. We need to be careful not to affirm something to the point that it becomes

a creed that we must adhere to. The only creed Tennessee Baptists need is God's Holy Word, the Bible.

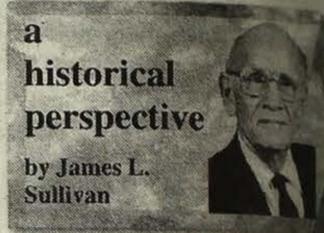
There are many in our state who are concerned in light of what took place last week in Texas (see story on page 1).

Tennessee is not Texas. We affirm the ministries of the Southern Baptist Convention, along with those of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, every year when we adopt our Cooperative Program budget. Tennessee is fourth among state Baptist conventions in CP giving and fifth in total mission gifts. We don't need words to say we affirm the Cooperative Program. We do it with our giving. In this case, our action really does speak more loudly than words.

Be reminded that Shelby County Baptists have been rallying around "Reach Memphis 2000" during this year. Their efforts to reach their communities for Christ will culminate prior to the annual meeting.

We don't need to go to Germantown and undo all the good Shelby County Baptists have done by being a poor witness through our actions and the way we conduct business. Memphians not only will be watching, but so will God.

Let's follow the example of the three congregations at Oak Hill. If three denominations can cooperate, is it asking too much to expect the same out of Tennessee Baptists? Pray for next week's meeting that God would be glorified by our actions. **B&R**



The SBC

The name "Southern" Baptist Convention was given to us when we formed in 1845 because our major strength was in the South. The charter, however, designated the entire nation as our field of work and service. With that dream was born a new system of denominational administration unknown in religious life anywhere before — the convention system.

Previously our churches cooperated in what was known as the "society system" of denominational operation. All financial contributions were designated, and a different society was required for each major function.

The people who gave the money controlled the operation to which they have been given. They did not need to be Baptists. The point was that the denominational operation was not "owned and operated" by churches, as it is now, but, through the trustee system with undesignated giving through the churches.

From the first, there was a sense of world need, a passion for persons everywhere to hear the Gospel of Christ. So the two mission boards were the first ones begun by the Southern Baptist Convention.

One was the Foreign Mission Board (now International Mission Board) located in Richmond, Va. The other was known as the Domestic and Indian Board, located in Marion, Ala. Later its name was changed to the Home Mission Board (now North American Mission Board) and was moved to Atlanta, Ga, and later to Alpharetta, Ga.

Since standard technology and a sound methodology was needed to help unify Baptists, it was felt the production of church literature should be at a national level.

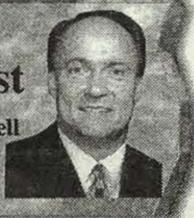
The Sunday School Board (now LifeWay Christian Resources) was begun to serve all churches regardless of location. It was begun in First Baptist Church, Nashville, in 1891. The room in which this historic act took place is preserved in the lobby of LifeWay Christian Resources, "located only a few blocks away."

Theological education and other functions which needed national sponsorship were also added to the convention's responsibility. ■ — Sullivan is retired president of the Baptist Sunday School Board (now LifeWay Christian Resources) and a member of First Baptist Church, Nashville.

TBC president Jerry Tidwell previews annual meeting

guest columnist

by Jerry Tidwell
TBC president



The 2000 convention in Germantown is almost upon us. I believe that many of the decisions we make in Germantown will set the tone and direction of Tennessee Baptists for the new millennium. While each decision we make will be important, there are three issues that are critical to the future of our convention.

First is the approval of a new formal relationship with institutions of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. Once again, I want to commend the Constitution and Bylaws Committee. Whether you agree with the proposed bylaws changes or not, I

am convinced that this committee has worked this year with the future of the TBC as its top priority. The greatest difference between Bylaw 5 (presented last year) and the proposed changes to the existing bylaws this year would be that messengers will have the option of making substitute motions from the floor relative to the Committee on Boards report. We also have allotted extra time for discussion on this presentation. Overall, I believe the proposed changes will help strengthen each institution while maintaining an accountable relationship with churches of the TBC.

Second, I hope our convention will take action in relation to the Baptist Faith and Message approved by the Southern Baptist Convention this year in Orlando. While I don't think the document should serve as a basis for cooperation in our state convention, I do believe it represents the majority of Tennessee Baptists

and their doctrinal convictions.

Third, while I don't think that other state conventions should dictate our agenda as Tennessee Baptists, I do think that it is critical that we define and affirm our relationship to the SBC by affirming the Cooperative Program. The leadership of the Baptist General Convention of Texas has launched a marketing campaign of secular proportions to dismantle the Cooperative Program that has served us well for over 75 years. I have had a few people suggest to me that we should just leave this issue alone and go on about the business of Tennessee Baptists. This is the business of Tennessee Baptists. To remain silent while an all-out attack is being launched against the CP is wrong. James 4:17 says, "Therefore, to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin." I believe this verse reminds us there is a sin

of silence. I believe we must respond to the divisive action taken by the BGCT. Baptists have worked together in the context of diversity while maintaining a unified commitment to the CP for over 75 years. Now is not the time to abandon the model of cooperative effort that has served us so well. If we come together to celebrate the 75 years of the CP, I believe we should reaffirm our commitment to this God-blessed strategy for reaching our world for Jesus Christ.

I want to thank you for allowing me to serve you this year. In order for us to have the best convention possible, I want to encourage every pastor and messenger to attend all sessions, educate yourself about the proposed business at hand, expect God's blessing, and pray that the Holy Spirit will fall upon us in such a way that the only agenda we seek will be God's agenda.

I'll see you in Germantown. ■

to browse the entire Bible for notes and commentary.

► www.ACTS17:11.com —

This site is set up by topic and the searcher can access various study topics. There is also a page describing something about developing and future work.

► www.BibleStudy.org —

You have questions. The Bible has answers. This site is set up to give quick response to viewer for questions. There is an immediate search mechanism along with various favorite topics. Several additional links are provided for quick access.

► www.Lifeway.com — This is the site for LifeWay Christian

Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention. Go to the Sunday School page and scroll through the helps available especially the "Extra" helps section.

► www.Biblestudies.com —

This site provides an interactive 26-lesson Bible Study. As each study is completed the user can click on the next one. Eventually the user will complete the Discover course and receive a certificate of completion.

► www.CustomBiblestudy.com —

This is an Internet based Bible study tool. Each user can configure what and how much they want to study. Then a customized study will be provided via Internet. This site provides a

viewer with opportunity to select a passage from a particular translation with a parallel commentary. There is a minimal charge to continue through customized study.

► www.Biblecenter.com/online/Biblestudytools.htm —

This site supports a link called Bible Gateway. From this site you can identify a passage or word search. Another feature is that it comes in multiple languages.

I know there are others out there that may be better. If so, let me know.

E-mail your suggestions on this subject and other helpful ministry sites to www.jchapman@tnbaptist.org. ■

TBC.Service Station

Web ministry sites

Bible Study Helps
by Tim Holcomb

Listed below are a few sites for online Bible Study helps.

► www.Crosswalk.com —

Bible Study tools. This site provides 15 different items that can assist in studying the Bible — from online study Bibles to lessons to sermon helps.

