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Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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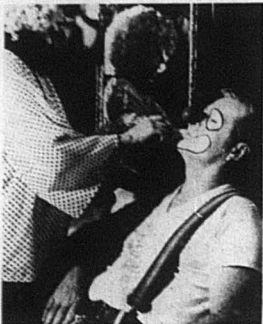
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September 2, 1982
Arkansas Baptist
NEWSMAGAZINE



ABN photos/Vivian Gill

Boomer applies the makeup that transforms Beep into the character who can attract crowds for others or share the gospel himself in a unique way. Boomer (alias Harley Petty) and Beep (also known as Pete Petty) have been clowning around since May, 1980, and have done their act about 50 times for youth groups, day camp, campers at recreation sites and more. Pete also helps train other clowns and 13-year old Harley does magic. Clowning is one of the ministries Pete Petty encourages as state director of missions ministries.

In this issue

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The Executive Board of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention took action on a request by Southern Baptist College to branch into a four-year degree program, a move by an associational director of missions to censure a Southern Seminary professor, and the state's first \$10 million budget at a meeting Aug. 26.

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The frequency of drunk driving cases before the courts make some of them routine. However, when the worst that can happen does happen, the cases become anything but routine. Managing editor Betty J. Kennedy looks at how the legal machinery processes cases involving the loss of life.

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Missions is open doors of opportunity. Missions is open windows of blessing. Two facets of missions is the emphasis for the Dixie Jackson Offering and for Arkansas Baptists' annual Season of Prayer for State Missions, Sept. 19-26. The ABN features a four-page look at State Mission work in this issue.

Allen denies censorship charge

Jimmy R. Allen, president of the Southern Baptist Convention Radio and Television Commission, has sent a letter to Baptist state editors denying that he "censored" Vice President George Bush's speech to the Southern Baptist Pastor's Conference in New Orleans in June.

In the letter, Allen said a "fundamentalist political magazine" published an accusation that the Radio-TV Commission had practiced censorship by eliminating Bush's speech from video tapes available to churches. Allen labeled the accusation "totally erroneous."

The magazine reportedly claimed that Bush's speech was omitted from a "documentary" produced for messengers unable to attend the meeting. It went on to say that video tapes of the Bush speech were erased.

Allen responded that "there has never been a 'documentary of events'" produced as a report for Baptists unable to attend.

In truth, Allen said, speeches of all pre-convention and convention speakers — including Bush — are available, as always on audio tape for \$4 per tape.

The Commission produced a one-hour

evangelistic program of the Billy Graham rally at the annual pre-SBC Pastors' Conference for local churches to sponsor in their (television) market, Allen said. All available tape from the three-hour service, he said, was pressed into one hour as a cost-saving measure. "Our sole purpose was to invite the lost to Christ through this effort," the letter said.

A report in the Aug. 25 Texas Baptist Standard identified the magazine as the Moral Majority Report. Cal Thomas, top associate to Jerry Falwell, wrote that Bush "has been censored by liberals within the Southern Baptist Convention," the Standard reported.

Thomas reportedly told the Standard that he had gotten details from former Radio-TV Commission chairman Joe Payne and that Duane Ward of the Old Time Gospel Hour verified the information.

Ward reportedly told the Standard that Commission member LaVerne Butler had requested a tape of the Bush speech and had been told that none existed.

"Not one word of Mr. Bush's speech has been lost," Allen's letter said.

Seminary satellite fall courses set

Three masters level courses will be offered as Seminary Satellite classes begin Monday, Sept. 13, in Little Rock. Sponsored by Southern Baptists' six seminaries, the program is a part of the umbrella of Seminary External Education.

For 10 Mondays the classes will meet at Little Rock's Immanuel Church. Courses offered are the following: Basic Evangelism,

taught by Roy Fish of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; New Testament Studies, under William Coble of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; and Family Ministry through the Church, taught by John C. Howell, also of Midwestern.

Enrollment is still open for all three classes. Further information is available by calling Lehman Webb at (501) 376-4791.

Single adult day set for Sept. 12

NASHVILLE — Recognizing the contribution single adults make to the church and community is the purpose of the second annual Southern Baptist Single Adult Day set for Sept. 12.

According to Ann Smith, consultant in the Sunday School Board's family ministry

department, "This day is also a time for single adults to demonstrate their appreciation to the church by exercising their gifts in service."

The theme of this year's single adult emphasis is "I... Thou" to focus on the relationship between God and his creation, said Smith.

Ken Medema in concert at Little Rock church

Contemporary Christian recording artist Ken Medema will be in concert Sunday, Sept. 12 from 2 to 4 p.m. at Geyer Springs Church, 5615 Geyer Springs Road, Little Rock. The concert is sponsored by the Baptist Student Union at University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

Medema has been composing and singing his own songs since 1970. His music has

taken him across North America, as well as to Europe, Africa and Australia. He has recorded seven albums.