► www.Aggelia.com — This site provides multi-tools for assisting study. One opportunity is

Men and Boys on Mission

of Tennessee Baptist Men's Ministries Team, Missions Awareness and Involvement Group, Tennessee Baptist Convention

Winter 2000

Challengers

Tri-State Camp-O-Ree attracts 840 participants

avison
and Boys on Mission"

NOVA — The 19th an-
State Camp-O-Ree,
d by the Shelby Coun-
t Association Oct. 6-7
Cordova, Cordova,
participants repre-
RA and Challenger
om four states:

s, Georgia, Mississip-
ennessee.
amp-O-Ree is a two-
t where boys and girls
s 1-12 enjoy competi-
ampcraft, and share in
n interest activities.
n be tested in 16 areas
tition. The Camp-O-

Ree offers competition in: Raft
Races, Honor Chapter, Speak
Out, Height/Distance, Bible
Drill, RA Racers, Fire Build-
ing, Tom and Huck Activities,
Canoe Races, Compass, Log
Pull, Attendance, Log Saw,
Campsite, Knot Tying, and
Survival-of-the-Fittest.

In addition to competition,
the participants camped out
Friday night in their tents, set
up in their church chapter
campsite, or slept in cabins.

At the mission fair, the par-
ticipants communicated with
Mike Ewing, SBC Internation-
al missionary on the field, by
way of instant link through a
computer. The mission fair

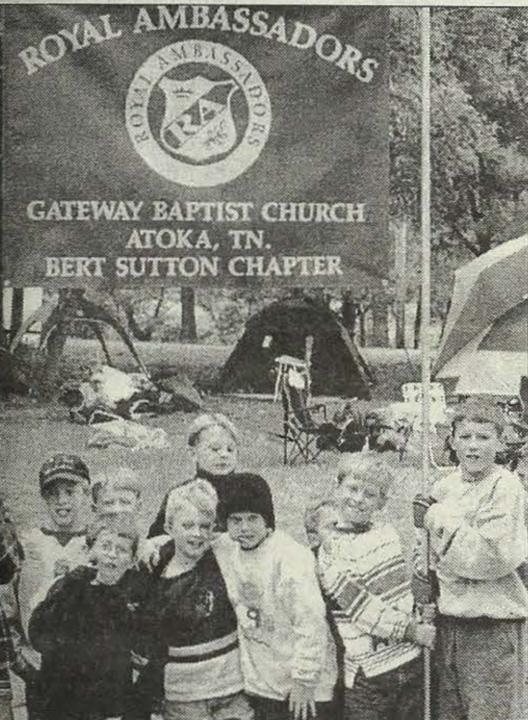
learning center, SBC
North American and In-
ternational missionaries,
displays from the North
American Mission Board
and others, and a Life-
Way Bookstore.

The purpose of the
event is to provide a two-
day overnight event,
geared specifically for
children and youth with
activities, directed to-
ward developing strong
Christian relationships,
and a sense of personal
worth.

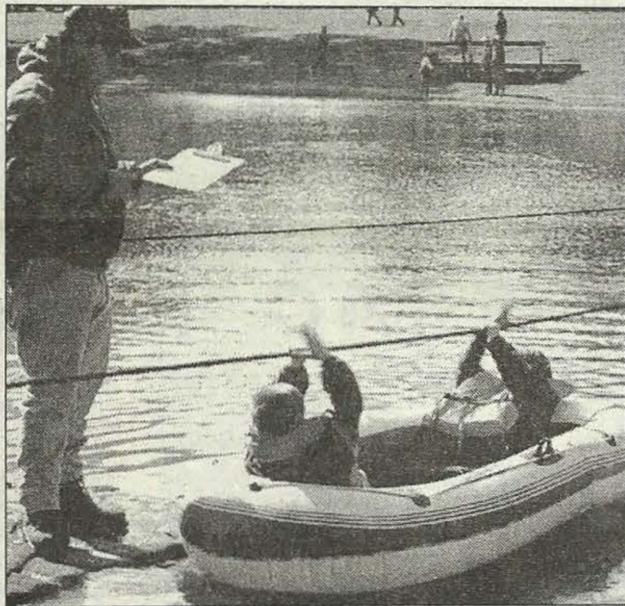
Next year's event is
scheduled Oct. 5-6,
2001. For information
on Tri-State Camp-O-
Ree, see web site at
www.vantek.net/camp-o-ree. ■



A FATHER AND son compete in the Compass Competition of the Tri-State Camp-O-Ree.



BERT SUTTON Chapter of Gateway Baptist Church, Atoka, TN, stand with their chapter sign in the Camp-O-Ree's camping area where they stayed.



RAs participate in raft racing as they propel themselves across Lake Joy by hand to test their upper body strength.



BOYS participate in the Survival-of-the-Fittest Competition of the Camp-O-Ree.



Association develops equipment with MAI Group
Riverside Baptist Association leaders, from left, Dan Little, director of missions; Rocky Churchwell, First Baptist Church, Jamestown; and Ron Harris, volunteer On Mission coordinator and partnership Baptist Church, Allons; stand by the association's new On Mission trailer to be used for Partnership/Disaster Relief ministries. The association's first mission effort will be to Nevada.

Stand Firm gathering set

For "Men and Boys on Mission"

"Stand Firm: Men Leaving a Legacy 2001" will be held April 20-21, 2001 at First Baptist Church, Hendersonville. One of six men's conferences across the nation, thousands of men will join in an inspiring experience of encouragement, worship, and training.

"Stand Firm" is different from other seminars because men receive practical training that they can use to impact their home, church, and community.

Men can pick specific workshops that meet their specific needs. For information regarding events, or resources visit: www.lifeway.com, or phone 1-800-254-2022. ■

Newsletter to change name

For "Men and Boys on Mission"

Beginning with the next issue of the Men's Ministries newsletter, which is Spring 2001, "Men and Boys on Mission" will be changing our name to "the MAP."

After careful consideration of who we are, who we serve, and what our newsletter is, the Men's Ministries Team felt that the newsletter needed a new name.

"the MAP" says it better because we serve a wide variety of folks going in multiple directions of missions service. "the MAP" stands for "Mission Awareness/Participation." ■

Men and Boys on Mission

A Word from Bob

A few months ago, another new school year began. This brings on lifestyle changes for many people, and can especially effect the lives of those who have children beginning their first year of school.

Recently, I read an article on this situation. Many of our children today go through 12 years of schooling and receive a high school diploma, but they are functionally illiterate.

School life for our children today has dramatically changed since our days in school. There are so many things that can effect a child's life today, such as drugs, violence, sex, peer pressure, etc. Have you stopped to think about what is being taught in the public classroom today?

Today, one concern should be the content of what is being taught. What is in the text books being used? Have you taken time to read through your child's textbooks? Is evolution being taught as the only option for explaining the human origin? What is being taught to your child in sex education? What are the beliefs of the teachers that come out in their teaching?

These should be concerns of parents with school age children. The article suggested that parents become involved and informed. Parents should become informed and supplement the school teachings with Biblical principles on all of these subjects.

I would like to take that thought a step further. Do you know what your child is being taught in church? If not, why not? We have the busiest lives of any generation in history, but that is not a good excuse. We still owe it to our children to know what they are being taught.

In fact, a Biblical principle behind this is for the child to be taught in the home. I'm not addressing or suggesting the home school concept. I am re-

ferring to: Deuteronomy 4:9, 6:7 and 11:19, Psalm 78:5, Joel 1:3, Proverbs 22:6, Ephesians 6:4, and 1 Timothy 3:4. It is the parents that are responsible for the training of their children.

In today's society we use public, or private schools, and our churches to educate our children. It is not the entire biblical principal set forth in the scriptures.

Watching my children raise their children has given me some ideas. My oldest grandson has entered the second grade this year, and my oldest granddaughter just started kindergarten.