Limited seating is available for the concert, with a reception for the artist to follow the performance. For ticket information, contact Dan McCauley, 5515 West 32nd, Little Rock, Ark., 72204, phone 562-4383 or 568-2319.



Peer pressure can cause an individual to do things which he will regret for years. Peer pressure, the influence of those with whom an individual associates, can cause a person to compromise his convictions. Almost all of us are affected by peer pressure to some extent. But by properly dealing with it, an individual can avoid being dragged into some tragic mistake.

The Bible gives examples of those who succumb to peer pressure, as well as those who resisted it. Peter's trip to Antioch (Gal. 2:11-14) is an example of yielding to bad peer pressure. The majority of the Christians at Antioch were Gentiles. It was only natural for Peter to eat and fellowship with them. But when a group of prestigious Jewish Christians from Jerusalem arrived, Peter removed himself from the Gentile Christians.

To understand the problem that confronted Peter it is necessary to realize that a Jew observed rigid dietary laws. A really strict Jew was forbidden even to do business with a Gentile. A Jew was not to go on a journey with a Gentile, nor give hospitality to him. He was not even to accept hospitality from a Gentile in a time of emergency. So Peter succumbed to the pressures of his Jewish friends.

Noah is an example of a person who resisted peer pressure (Gen. 6:8-22). Because the people of Noah's time were exceedingly wicked, God said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth..." (Gen. 6:7). God directed Noah to build an ark. It is not difficult to imagine the pressure and ridicule which Noah experienced during the years he labored in constructing the ark. But because Noah obeyed God, he was saved from the destructive force of the flood.

The most important question is, "How can a person avoid succumbing to the wrong kind of peer pressure?" Obviously, it is not any easier for us today than for Peter long ago. All of us want friends. Everyone wishes to be liked by others. Perhaps, the following suggestions might prove helpful.

We should determine before the temptation arises that there are certain types of activities in which we will

not engage. The Bible states clearly that there are overt sins which a Christian is to avoid. To fail to set absolute standards of Christian conduct is to lay one's self open to temptation. Once peer pressure is brought to bear upon a particular tempting situation, individual conscience is rarely consulted.

Some argue that the Christian is free to do anything he wishes, as long as he has Christian love. If Christian love is properly understood, this is true, for all sin is against a loving God. But the Bible enumerates sins which are to be avoided by the followers of Christ. When one analyzes the sins mentioned in the Bible, he will discover that people have not changed very much across the years.

We should choose our close friends carefully. We often can avoid much of the wrong kind of influence by having the proper kind of companions. It is true that often we must deal with people whose standards are very different from our own. A person is not forced to form close friendships with this kind of person. The best place to find friends is at church.

We should place the good of others first. If we practice the Golden Rule, we will avoid succumbing to certain types of peer pressure. Sometimes peer pressure is placed on Christians to take advantage of others. The Golden Rule given by Jesus requires that we treat others the same way that we want to be treated.

We are to set a proper example. One of the worst things Peter did at Antioch was the setting of a wrong example. In that instance, as often is the case, it produced a breach in fellowship. Every Christian is an example to others, whether he wishes to be or not.

When peer pressure encourages wrong doing, we should remember the consequence. When we take a long look at everything involved, we may wish to accept the jeers or rebuffs of others, rather than to sin "because everyone else is doing it."

Perhaps the best protection for anyone is to maintain a close day-by-day walk with our Master. Perhaps the best question is, "Would I engage in this activity if Jesus was by my side?" If not, then the answer should be, "No."

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Letters to the editor expressing opinions are invited. Letters should be typed double-space and must be signed. Letters must not contain more than 350 words and must not defame the character of persons.

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One layman's opinion

Daniel R. Grant/President, OBU

When the bad guys talk about freedom

Freedom is one of the nicest sounding words in the English language. Usually it calls to mind all kinds of good things that have made our nation great. Without freedom our churches, schools, and government would be our masters rather than our servants. Without freedom there is slavery.

My biggest problem with freedom is wanting it only for the good guys and not for the bad guys. I have great difficulty appreciating, or even tolerating freedom for criminals, bullies, greedy people, and anyone who seems determined to use his freedom to hurt other people. Unfortunately our society has had great difficulty in finding a way to give freedom to good guys while denying freedom to bad guys.

I have begun to wonder if much of our problem doesn't grow out of an increasing failure to agree on what is "good" and what is "bad" in our society. Earlier in this century there was no great outcry against "censorship" when we refused to give freedom to those who would publish pornographic and obscene material. The law was not

greatly different then from what it is now, but we simply had a much higher level of consensus on what kind of material was obscene and clearly antisocial. Our modern moral tragedy is that a "moral Gresham's law" is at work, in which bad values drive good values out of circulation, and we find pornographers and obscene publishers hiding under the protective cloak of American freedom.