As I watch my children raise their children, I see a very different parenting style, but it is much the same. I see my children more involved in the education of their children.

For example, my son is the coach of the many different team sports that my grandson is playing on a year-round basis. I believe it is a form of education since it teaches skills more than just how to catch or throw a ball. It teaches sportsmanship, cooperation, and other concepts that are lessons in life far more than just team sports.

Another example is my daughter and her involvement with my granddaughter beginning kindergarten. My daughter has been to the school, met the teacher, and knows what the teacher is teaching. These are great examples to follow, because they are examples of parental involvement.

I do not mean to imply there are churches teaching wrongful things. I'm only suggesting a parent needs to know, and be involved.

May I suggest that you check with your child's school, and the programs of your church that your children are attending, to see how a parent can become involved. It is for the good of your child's well being, and it is scriptural sound. ■

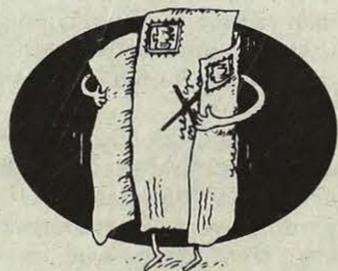
Bob

Men's Ministries Team seeks ideas

For "Men and Boys on Mission"

The Men's Ministries Team is inviting church workers to send in articles and photos for its newsletter.

Send articles and photos for the new nextletter to "the MAP," Bob Davison, TBC Men's Ministries Team, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37024-0728. ■



It's happening around the state

► **McPheeters Bend Missionary Baptist Church, Church Hill**, has started a new Royal Ambassador program. Their plans include a RA Racer Race for a motivational kick off of their program.

Other plans are involving boys in mission work by raking leaves for the elderly in their church and a car tune-up round up. The boys will assist the men of their church by changing oil and winterizing the vehicles of widows. Clinton Jones, RA director, has plans to begin outreach activities after they get started.

► **The Bradley County Association Royal Ambassador Committee** has begun a newsletter, entitled "Royal Ambassador News." Charles Hysinger, associational RA director, is the editor.

The desire of the RA committee is to provide a quarterly newsletter to increase the knowledge of RA activities and participation in associational activities.

The association held a Bike Ride Oct. 7 through Cades Cove and collected pledges for a missions offering to be given to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Another activity held was John Moore Farm hayride on Nov. 10. Other activities scheduled are: Jan. 26 — Cumberland Caverns overnight trip; Feb. 10 — Association Banquet; Feb. 24 — Laurel Snow missions hike; Mar. 15-17, Missions Camp Out; Mar. 31 — Big Springs Baptist Church RA Racers; and Aug. 3-4 — Chilhowee RA camp out. For information contact, Hysinger at hysingerbs@cs.com.

► **Knox County Association Baptist Men's Ministries** held several fall activities. They sponsored a Missions Fair Oct. 14 at Valley Grove Baptist Church, Knoxville, with over 100 displays of mission opportunities.

The association held a Men's Walk-A-Thon

through Cades Cove Oct. 28, and the program went to supplement activities that are needed by the budget. A Men's Rally was held Nov. 2 at Wallace Memorial Baptist Church, Knoxville, with guest speaker Rocky Rar Corryton Baptist Church, Corryton. Phil Chaney of John Sevier Baptist Church, Knoxville, led the music. Special music provided by "New Heights Quartet" of Black Heights Baptist Church, Knoxville.

The Men's Ministries team of Knox County has been involved in the Missanabie effort which provides coats for those in need. J. Hodges of Alice Bell Baptist Church, Knoxville, delivered coats to Grace Baptist Church Sault Ste Marie, Michigan.

Mission efforts, sponsored by the Knox County Men's Ministries team, include: NAMC cities for 2001—Las Vegas, Nevada; K-6 gathering for Copper Canyon, Mexico; an children's gloves collection for Guadalajara, Mex.

For information, contact Bill Irving, Knox County Men's Ministries director at BillIrving@msn.com.

► **Knox County Baptist Association Royal Ambassadors** sponsored a RA camp Sept. 29-30 at Camp Ba-Yo-Ca, Sevierville. The camp out included: overnight activities in tents or cabins; activities of Camp Ba-Yo-Ca Frontier Adventure, a Friday night camp service, Saturday missions work at the camp, and swimming and canoe races. The RA camp participated in a Punt, Pass and Kick competition Nov. 4 at the associational office and a Banquet Nov. 6. The Knox County RA Conclave is scheduled Mar. 31, 2001 at Central Baptist Church of Fountain City.

For information contact, Tom Simpson, Knox County RA Director at Tsimpson81@aol.com.

TRAC™ to offer coed program

For "Men and Boys on Mission"

With big changes for 2001 camp season, **TRAC™** has moved into the coed side of camp programs offering coed mission weeks for children and youth so leaders can make one trip to camp for girls and boys.

TRAC™ Children's and Youth Missions Camps is sponsored by the Men's Ministries Team, and offers a well-rounded Southern Baptist Mission Education camp for girls, boys, and youth.

The theme for the Children's Mission Weeks is "Big Fish" taken from the book of Jonah. The Youth Mission Weeks theme is "Running Man" also from the book of

Jonah. In addition to the children's coed mission weeks, a special all girls week will be offered June 11-15, and an all boys week June 18-22 at Camp Bays Mountain, Sullivan Baptist Association, Kingsport.

An adventure/missions experience for youth will be offered July 2-6 at Camp Linden. This camp, entitled Youth Buffalo River Challenge, involves campers in an extended canoe trip on the Buffalo River, and in the use of adventure recreation in group building, initiative games, and low and high ropes course.

Also new are opportunities for Children's and Youth ministers, and adult sponsors, des-

ignated by their church to attend. These leaders receive a reduced rate, and are expected to serve in various aspects of the camp program. Proper materials will be sent to churches.

The Men's Ministries Team is also recruiting college age staff for nine of camp. There are five male and five female positions open for camp counselors. These are paid positions which cover room and board and a travel allowance.

For information, or application, contact Bob Davison, Children's Missions Association specialist, at bdavison@trac.org. Or call Davison at 800-558-2090 ext. 2074.

2001 TRAC™ Schedule

Type of Event	Location	Date
TRAC™ Staff Training	Camp Smoky, Gatlinburg	June 4-8
Girls Mission Camp	Camp Bays Mountain, Kingsport	June 11-15
Boys Mission Camp	Camp Bays Mountain, Kingsport	June 18-22
Children's Mission Camp	Camp Coldstream, Adams	June 25-29
Children's Mission Camp	Camp Linden, Linden	July 2-6
Youth Buffalo River Challenge (An Adventure Recreation Based Camp)	Camp Linden, Linden	July 2-6
Youth Mission Camp	Camp Linden, Linden	July 2-6

Men and Boys on Mission

A Word from Gene

The best indicator that the man is right to begin a Men's Ministry in a church is when several members develop a clear sense of God's direction to begin a ministry to men. In other words, they are making a call.



WILLIAMS

In all cases, if the pastor is not favorable, I urge the postponement of beginning a ministry.

Without the pastor's favor to continue

is a recipe for certain disaster.

However, many times it is the pastor who first senses the call.

I could not imagine a better situation than to have a shepherd of the church ready, and put into action his plan for the men of the church.

I receive phone calls from pastors who are in this situation. They have determined that beginning Men's Ministry needs to be a priority for their church.

Most pastors are busy. Many pastors are realizing they need the support available through the men in church.

Pastors understand that an effective Men's Ministry can be an avenue where pastors can release some of their burden.