Two recent examples in the news have made it even harder for me to tolerate freedom for bad guys. One is the psychology professor at California State University at Long Beach who gave course credit for participation in non-marital sexual experimentation. It strains "academic freedom" to the breaking point when a professor participates with students in sex orgies and "gay encounters," and gives class credit for "going in drag to a gay bar, visiting nudist colonies, and 'sexual liaisons' between student and teacher," all in the name of scholarship. The professor was only "suspended with pay for 30 days," but he later resigned

and then tried unsuccessfully to withdraw his resignation.

One other horror story in the news recently is the claim of the national organization dedicated to sodomy — the North American Man-Boys, Lovers Association (NAMBLA) — that it is a "civil rights organization." It says it is dedicated to "broadening the freedom of children to choose to be sodomized." NAMBLA wants to repeal all laws stipulating an age for sexual consent. Their plan of operation is to take children between the ages of eight and 14 to an amusement park and then to an isolated house where they are abused. Their evil is bad enough in itself, but it is tragically compounded by dragging the word "freedom" through such mire.

At this rate it won't be long until murderers and thieves organize a civil rights movement to protect the freedom of people to be murdered and burglarized, all because it is so difficult nowadays to define what really constitutes murder and theft.

Daniel R. Grant is President of Ouachita Baptist University at Arkadelphia.

Letters to the editor

Time for moratorium

Recent Southern Baptist Convention press reports have confused me very much. It seems one church leader is accused of being an alcoholic, when he claims he never took but one drink of alcohol in his life. Another leader is criticized years after he apologized for having offered a prayer at a brewery. Vague, unproven charges of heresy are leveled against teachers, suggesting that our educational institutions are corrupt. Charges of vote fraud of Convention messengers have been suggested.

Some of these charges have been exaggerated in local churches. For example, an evangelist said in a "First" Southern Baptist Church, "Half the preachers of the Southern Baptist Convention drink alcohol," citing as proof the fact he smelled alcohol when he entered a public restaurant at a Convention! A pastor of a "First" Southern Baptist Church became eloquent in his pulpit, criticizing the "idiots in Nashville and in our seminaries."

Our laymen, who generally trust their seminary trained pastors may wonder, from reading press reports, if they are being deceived and if in fact the devil is in charge of Baptist theological education. Where does

all of this stop? Who or what is back of it?

If there are immoral or heretical people among us let's deal with them in an appropriate, Christian manner. Have some of us become so enamored with the doctrine of inerrancy of the Bible we cannot accept the spirit of the Bible and its teaching on brotherly love?

This would be a good time to declare a moratorium on irresponsible criticism. Meanwhile let's do what a church is supposed to do. Some of Southern Baptist's greatest progress was made during and following the J. Frank Norris controversy in which he accused our leaders of "Modernism". Perhaps we made progress then because we used common sense, accepting valid and rejecting invalid criticism. — **Gray Evans, El Cajon, Cal.**

Read your covenant

Each day newspaper headlines confront us with alcoholism in adults or teenagers, drunk drivers or all of the above. Even President Reagan (who had the dubious honor of having the bar reinstalled in the White House after Carter had it removed) is trying to get a law passed to crack down on drunk

drivers. Our own Christian Life Commission and Dr. Grant frequently call attention to this problem. Apparently many Christians and particularly Southern Baptists do not take these warnings seriously. We read about the popular wine and cheese parties hosted by our church members. Baptists who once were closest drinkers have come out in the open because it is the popular and socially accepted thing to do. Often pastors soft pedal the issue from the pulpit for fear of stepping on important toes.

In a recent *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine* article the Christian Life Commission suggested people sign pledges that they will not use alcohol and I see no problem with this. However, many seem to have forgotten that Southern Baptists have an agreement called the Church Covenant that, if followed, will prevent anyone from becoming addicted to the number one drug or becoming a murderer on the highways. When anyone unites with a Southern Baptist church they are saying in essence that they will adhere to this covenant. It is not outdated and still merits our loyalty. It leaves no gray area where alcohol is concerned. If you have not read it lately, I challenge you to do so. Then go, and do likewise. — **Norma Frazer, Blytheville**



Woman's viewpoint

Judy Kent

A mountain top experience

I've been on many mountain tops, both physically and spiritually. Many of my spiritual mountains were experienced while I was actually on a higher ground.

Pinnacle Mountain, just west of Little Rock, is smaller in size than many I have seen, but a spur-of-the-moment family outing there turned out to be a spiritually enriching experience. We decided on one pleasant Saturday afternoon early last summer to take our children to Pinnacle to climb the trail to the top. We walked at a leisurely pace to keep little legs from tiring too quickly. As we made the turns that carried us to higher levels, we stopped to look at the small flowers in bloom. We watched for squirrels and other small wildlife as we walked the shady well-worn path. About half way up, the trail ended and we stood looking at the large, loose rocks ahead that

seemed to challenge us to try to reach the top. Wes took Sam's hand and I held Jodi's as we stepped from rock to rock cautioning the children to test the rocks before shifting their weight.