If I were one of these pastors, I would begin making a vital survey of the men in church. I would search for a man who has demonstrated that he is a man God can use. I would carefully share my vision with this man, and make a partnership for ministry to and for men.

In other cases, it is a layman in the church who has caught the vision for spiritual development for men. He has a personal agenda. The layman has realized that God's agenda is to be valued above all else. The layman has a contrite heart that is fertile ground for God to plant the seeds of His will.

The layman is not necessarily

ily a charismatic leader in man's eye. Sometimes he is the most unlikely leader. In all cases, he is sold out to the Lord. He is a man with a servant heart.

If I were that layman, I would schedule an appointment with my pastor and share the burden of my heart with him. I would share my vision for using the concepts of Men's Ministry to lead the Christian men in the church to a deeper relationship with God.

Out of that contact would flow a natural urgency to lead the lost men of our community to a personal salvation experience. I would seize every opportunity to bond with my pastor. I would offer the pastor my support as he seeks to follow the will of the Lord for his life. I would covenant with the pastor toward the mutual goal of edifying the church.

The next step would be for the layman to seek out two or three like-minded men who would form a core group. The pastor could be a member of the group if he chooses. The core group would meet weekly at a time and a place that best suits the group.

Their initial goal would be to devote considerable amounts of time to prayer and Bible study. They would earnestly seek the Lord's direction for themselves, and the future work of Men's Ministries in their church. Hopefully, the Lord would favor them with a glimpse of the men in their church under the control of the Spirit. A portion of their time would be praying for their pastor and his family.

A timeline for the above suggestions might be as short as six months. Or it could be extended for the core group to get a vision from God of the unique ministries God has for them in their church and community. We must not conform to any plan except God's plan. ■

Gene

RAs/Challengers program updated

For "Men and Boys on Mission"

For years Tennessee Baptists have had an Honor Program for Royal Ambassadors and Challengers with ratings in levels of Merit, Excellence and Superior, but recently the Honor Program was updated.

The program can be found on the Men's Ministries team web site at www.tnbaptist.org. Or call the Men's Ministries Team office at 800-558-2090 ext. 2025 for a copy.

Tennessee's Honor Program awards Royal Ambassador Chapters and Challengers Groups certificates for each level completed at the annual Tennessee Royal Ambassador Congress.

The purpose of the program is to provide each church program with guidelines to produce a well-balanced missions education program on a year-

round basis. There are three progressive levels where Royal Ambassador Chapters and Challengers Groups can receive recognition.

Level One for first year is Merit. Level Two for the second year is Excellence, and Level Three for third year is Superior. Completion of each level is proficient when a chapter/group passes requirements, listed under each level. Requirements deal with the total Royal Ambassador/Challengers program.

Emphasis is given toward quality involvement in weekly meetings, advancement, mission activities, and interest activities. This program is designed for a chapter/group to work toward one level of achievement per year.

The updated version takes effect for this year's participants with a new starting date. The new date runs from

Sept. 1 - Aug. 31 with scrapbooks due no later than Mar. 1.

The Men's Ministries team understands that many have been working on the honor program requirements since last March (older version dates of Mar. 2 through the following Mar. 1 with scrapbooks due no later than Mar. 1). We will honor the older version at this year's Congress. However, please get the new version from the web site, or call our office for a copy.

Other changes include updated language that relates to today's Royal Ambassador and Challenger's programs. Examples are title changes for magazines such as *Lad Leader Edition* and *Crusader Leader Edition*. Another change is the entire honor program is under one cover including all three levels for both Royal Ambassadors and Challengers. ■

Baptist Men's Ministries Dates 2000-2001

2000		June	
November		11-15	Girls Mission Camp, Camp Bays Mountain, Kingsport
5-11	Royal Ambassador Week		
19-22	International Missions Study	18-22	Boys Mission Camp, Camp Bays Mountain, Kingsport
December		20-23	Family Fest, Mission Trip to Little Rock, Arkansas
3-10	Week of Prayer for International Missions	25-29	Children's Mission Camp, Camp Coldstream, Adams
2001		July	
January		2-6	Children's Mission Camp, Camp Linden, Linden
21-28	Baptist Men's Week		
February		2-6	Youth Buffalo River Challenge, Camp Linden, Linden (An Adventure Recreation Based Camp)
2-4	Challengers Rally, Gatlinburg Convention Center, Gatlinburg	2-6	Youth Mission Camp, Camp Linden, Linden
23-24	Men's Ministries State Trainers Update Meeting, Baptist Center		
March		September	
4-11	Week of Prayer for North American Missions	9-16	Week of Prayer for State Missions
24	Tennessee Baptist Family Day at Bristol Motor Speedway, Bristol	28-29	Disaster Relief Training, Carson Springs Conference Center, Newport
30-31	Disaster Relief Training, Linden Valley Conference Center, Linden	October	
April		5-6	Tri-State Camporee, Camp Cordova, Cordova
12-14	47th Royal Ambassador Congress, Union University, Jackson	November	
20-21	SBC, Men's Rally, FBC, Hendersonville	4-10	Royal Ambassador Week
		December	
		2-9	Week of Prayer for International Missions

RA Racer rules to change for participants of 2001 RA Congress

For "Men and Boys on Mission"

The RA Congress Committee has made a rule change for the 2001-47th Tennessee Royal Ambassador Congress concerning the RA Racers.

Beginning with the 1994-47th Tennessee RA Congress, ONLY those cars purchased through RA Racers, DeSota, Texas, were allowed to race at the 2001-47th Congress ONLY. Due to problems experienced over the last few

years, a new vendor has been chosen. "Beginning with the 2001-47th Tennessee Royal Ambassador Congress, ONLY those cars purchased through Make Tracks Company, Sparta, Tennessee, will be allowed to race at the Tennessee Royal Ambassador Congress."

The committee will allow those with leftover cars from RA Racers to use the cars at the 2001-47th Congress ONLY, but the cars will not be al-

lowed after this year.

The committee began a new relationship with Make Tracks Company of Sparta, which is owned and operated by Frank Green. Green has designed, began production, and supplies our "Tennessee Royal Racer."

Make Tracks Company began accepting orders Oct. 1. Kits come in block or six pre-shaped designs. Cars are offered in plain kits, which in-

clude the wooden block, wheels and axles, and number stickers. Cars are also offered in deluxe kits, which include the wooden block, wheels and axles, number stickers, routed bottoms, and weights.

The wooden blocks are top quality pine. The wheels are racy, wide track, which are around 3/8 inches wide. The axles are the standard pin type. When routed, the car bases receive up to 3 ounces of

weights, which are included in the deluxe kits, or available separately. The weights are stick on, and are pre-scored in 1/4 ounce increments.

Bulk orders are welcomed. All kits are packaged individually even when ordered in bulk. For information, or to place an order, call 931-935-8201, or FAX 931-935-8203. Or order cars from: Royal Racers, 192 Lovejoy Road, Sparta, TN 38583. ■

Men and Boys on Mission

World Changers report changes in others, themselves

By Marcia Knox
For "Men and Boys on Mission"

Why do people keep coming back to World Changers year after year? Why would people work in the hot sun painting and re-roofing houses without pay?

Why do some take their vacations every year to do this mission project?

"World Changers find it a growing experience," said Leslie O'Harrow, 19-year-old sophomore from the University of Alabama, who has been in the NAMB program for four years. "World Changers lets us give back to the community. Whether its roofing the person's house or just talking to them, you give to the resident because you are giving it back to Jesus Christ."