After several minutes of difficult climbing we reached the crest of the mountain. The footing at the top was as sure as it had been at the lower trail, but there was so much more to see from this height. I sat on a large boulder at the very peak of the mountain and looked back down at the highway we had driven. I gazed into the distance and was amazed at the beauty and the size of God's creation. Only moments earlier I had been holding a child's hand to protect and guide her, and now I was understanding how God's hand protects and guides us. He walks with us when the way is smooth,

yet he encourages us and leads us by his hand through the difficulties that will take us to a higher level spiritually.

When I have the occasion to drive across the Arkansas River on I-430, I glance toward the western horizon where Pinnacle Mountain has always been. I sing with the Psalmist, "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth."

Judy Kent is the wife of Wes Kent, pre-college associate in the Evangelism Department of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. The Kents, along with their two children, attend Park Hill Church in North Little Rock, where they work with sixth graders in Sunday School. Her interests include playing mountain folk music and needlecrafts.

Crucial questions for Christians

by Glen D. McGriff

I have been concerned by the failure of many friends who were once active in the church. Some have been leaders who have fallen away or become inactive. Is it that we are just living in the last days?

Your concern for the Body of Christ and for that which you observe is shared by many. We are living in the final era of human history. The full revelation of God has come in Jesus Christ. The church has been instituted. The Spirit of God now indwells believers. The mission of the church is given and the imminent return of Christ is to be anticipated. Yet there are other factors relative to your question.



McGriff

Man was created in the image of God. Man is to exercise his will in control of himself in relationship with God to make rational and responsible choices. Mankind has been deceived to "feel" that he must respond to his desires and drives. The consequences of this deception has put humanity at the mercies of physiological drives and the gratification of them. Mankind therefore has surrendered his highest dignity and is living very much at the level

of the lower animal life.

The problem is not easy to resolve. It requires the strengthening of a will that has been weakened by inactivity. Time is required to structure new response patterns. Continuous effort is necessary in establishing new responses based upon one's identity as a new creature. Old things are not deleted, they pass away with the new and responsible expressions of one's new identity.

There is a sense of adventure and excitement in living out the new identity. But when Satan is able to structure again his strongholds of deception, agony replaces adventure and guilt reduces the glamour of the new life. Then the adversary utilizes the strategy of accusation. The accusing suggestion is that one is not indeed an authentic believer, else he would not do what he has done. Following this line of thinking the believer begins to feel insecure and uncertain. Having accepted satanic suggestions he often begins to deny his new identity. The consequence may be a life of defeat lived in deep despair.

Dr. Glen D. McGriff is Director of Ministry of Crisis Support for the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

Inquiries, comments or questions to be used anonymously in this column should be sent to Questions, Ministry of Crisis Support, Medical Towers Building, Suite 660, 9601 Lile Drive, Little Rock, AR 72205.

Youth Choir Day at Ouachita

ARKADELPHIA — A special halftime show presented by approximately 2,500 members of church senior high youth choirs will highlight the 12th annual Youth Choir Day at Ouachita Baptist University on Saturday, Sept. 25.

The choirs from more than 100 churches will combine to sing during the halftime of the Ouachita-Texas Lutheran College football game at A.U. Williams Field. Kick-off time is 2 p.m. The youth choir will be joined by the 150-voice Ouachita Choir and band members from the churches, who will join the OBU band in accompanying the singers.

Game tickets and a picnic lunch will be provided free to all choir members, directors, drivers, and chaperones.

Rehearsals will begin at 9:45 a.m. for both band and choir members. Directors and chaperones are invited to join Dr. Daniel R. Grant, OBU president, for coffee in the Tiger Grrrrill in Evans Student Center at 9:45, followed by the OBU Talent Review in the Recital Hall of Mabee Fine Arts Center.

The mass choir and band will perform three selections during the afternoon performance. They are "Hallelujah! What a Savior" by David Danner, "At the Cross" by Beryl Red, and "Battle Hymn of the Republic" by Roy Ringwald.

The purpose of Youth Choir Day, according to Dr. Paul Hammonds, chairman of the church music department and coordinator of the day's activities, is to acquaint high school students with Ouachita and to give them the experience of singing and playing their instruments in a large performance.

Arkansas all over

by Millie Gill/ABN staff writer

Tony Weston and Billy Davis have joined the staff of Nettleton Church in Jonesboro as music evangelists.

Carter Tucker

has begun serving as pastor of Melbourne First Church. He recently retired as an Army chaplain, having served 16 years of service in that ministry. He served in Southeast Asia, and Europe. He was awarded numerous decorations for his service as a pastor to men in combat. Prior to entering the chaplaincy in 1966, he pastored churches in El Dorado and Texas 10 years. Tucker is a graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and two other graduate institutions. His wife, Pauline, is a writer for the Southern Baptist Convention Sunday School Board. They have three children.