"World Changers puts fuel in your tank," added Reese Smith, a fifth year crew leader from Helfin Baptist Church, Heflin, Alabama. "It's very rewarding."

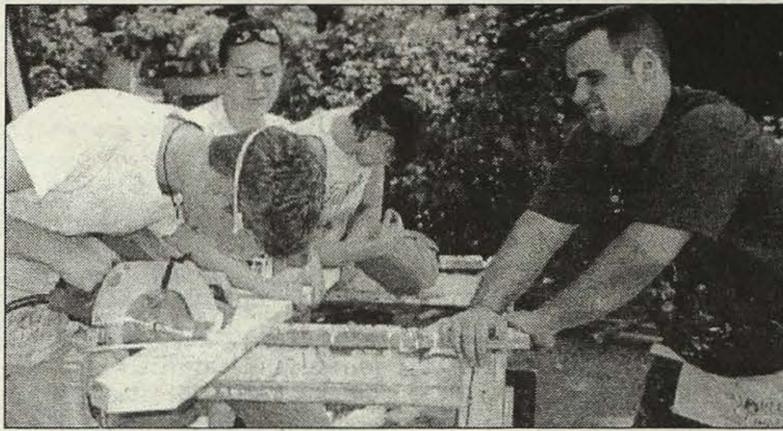
Then there are the "lifers" who have been working with World Changers for years and have been on more than 20 projects. One of these leaders is crew chief C.W. Anderson of Dickson, who began working with World Changers in 1991, and recently completed his 21st project.

A dedicated World Changer for years and a widower from Virginia, Anderson met Vivar Livengood on a Senior Adult World Changers project in Charleston, South Carolina, in May 1996. Livengood was on her second World Changers project when they met. They married in December 1996 at Parkers Creek Baptist Church, Dickson. Since their marriage, the Andersons have participated in eight World Changers projects together.

"I just like the work and the kids," said C.W. Anderson. "World Changers do a good service because our presence in the community is probably a greater influence than the construction work. We tell people about Christ, and we have an opportunity to meet a lot of people in the neighborhood."

Over 330 World Changers and their staff worked June 10-17 in Nashville painting and re-roofing houses for low-income families. The group included both Senior High and Junior High participants, who worked on 24 sites throughout the Nashville area, selected by the Metro Development and Housing Agency. This was the second year that World Changers have worked in Nashville.

Tennessee Baptist Churches that sent World Changers to Nashville were: First Church



SAWING lumber for a project in Rhea County are World Changers, from left, John Riddle, Broadway Baptist Church, Maryville; Kirsta Head, a Virginia church; Summer Hopper, First Baptist Church, Maryville; and Chuck Sayne, Broadway Church.

of Pinewood, Nunnely; Fairview Church, Lebanon; and First Church of Fairview. Other World Changers in Nashville came from Baptist churches in North Carolina, Alabama, Illinois, Arkansas, Kentucky, Georgia, Mississippi, and South Carolina.

Serving as leaders in the Nashville area were: Rob Warren, project coordinator; Paul Morris, construction coordinator; and Rusty Sumrall, Nashville Baptist Association coordinator. The World Changers were housed at Donelson Christian Academy.

Nashville Association office provided food for the World Changers along with the following Tennessee Baptist churches. They were: Bellevue, Brentwood, Dalewood, Dickerson Road, Eastland, Eastside, First Church, Forest Hills, Gallatin Road, Glenwood, Grace, Green Hills, Harpeth Heights, Haywood Hills, Hermitage Hills, Judson, Park Avenue, Parkway, Simeon, Tulip Grove, and Woodmont, all in Nashville; First Church of Fairview; Walker Memorial and First Church, both of Franklin; and First Church of Goodlettsville.

Senior High World Changers was held July 8-15 in Lenoir City, sponsored by the Loudon County Baptist Association where 18 of 23 projects were completed by 19 crews. Over 180 World Changers and their staff were housed at Lenoir City High School.

Judy and Ray Luck, Loudon County Baptist Association director of missions, served as the associational coordinators. Mark Matson of Clearwater, Florida, served as the project coordinator. Carl Lord was the construction coordinator. Gail Hooker, Loudon County Association ministry assistant, served as financial coordinator. This was the first time Lenoir City has hosted the World Changers.

According to Ray Luck, World Changer crew leaders

who have served for several years said the Lenoir City project was the best ever that they had ever been too. Luck attributed these excellent responses to the Loudon County Association level of organization, the prayerwalk and prayer vigil, and the way that the associational churches treated the World Changers.

"God was in control of the project with 24 of the 44 churches in the association participating," said Luck. "People said World Changers was one of the best things that has happened in this association in a long time."

Lenoir City officials selected the houses where the World Changers worked. Luck added that even though some money came from the city and the county, the majority of the funding for building materials was raised by the association churches, which amounted to over \$40,000. The World Changers offering goal of \$1,500 to start World Changer projects in Canada in 2001 brought in \$5,500.

World Changers participating in Lenoir City were from Baptist churches in North Carolina, South Carolina, Maryland, Florida, Ohio, Missouri, and Kentucky.

Tennessee Baptist churches that provided lunch were: Bell Avenue, Kingston Pike, Dixie Lee, First Church, Second Church, Calvary, Nelson Street, Friendship, South Holston, Highland Park, Pleasant Hill, all of Lenoir City; Stockton Valley, Corinth, New Providence, First Church of Tellico, Central, Bethany, Mt. Zion, Prospect, Blairland, Riverview, all in Loudon; Hilltop and New Midway, both in Kingston; and First Church of Philadelphia.

Loudon County Baptist Association held a 24-hour prayer vigil for the World Changers July 7-8. A prayerwalk for the World Changers was also held July 6 at Lenoir City High School. Shelby Lord served as prayer coordinator.



WORLD CHANGERS, from left, Vivar and C.W. Anderson of Baptist Church, Fairview; and Mason Powers, First Baptist Church, Pinewood, Nunnely; who painted this house stand the proud owner, Mary Louis Watson of Nashville.

All Youth World Changers was held July 8-15 in Rhea County where 455 World Changers and their staff participated. The students were housed at Rhea County High School in Evensville. Junior high and senior high students worked on 30 construction projects. This was the third year that World Changers have worked in Rhea County.

Rhea County leaders were: project coordinator, Jim Snyder; construction coordinators Bob and Diane Tumlin; and associational coordinator, John Toliver.

Building materials for the Rhea County project were purchased with no county or city funds. Over \$30,000 for materials came through the Tennessee Valley Baptist Association, churches, businesses, and individuals, according to World Changers media representative, Alisa Campbell. The project houses were selected through an associational housing committee.

Tennessee Baptist churches with crews that participated in Rhea County were: First Church of Dayton; Broadway Church, Maryville; First Church of Maryville; and Meadowview Church of Georgetown.

Other World Changers in Rhea County came from North Carolina, New Hampshire, Arkansas, Virginia, Alabama, Mississippi, Florida, and Texas.

Tennessee Baptist churches, which served lunches were: New Union, First Church, Garrison, Ogden, and Walden's Ridge, all of Dayton; First Church of Spring City; Washington, Smyrna, High Point, all in Evensville; Grandview Church, Grandview; First Church of Graysville; First Church, Yellow Creek, and Wolf Creek, all of Spring City; and Lake Drive, Sale Creek.

Another Senior High World Changers site was July 15-22 in Knoxville where the Ander-



PAINTING a house in Rhea County are World Changers Brittany Harrell left, and Jacinta Blaylock, both First Baptist Church, Dayton.

sons served as crew leaders. This was the third year for World Changers to work in Knoxville.