Lynn Getsay

recently accepted the call to join the staff of Lee Memorial Church in Pine Bluff as minister of music, youth and outreach. He was a staff member of the Centennial Church in Pine Bluff and has served churches in Louisiana, Texas and Tennessee. His wife is the former Kimberly Thomas of Shreveport, La.

Garey B. Scott

began serving this month as associate pastor in education/evangelism at Forrest City First Church. A native of New Mexico, he has been serving as minister of education at First Church in Tulia, Tex. He is a graduate of Wayland Baptist University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is married and has three children.

Larry Pillow

will begin serving Sept. 10 as pastor of the Conway Second Church, going there from the Conway First Church, where he served as associate pastor. Pillow is a native of Monette. He is a graduate of the University of Arkansas and the Dallas Theological Seminary. He has worked in student ministries on the campuses of the U of A and the University of Central Arkansas in Conway. He has pastored Texas churches. His wife, Geneva, is a native of Nashville. They have two sons and one daughter.

Steve Young

has joined the staff of Calvary Church in Fort Smith as youth director.

James T. Westbrook

died Aug. 20 at age 85 in the Chickasawba Hospital in Blytheville. He was a member of the Blytheville First Church, was a veteran of World War I and a member of the American Legion. Survivors are his wife, Katherine Westbrook; two sons, James B. Westbrook of Jonesboro and Paul L. Westbrook of Munich, Germany; a daughter,



Weston



Davis



Tucker



Getsay



Scott



Pillow



Hook



Mrs. Hook

Katherine Dobson of Little Rock; one brother, four sisters, 10 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Howard Fuller

has resigned as minister of youth at Little Rock First Church to join the staff of the First Church of Dexter, Mo.

Howard Kisor

has resigned as pastor of the Yellville Church to become pastor of an Illinois church.

Bill Mabury

is serving as pastor of the Midway Church in White River Association. He and his wife, Jean, and their son, David, moved to Midway from Ozark, Mo.

Keith Byrd

has resigned as pastor of the Whiteville Church at Gassville due to a health problem.

David Johnson

is serving as pastor of the First Church of Gillham. He came there upon graduation from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Joyce, have two children, Daniel and Sherry.

Tex Henderson

has resigned as pastor of the Knobel Church.

J. G. Jernigan

has resigned as pastor of the Shannon Church at Pocahontas.

Ted Houston

is serving the Marianna First Church as pas-

tor, moving there from Gulf Shores, Ala., where he was pastor of the First Church. He is married to the former Beverly Powell.

Kenneth Hodges

is serving the Holly Grove First Southern Church as pastor. He is a native of Tennessee and has pastored Louisiana churches for the past six years. He is a student at Mid-America Seminary.

Jimmy Talley

of Quitman, Miss., has been called as pastor of the Snow Lake Church.

Bob Harper

is the new pastor of Marvell First Church. A native of Sheridan, he is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has been associated with the Little Rock Baptist Medical Center as a chaplain-interim and has also pastored Arkansas and Indiana churches. Mrs. Harper is the former Welda Jean Glover of Bauxite. They have one daughter, Stephanie Ann, age two.

Edgar Hall

has resigned as pastor of the Friendship Church at Springdale.

Jim Hogan

will begin serving Sept. 5 as pastor of the Prairie Grove First Church. He, his wife, Susan, and their son, Joshua, are moving to Arkansas from Fort Worth, Texas.

Russell J. Clearman

was recognized for his 40 years in the gospel ministry by the Central Church of

Mineral Springs Aug. 29. A reception was given at the Central Baptist Retirement Village.

Rev. and Mrs. Don Hook

will be honored Sept. 12 in recognition of their 50th wedding anniversary. Their daughter, Mrs. Kenneth Moore of Searcy, and her family are giving a reception in the fellowship hall of Immanuel Church in Little Rock. The Hooks, saved and baptized in the same services in 1929 at Pleasant Plains Church, have jointly served Arkansas Baptist churches for more than 50 years. They attended Jonesboro College and Ouachita Baptist University. He has served in both associational and state leadership positions, including two terms as president of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

Dennis Cottrell

has resigned as associate pastor of Springdale First Church to become pastor of the Retta Church near Fort Worth, Texas.

missionary notes

Shirley Jackson, missionary to Brazil, has arrived in the States for furlough (address: 4 Elm St., Natchez, Miss. 39120). Born in Bentonville, Ark., she grew up near Natchez, Miss. She was appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1956.