The World Changers stay at Seymour High School. First Baptist Church of Seymour supplied the morning and evening meals.

Knoxville had 235 Senior High World Changers who worked on 18 project sites in the Knoxville area that were selected by the Knoxville Leadership Foundation. Working World Changers leaders in Knoxville were: Don Byrd and Jim Jones, construction coordinators; Sheryl Prose, associational coordinator; and Tim Earl, project coordinator.

Crews were made up of Baptist churches from Pennsylvania, South Carolina, North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Maryland, Mississippi, and Oklahoma.

Tennessee Baptist churches that served lunches were: First Church of Seymour; John Seer, Alice Bell, Central Church of Bearden, Sevier Heights, Unity, Mt. Harmony, Cumberland, Wallace Memorial, Chihowee Hills, Ridgeview, Grace Cornerstone, West Lonsdale, all in Knoxville; and Salem and Sharon Churches, both in Halls. World Changers and their staff went over their goal for the offering in Knoxville.

leaders

nny Bruce has been pastor of Leawood Baptist Church, Memphis, effective Nov. 19. A native of Caruthersville, Mo., Bruce is a graduate of Mississippi State University, Starkville, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, where he earned both the master of divinity and doctor of divinity degrees. In 1982 he became

pastor of Whitten Memorial Baptist Church in the Cordova area. From 1989-91 he did mission work supported by the North American Mission Board, Tennessee Baptist Convention, and Shelby Baptist Association. Since 1991 he has been serving as pastor of Clearview Baptist Church, Pinson, Ala. He and his wife, Jeanie, have three children.

■ **Truman Brown Jr.** is now serving as pastor of First Baptist Church, Ridgetop.

■ **Friendship Baptist Church** has called **Chris Richter** as part-time youth minister. The church also ordained **David Woody** and **Rick Frazier** as deacons.

■ **Danny T. Cates Jr.** has been called as minister of youth and education at Hillcrest Baptist Church, Dyersburg.

death

■ **Harlan Reynolds**, a retired Tennessee Baptist pastor living in Old Hickory, died Oct. 18. He was 78. A native of Byrdstown, Reynolds served as pastor of several Tennessee Baptist churches — Concord, Brentwood; Stevens Street, Cookeville; First, Sparta; Calvary, Memphis; and First, LaFollette, where he was serving upon retirement. He was an active member of Tulip Grove Baptist Church, Old Hickory. Reynolds

is survived by his wife, Elise, two daughters, Brenda Metcalf and Janis Mitchell, and three grandchildren.

churches

■ **Parrish Chapel Baptist Church, Dyersburg**, will host a Gospel singing Nov. 11

with Heaven's Echoes as special guests.



LEAWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH recently held groundbreaking services on their East Campus land. Plans are now underway to build a first phase multi-purpose building which will house about 800 people for Sunday School and worship. This campus will be a second campus, not a relocation. Building committee members participating in the groundbreaking service include, from left, Frank Lawrence, Dan Williams, Bill Rooks, Ken Russell, Rick Gafford, and Danny Harlow.

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MINISTRIES — OTHER

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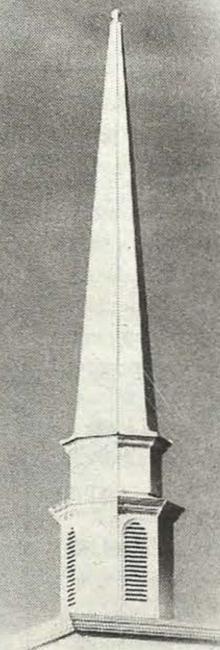
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Arkansas Baptists fail to make 2000 BF&M doctrinal guideline

By Charlie Warren
For Baptist Press

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — Messengers to the Arkansas Baptist State Convention (ABSC) fell 102 votes short of making the 2000 Baptist Faith and Message statement the doctrinal guideline for Arkansas Baptists.

As a result, the 1963 BF&M statement will continue to be the doctrinal guideline — at least for another two years because constitutional changes require the approval of two consecutive conventions.

By a slim margin, the conven-

tion also adopted a resolution supporting the Cooperative Program and denouncing the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

The resolution called on Arkansas Baptists to "resist" the CBF "that distracts Arkansas Baptists from our joint commitment to the Cooperative Program."

The Baptist Faith and Message vote was on a proposal from

the ABSC's Charter and Bylaws Committee, which recommended changing Article II, Section 2 of the convention's Articles of Incorporation to reflect the 2000 BF&M revisions rather than the 1963 date.

Confusion over parliamentary procedure left a cloud of doubt over whether messengers clearly understood what they were vot-

ing on. Nevertheless, because a change to the ABSC Articles of Incorporation requires a two-thirds majority, the proposal failed despite the fact that 53 percent of messengers voted for the change while 47 percent (362) voted against it. The 416 votes for the committee's proposal, fell short of the 518 needed for a two-thirds majority. ■

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MINISTRIES — MUSIC

First Baptist Church, McCoysville, Ga-Copperhill, TN is seeking a full-time minister of music/senior adults. Send resume to John V. Baptist Church, P.O. Box 867, McCoysville, GA 30555

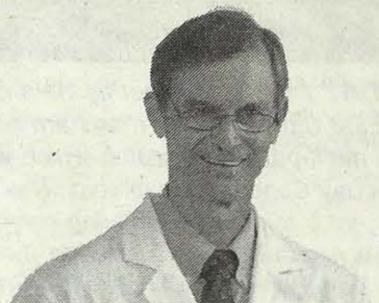
MINISTRIES — YOUTH

Senior High youth pastor wanted. Cascade Hills Baptist Church in Columbus, TN is searching for an experienced leader for 150-200 students. Excellent salary, must be highly creative, morally pure, doctrinally sound. Very good financial package. Send resume to www.cascadehills.com or call for an application online.

MINISTRIES — OTHER

First Baptist Church, Cookeville (www.fbcookeville.org) seeks applications for position of minister of administration. Applicants need experience in developing, overseeing financial and personnel administration in church or secular environment; strong sense of Christian calling; strong computer skills. Salary SS with attendance of 600-700 and budget of \$1.2 million. Resumes to First Baptist Church, 18 S. Walnut, Cookeville, TN 38501, Attn. Dr. Randall Adkisson. Info and job description available upon request.

First Baptist Church, Cookeville (www.fbcookeville.org) seeks applications for position of administrative assistant. Administrative responsibilities include: general ledger, control records, and insurance. Salary will be based upon experience. Send resume to First Baptist Church, 18 S. Walnut, Cookeville, TN 38501, Attn. Dr. Randall Adkisson. Info and job description available upon request.



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Lodged in the records of the early experiences of American history is the story of the strained relation-

John Adams and Thomas Jefferson. Great in mind and determination and power, they both struggled for recognition and prestige in seeking to succeed in Washington as President of the United States.

In history records, they were friends and colleagues. They sat together in the Continental Congress, and they helped write the Declaration of Independence. Mrs. Adams assisted the widowed Jefferson in preparing for the arrival of his daughters in France. Each of the men who led the United States government at the same time, Adams as the first vice-president and Jefferson as the secretary of state. Both wrote essays espousing different views concerning the French Revolution; and, ultimately, a cleavage in their friendship began. Adams elected president and Jefferson was his vice-president. The night before Jefferson's inauguration Adams invited some members of the Federalist party as guests. Jefferson had planned to make these appointments his first day in office."

In the words of Jefferson, "When we came to Fifth Avenue, where our road separated, his being down Market Street, mine off along Fifth ... we took leave; and he said after that said one word to me on the subject or consulted me as to any measures of government." Their roads separated so did their lives. These two great leaders of our country, would never see one another or speak to one another.

Even though they were men of strong character, great visions, and determined spirits, their broken relationship is a sad and black mark on their greatness. Yet, how often has this same scene been repeated in the course of history? Different places, different names, different causes, but the results of pain, brokenness, and rift is still the same.

In our modern society reflect the pathetic plight of those who have re-enacted this same scene through estranged and broken relationships. How many friends do you know who have grown cold? Brothers no longer brothers because a molehill grew into a mountain. Alienated and crushed spirits drive people from one another behind their shells of self-pity, stubbornness to nurse their

emperors flare, verbal abuse flies, the life-long damage begins, and the plotting for the upper hand continues. As resentment, hostility, anger, and rage controls the relationship, the promised love, happiness, joy, and times are lost forever. Life is no longer fun because your energies are being consumed in defending yourself and attacking your enemy.

Stop a minute and think about your life and your relationships. Are you a part of the dangerous dilemma? You may very well find yourself in this position. Are you happy with it? Would you like for things to be different in your life? What must happen in order for healing to open to you? ■ — Pulley is director of missions for the Cumberland Baptist Association based in Clarksville.

God with us

By Marvin Nail

Focal Passages: Isaiah 7:10-14; 9:6-7; 11:1-5

In the midst of life's sharp edges it is not always easy to remember that God is still present with us as his children. In fact, in some of those times it is difficult to think about anything other than the mess we are in at the moment. We are not always certain that God wants to concern himself in his majesty with some of our little troubles. In those times we are determined to use our own good sense and take care of things for ourselves.

In this week's Bible passage Judah was in trouble. Her neighbors to the north were making threats against the people of God. In his fear of them and in his own wisdom Judah's King Ahaz had made an alliance with Egypt that had once held God's people in bondage. In an extreme circumstance Ahaz had, instead of seeking help from Judah's God, made a deal with the devil.

A unique child (7:10-14). In the midst of Judah's difficulty God sent his man Isaiah to reassure the king that Judah's God was present and available to meet the nation's needs. But Ahaz, like a child feeling a burst of independence, refused that assurance. He even couched his refusal in righteous indignation. He was probably just trying to hide the fact that he had made that devilish pact with Judah's lifelong enemy. It was Isaiah's turn to become indignant. God was offering Ahaz and the nation all they needed; but Ahaz didn't see the need for involving God in the situation.

Isaiah brought a promise from God greater than he or Ahaz could have imagined at the time. At this point we must remind ourselves that prophecy often, if not always, has a fulfillment near at hand and also in the more distant future. The sign initially offered by God through Isaiah was that before a young woman could get married, have a child, and wean that child all Judah's problems would be over. Those circumstances would be

proof of God's presence.

But thank God there was even more to that promise. In a time that neither Ahaz nor Isaiah could envision, God would fulfill this

prophecy in the ultimate way. A virgin would give birth to a son whose presence would be the very presence of God.

A righteous ruler (9:6-7). Judah's situation was drastic because the leader of this people of God was not willing to trust God's leadership. Nevertheless God is determined to offer hope to his people. Through the prophet he spoke of a future king of Judah from the house of David who would be all the things that the people hoped each new king might be. This new king will be nothing less than an earthly presence of God himself.

For the most part the successors to David went from bad to worse. There had come to be little difference between the "people of God" and the people of the other godless nations around them. The kings of Judah had forgotten that their place was that of second in command. They needed nothing less than the kingship of God to fix their mess.

A spirit-endowed judge (11:1-3). Judah needed a leader in whom the Holy Spirit held unrestricted control because Judah's circumstances required nothing less than the wisdom of God. This leader would not be a warrior like Saul or David. He would conquer enemies and rebels by his word. He would not be the stern administrator like Solomon or Rehoboam. Instead he would rule in righteousness, easing the burdens of the poor, and lifting up those who had lost all hope. Obviously this task was not for mere mortal man but for God himself. — Nail, a former Nashville pastor, works at LifeWay Christian Resources, Nashville.



Family Bible SS Lesson — Nov. 12

Obedying the Spirit

By Rick Roberts

Focal Passage: Acts 13:1-4, 44-52

The church at Antioch had five spiritual leaders who were both prophets and teachers. These five leaders were gifted to proclaim and teach the Word of God. The two leaders that we are familiar with are Barnabus and Saul.

Notice that these leaders heard the Spirit of God while they were ministering to the Lord. These church leaders were already faithfully serving the Lord when the Spirit spoke to them. These leaders were faithfully discharging their office by serving the Lord. We need to grasp the importance of this. All ministry or service in the church is to be done unto or for the Lord. The church and certainly its leaders are not in the business of pleasing people. It is only as we are ministering to the Lord that we are able to hear the Spirit speak.

Another important thing to notice is that it is God who calls or appoints people for ministry. The church didn't elect Barnabus and Saul and neither did Barnabus and Saul volunteer for this special work. God alone is the one who calls forth men and women to do special work for him.

Following the Spirit's leadership (vv. 3-4). When God speaks the only right response is obedience to his Word. The church at Antioch faithfully obeyed the Word of God. The obedience of the church is seen in three things that they did together. First they fasted and prayed.

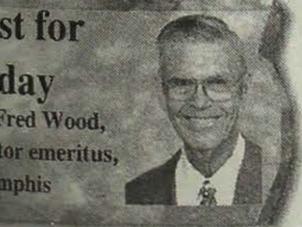
Fasting was used in the early church during times of intense prayer. Second, they laid hands on Barnabus and Saul. We still do this today when missionaries are sent out. Third, they sent Barnabus and Saul away. What does it mean that the church "sent" Barnabus and Saul away? It is clear from verse 4 that the Holy Spirit sent them on their way. The word that is used in verse 3 means that they "let them go." It is a way of saying that the church was in full agreement that God had called these men to be missionaries and they supported that work.

Working where the Spirit leads (vv. 44-51). Paul and Barnabus proclaimed the Gospel in Pisidian Antioch at a local synagogue. There was so much interest in hearing more about Christ that a time was set to hear more. All was fine until on the day they were to meet nearly the whole town showed up to hear about salvation in Christ. Why was a big crowd a problem? The problem was not that the crowd was big but that they were Gentiles. When these Jewish people heard Paul offering salvation in Christ to Gentiles the same as to Jews, they became jealous. In fact they became so upset that they began to contradict Paul and to blaspheme. They were not willing to be put in the same boat with Gentiles. These Gentiles were not good enough. These Gentiles were not the right kind of

people. Paul pointed out a truth that is still just as true today. If they would not accept a Gospel that included the Gentiles, then they could not accept the Gospel at all. If the church will not accept a Gospel that is for everyone then the church will not accept the Gospel of Christ. With that Paul turned to the Gentiles. Many Gentiles were saved because Paul and Barnabus were obedient and went where the Spirit had not only directed them to go but where he had already prepared the way.

Filling by the Spirit (v. 52). Though Paul and Barnabus were forced to leave Pisidian Antioch, they left behind many new converts who were filled with the Spirit of God and with the joy of salvation. God had accomplished his purpose. It is always true that when people are being saved there will be satanic attack. Evangelistic work is always spiritual warfare. Satan does not give up ground without a fight! We need to understand this today. If you think that if you're involved in winning people to Christ that you will not come under satanic attack, then you are very wrong and you are likely to be shocked when it comes. I'm sure Paul and Barnabus remembered what Jesus said about such times, "These things I have spoken to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world" (John 16:33). — Roberts is pastor, First Baptist Church, Rockwood.