Mr. and Mrs. Jewel N. Franks, missionary associates to South Africa, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: P.O. Box 1759, Edenville 1610, Republic of South Africa). He was born in Union, Ark., and grew up in Cushing, Okla. She is the former Jeanne Sheridan of Cushing. They were employed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1978.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Michael Wolf, missionaries to Taiwan since 1971, resigned from missionary service July 31. They were stationed in Taipei, Taiwan, where he was involved in radio-TV work. He is a native of Tulsa, Okla., and she is the former Patricia Pickle of Siloam Springs, Ark. They may be addressed c/o Mrs. Katherine Pickle, Kamp Paddle Trails, Rt. 1, Box 210, Watts, Okla. 74964.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray T. Fleet, missionaries to Brazil, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 13431 Rolling Hills Lane, Dallas, Texas 75240). He is a native of Memphis, Tenn. The former Ruby Edson, she was born in Foreman, Ark., and lived there and in Belton, Texas, and Memphis while growing up. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1964.

Batesville First Church

has organized its tape ministry to home-bound members as a result of the efforts of Veona Brackett, a retired school teacher. Tapes will be taken to those desiring them who cannot otherwise attend worship services on a regular basis.

Ravenden First Church

held services Aug. 8 to ordain Mrs. Jean Fitzgerald as a deaconess. Pastor Don Sutton was in charge.

Martindale Church

in Little Rock will hold a Lay Renewal Weekend Sept. 10-12. W. B. Wood, Lay Renewal team coordinator from the Brotherhood Department of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, and Bill Cypert, general chairman of group organization at the Martindale Church, will be leaders for the 42-hour event that begins with a Friday evening covered dish supper and concludes with Sunday morning worship services. Bob G. Crabb is pastor.

East Side Church

in Fort Smith, as a result of a survey, has begun mission work in Fianna Heights for more than 10,000 residents. Concord Association is assisting in property purchase with gifts from churches in that association. Trueman Moore is pastor of the mother church.

Eudora Church

has begun plans for the observance of its 80th anniversary. Dillard Miller, a former pastor, president of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention and pastor of Mena First

Church, will be speaker at the Nov. 21 celebration.

Camden First Church

recently voted to become involved in the "Action" Sunday School Enrollment Plan and to present a Spring pageant, "Living Scenes of Easter" March 27-29, 1983.

Geyer Springs First Church

in Little Rock honored the Lee Walker family Aug. 22, recognizing their recent appointment by the Foreign Mission Board as missionaries to Chile. The church will host a Paul Jackson Bible Conference Sept. 9-11 that will feature Adrian Rogers, Sam Cathy and Jimmy Draper, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, as speakers.

El Dorado First Church

will begin using their new Christian Life Center Sept. 8 when the first Family Night Supper in nearly four months is held. Choirs and mission organizations will also be meeting that evening according to Pastor Don B. Harbuck.

Wynne Baptist Church

recognized those leaving for college Aug. 22 with an "On To College Sunday." Students, representing 15 different colleges or universities, were recognized by Pastor John R. Maddox.

Union Church, El Dorado

ordained Floyd Ervin Tucker as a deacon during the Sunday, Aug. 8 evening service. John Burton, a retired pastor, brought the charge to the church, and Pastor Roy Flurry brought the message.

buildings

England First Church

recently completed the remodeling of its education building at a cost of \$60,000. The work included the enlarging of all departments to conform with current teaching methods; the installation of a new heating/air conditioning system; new floor coverings and installation of a second story fire escape. Jeff Cheatham is pastor.

College Avenue Church

in Fayetteville celebrated its third anniversary with a noteburning service Aug. 1. This

service marked the end of a \$58,500 indebtedness that began for the church in 1979. Pastor John Smedley, Wilford Thompson, vice-president of the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Prairie Grove, and five deacons of the church participated in the noteburning. Pete Petty, director of Missions Ministries of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, was speaker. A praise service, an all-church picnic and a concert by the Maddox Family Singers were also a part of the celebration.

focus on youth

Hope Calvary Church

youth have returned from a mission trip to Longmont, Colo., where they enrolled 59 in Backyard-Bible Clubs and assisted with a four-day revival that resulted in five professions of faith.

Fort Smith East Side Church

youth have returned from a mission trip to

Marshall, Minn., where they involved 119 persons in five Backyard Bible Clubs that resulted in three professions of faith. They also sang and presented puppet programs at a county fair, shared testimonies in public parks, conducted religious surveys and attended a church picnic and outdoor baptismal service.

Executive Board OK's Southern baccalaureate request

Despite articulate opposition during an hour-long discussion, members of the Executive Board of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention voted almost 2-1 to recommend that Southern Baptist College at Walnut Ridge be permitted to offer baccalaureate (four-year) degrees in three academic areas.

The action cleared the way for a vote on the floor at the annual meeting of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention this fall, and was one of three important items on the agenda at the board's schedule meeting Aug. 26.