Explore the Bible SS Lesson — Nov. 12



Just for
Today
Fred Wood,
pastor emeritus,
Memphis

Start With a Smile: Jan: "I feel good today. I began the day by giving a \$20 bill to a bum."

Joan: "That's a lot of money. What

your husband say about it?" Jan: "He responded properly. He said, 'Thanks honey, I appreciate it very much.'"

Make this Truth: Charity usually begins at home whether we plan it that way or not.

Remember this Scripture: "Let them learn first to show piety at home." — I Timothy 5:4

Pray this Prayer: Lord, help me to realize the strong should help those who are weak. ■

leaders

■ Tremont Baptist Church, Chattanooga, ordained **Tom Sherman** to the ministry and **Michael Lindsey** as a deacon Oct. 1.

■ Alta Loma Baptist Church, Madison, has called

Randall Lee Moser as pastor.

He has served on the staffs of Belmont University, Nashville; Radnor Baptist Church, Nashville; Grace Baptist Church, Nashville; and First Baptist Church, Old Hickory. Moser is a graduate of Belmont University and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.



MOSER

■ Radnor Baptist Church, Nashville, will honor **Paul Durham**, pastor, Nov. 12 on his 28th anniversary of service there and his 47th year of ministry. The recognition will begin at 10 a.m. and include a luncheon.

■ First Baptist Church, New Tazewell, has called



BILL SMITH, center, director of missions, Western District Baptist Association, and his wife, Betty, accept an oversized check from Charles Conger, associational treasurer, during a retirement reception held Oct. 15 by the association at First Church, Paris. The check was one of several gifts presented to the couple. Smith, who has served the association for 25 years, retired Nov. 1. The Smiths plan to live in Paris and do resort missions work.

Johnny Collett as pastor. He formerly served a church in Mansfield, Ohio.

■ Unity Baptist Church, Summertown, ordained **Scottie Gray** as a deacon recently.

churches

■ **First Baptist Church, Roan Mountain**, will dedicate its new building Nov. 12 from 2-4 p.m.

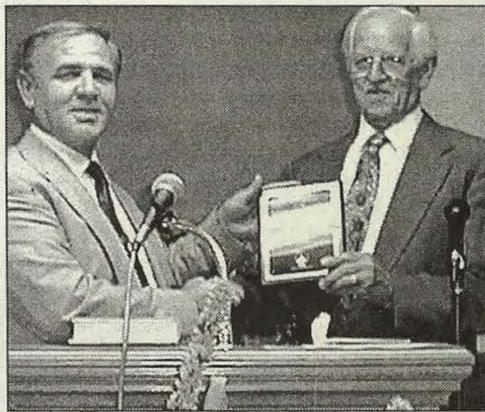
associations

■ During its annual meeting Oct. 23 **Duck River Baptist Association** voted to amend its constitution to in-

clude the 2000 Baptist Faith and Message, reported Robert Payne, moderator. The association is based in Tullahoma.

■ **Stewart County Baptist Association** held its 97th annual meeting Oct. 26. Elected as officers were Benny Mann, Carlisle Baptist Church, Dover, moderator; Claire Tylor, Carlisle Baptist Church, clerk; Mitzi Whiford, Big Rock Baptist Church, Big Rock, treasurer; and Pat Merrell, administrative assistant of the association, parliamentarian. Whiford has served 10 years as treasurer. The association is based in Dover.

■ **Hamilton County Baptist Association**, based in Chattanooga, met Oct. 19 for its annual meeting. Messengers elected Jack Fitts, pastor,



DURING the 125th anniversary celebration of Sand Springs Baptist Church, Monterrey, held recently, **Frank Hickman**, left, presented a plaque from the Tennessee Baptist Historical Society to **Johnnie Lee**, interim pastor.



ELECTED TO lead Judson Baptist Association at its 151st annual meeting Oct. 21 were, from left, **Reece Cochran**, pastor, First Baptist Church, White Bluff, vice moderator; **Kathleen Pendergrass**, Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Fairview, clerk; **Frank Tennyson**, pastor, Old New Hope Baptist Church, Fairview, moderator; and **William Gray**, director of missions. Messengers heard reports from those who did missions work in Alaska, Kentucky, El Salvador, Michigan, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

Oakwood Baptist Church, Chattanooga, moderator; Richard Childress, Signal Mountain Baptist Church, Signal Mountain, vice moderator; Tom Lewis, First Baptist Church, Chattanooga, treasurer; Becky Witt of the association staff, clerk; and Pat Johnson of the association staff, assistant clerk. Messengers also heard reports on its English as a Second Language program which reaches 500 students each week; HaCaBa Care Center, which is second for referrals for emergency food aid, and several other reports.

state events

■ **The Tennessee Baptist Historical Society** will hold its Annual Breakfast Meeting during the annual meeting of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. The society will meet Nov. 15 at First Baptist Church, Collierville, at 7:30 a.m. Charles Nored, collegiate ministries specialist, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, will speak about his book, *Make the Campus Different: Seventy-five Years of Baptist Student Union in Tennessee, 1922-1997*. Tickets may be purchased at the society's booth in the convention exhibit



DEACONS of New Blackwell Baptist Church, Rutledge, recently representing the debt-free status of its sanctuary lowship hall which was paid off in about three years. Deacons from left, **Terry Greenlee**, **Greg Moore**, **Guy Moore**, **Glen** and **Greg Greer**. Not pictured is **Shields Greenlee**, former of deacons who died in February.

Partnership Prayer Requests

November

- 9 - Pray for the IMB families on the Leadership Team of Portugal. They are Glenn and Sherri Watson, Stephen and Tommie Smith, and Andrew and Susan McCaskill.
- 10 - Praise God for the Baptist State Convention of Michigan's African American Ministries Leadership Conference held Oct. 6-7.
- 11 - Praise God for a good medical report on David Fairchild, son of IMB missionaries to Rio de Janeiro Ray and Sharon Fairchild.
- 12 - Pray for IMB missionaries to Portugal Stephen and Tommie Smith, who are thankful their church, Rio de Mouro, is growing in participants.
- 13 - Pray for students, faculty, and administration who attend and work at the South Brazil Seminary in Rio de Janeiro.
- 14 - Pray for IMB journeyman Nicki Chandler, who is a member of the Youth Team in Portugal.
- 15 - Pray for Island Waters Fellowship in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, which is a new church in the Colwood/Langford area.



hall or by sending pay Albert Wardin, TBHS, 2 Williamsburg Ct., Nashville, TN 37215.

schools

■ **Union University**, Jackson, will hold Preview Days Nov. 10-11. The days give prospects and their parents a chance to take part in a typical day at Union. Meet some of the staff and students. For more information contact the Office of Student Services at (901) 756-5000.

Association calls Lofton Graves

For Baptist and Reflect

SPARTA — Union Association, based here, called **Lofton Graves**, First Baptist Church, Spencer, as director of missions, effective Nov. 1.

Graves, who served Spencer church for 14 years, also was pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, Byville; Bird's Creek Baptist Church, Paris; Liberty Baptist Church, Covington; West Park Baptist Church, McMinnville; First Baptist Church, Cornersville; and Fairview Baptist Church, Franklin, Ky.

Graves is a graduate of Harrison-Chilhowee Academy, Seymour; a son of Newman College, Sonoma City. He also has a degree from Southwestern Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas. ■