In other action, the Executive Board modified a motion by Little Red River Director of Missions David Miller to censure Southern Seminary professor Dale Moody, but agreed to draft a letter to the seminary's president requesting that he elicit a "clarification" from Dr. Moody on his stance on apostasy, to be published in the *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine* prior to the state convention. The board also approved a \$10 million budget request for 1983, the largest in Arkansas Baptists' history.

The 40-23 approval of a Program Committee recommendation to permit Southern College to offer the baccalaureate degree was another hurdle for the plan approved by the school's trustees in May 1981.

The request was originally denied by a study subcommittee of the Program Committee until it was learned that the college would be eligible for a Title III federal grant of up to \$1 million over the next five years. At its last meeting Aug. 12, Program Committee Chairman Cary Heard reported, the body voted to make a positive recommendation to the Executive Board.

The recommendation was met by emotional appeals on both sides, but both sides breathed a sigh of relief at the prevailing spirit of good will. The issue has been described as volatile, with potential, Southern president D. Jack Nicholas told the board, to "split the Arkansas Baptist State Conven-

tion."

Murray Smart, dean of the School of Architecture at the University of Arkansas and a deacon at First Church of Fayetteville, opposed the recommendation. "I think the educational plan is a good plan. I commend it," Smart said. "The only problem I have with it has to do with money; has to do with statistics; has to do with forecasting." Colleges and universities are "absolutely panicked," he told the board, about the predictions experts are making.

In 1981, Smart said, 31,000 students graduated from Arkansas high schools. Forecasters say that will decline steadily to an estimated 21,000 by 1992. "This is not a decline of five percent, (or) ten percent. It's a third," Smart said.

Smart also addressed a trend in the U.S. away from private institutions of higher learning, toward public schools. Cost is the factor, he contended. Tuition at the University of Arkansas is \$780 per year, he said, compared to a \$2,845 figure reported by Southern College. He also pointed out that most capital improvements, under Southern's plans, are for housing. He said recent estimates by U of A officials are that it costs \$15,000 to build dorm space for one student. Financing that construction at 10 percent over 25 years, he explained, would pass on a cost of \$1,500 a year to the student inhabiting the room.

"I have a deep commitment to Christian education," Smart said, "but I think it better be top quality Christian education. Being barely able to keep going is not quality Christian education."

Bill Milam, a pastor at Kibler, said the issue is not merely one of dollars and cents or of statistics. "Sometimes the Lord expects us to step out on faith," he said.

Jim Adams, from Beech Street Church in Texarkana, disagreed. He said he had "grave reservations" about the plan. These reservations, he said, do not indicate a lack of faith, and he maintained that God-given intellect should also be utilized in making

such decisions.

"I think we could do this," Adams said, "but at what expense? And at whose expense?" Adams also touched on the controversial question of whether Southern's acceptance of Title III grants constitutes violation of the separation of church and state. "Even though Ouachita has done it, I'm not sure Ouachita should have done it," he said, referring to an argument that the convention's senior college once took federal aid, before the university's current administration discontinued it.

"Do we have faith enough to wait?" Adams challenged. "Sometimes the strongest faith demands waiting."

Earl McWherter, a Hot Springs orthodox, said the question is not of faith in God's ability to provide. He urged the board to accept the decision of the Program Committee based on its study. "Just have faith in those who brought you the recommendation." The college president and trustees are not asking for anything, he told the board, except permission to proceed through the channels.

President Nicholas responded to a request for "the biblical basis" for wanting to make Southern into a four-year school. "Please remember that I was asked to do this," he prefaced his remarks. He described the events that led to the college trustees' decision and subsequent rulings. "Each step of the way, we sought the Lord's will and direction," he said.

The second most emotional issue of the day came under "miscellaneous business" in the form of a motion by Little Red River DOM Miller. Miller presented board members with letters and other supporting documents contending that Dale Moody, senior professor of theology at Southern Seminary at Louisville does not believe in security of the believer. Moody's position on apostasy, or falling away from grace, is in direct conflict with the Baptist Faith and Message "in general," and with the Abstract of Principles at Southern Seminary "in particular."

Faculty, staff changes at OBU announced

ARKADELPHIA — New faculty appointments, additions to the staff, and changes in academic titles and roles have been announced at Ouachita Baptist University for the 1982-83 academic year.

New faculty personnel are: Windle Causey, assistant professor of military science; Jimmy Dann, instructor in physical education; George Remsen, assistant professor of military science; David Sharp, instructor in physical education; Corliss Smith, instructor in education; Thomas J. Turner, professor of physics and vice president of academic affairs; David Wright, assistant professor on

business and accounting; Randy Cash, part-time instructor in religion; Peggy Carter, part-time instructor in home economics; Bill Falkner, part-time instructor in religion; Charlotte Jeffers, part-time instructor in academic skills; Sarah Laney, part-time instructor in home economics; Kent Murdick, part-time instructor in music; Clarence Shell, part-time instructor in religion; and Billy F. Taylor, part-time instructor in communications.

Ouachita's new staff appointments are: Linda Anderson, director of religious activities and BSU; Donna Bost, manager of cam-

pus post office; Pauline Cooper, head resident of east wing of Frances Crawford women's dormitory; Mike Kolb, registrar; Bill R. Phelps, programmer in data processing; Michele Wasson, part-time admissions counselor; Janie D. White, secretary to vice president for academic affairs; Lisa Fortner, secretary to vice president for administration; Susan Doty, secretary in office of director of student financial aids; and Barbara Blackmore, receptionist-secretary in president's office.

New appointments as graduate assistants went to: Maurice Barnett in music; Laura

takes action on Moody censure

by Bob Allen

Miller reported repeated attempts to bring the "problem" to the attention of Southern's administration and trustees, but claimed he had been largely ignored. He moved that the Executive Board send a committee of three to the seminary to ask and report back to Arkansas Baptists (1) how the trustees "justifiably" keeping Moody on the staff and (2) what they plan to do to "eliminate this heresy."

Ed North of Blytheville proposed a substitute motion, toning down Miller's demands, to contact Southern Seminary president Roy L. Honeycutt and request that Moody's stance on apostasy be prepared for publication in the *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine*. The motion stipulated that publication be before the Nov. 16 state convention and that the document be in hand by Oct. 1. North said he feared the language of the original motion was too harsh.

Jack Bettis of Fort Smith opposed the substitute motion, saying the words were not harsh, but "honest." He expressed concern about "the integrity of the convention."

Michael Anders of Clarendon reminded the board members that their board had not been spurned by Southern Seminary and maintained their initial contact should be "as gentlemanly as possible."

Board members approved the substitute motion 31-23. Board president Ken Lilly and ABCS administration will draft a letter to Honeycutt.

The 1983 budget passed without a ripple. The budget was the first figured on a new formula. The budget represents a 9.6 percent increase over 1982. One notable aspect of the new formula is that it provides for no advance section. There has been as much as \$400,000 overage in previous budgets. The new budget is expected to produce little overages. Interim Executive Secretary L. L. Collins explained if gifts to the Cooperative Program for a given month total 97.5 percent of budget, only 97.5 per-

cent of budgeted funds will be available to those receiving the money.

Jack Bettis, member of the board's Finance Committee, said the committee departed from last year's practice when they gave a 13.5 percent increase across the board to beneficiaries of Cooperative Program funds. This year, Bettis said, the committee "got down to the nitty gritty" of deciding where the money will do the most good, and distributed it accordingly.

Salary increases, rather than being given across the board, were worked out in a "step increase" plan. Each employee of the state convention was moved up one increment on the salary scale. Those earning "merit" increases were moved up two steps. The percentage increases in salaries ranged from 2.73 percent to 7.71 percent, Bettis said.

In other business the Executive Board:

— heard a report from Kerry Powell, chairman of a Search Committee seeking a new Executive Secretary for the ABSC. Powell said the Operating Committee is not yet ready to make a recommendation. The Search Committee has had 12 meetings and two conference phone calls, Powell said. The group has agreed to recommend two men so far in the search process, he said, but both declined to accept. The group is considering a list of more than 50 names, but is taking them one at a time "until we determine God's will." "We want God's man," Powell said. He said the committee was making a preliminary interview with a candidate the day of the meeting.

— approved an increase of \$50 per semester in the Ministerial Student Loan given to ministerial students at Ouachita Baptist University and Southern Baptist College. The loan, designed to pay one-half of tuition costs, increased to \$350 per semester. The Finance Committee reported it had decided not to extend the eligibility for the loan beyond those preparing for pastoral ministry, because smaller churches might not be served equally under the plan

if their church staff was included.

— authorized the BSU Building Committee for Southern Arkansas University at Magnolia and Southern Arkansas University Tech at Camden to begin renovation of the Magnolia BSU and construction of a center at Camden. The state convention and local associations would each provide about half the costs. Estimated price of the two projects is \$150,000.

— set March 9-30, 1986, as dates for Arkansas to participate in nationwide revivals.

— seated six new nominees of the convention Nominating Committee: Johnny Ross of Harmony Association, Mike Carrier of Mt. Zion and Norman Lewis of Ashley, for terms to expire in 1984; James Shults of Harmony, for a term to expire in 1983, and Jack Ramsey of North Arkansas and Rick Erwin of Harmony, for terms to expire in 1982.

— filled nine vacancies on Executive Board committees: Rick Erwin and Johnny Ross to the Program Committee; Jack Ramsey, Mike Carrier, James Shults and Norman Lewis to the Finance Committee; Jerry Wilson to the Operating Committee, and Emil Williams to the Christian Life Council.

The Executive Board also heard reports from ABSC agencies. Daniel Grant, president of Ouachita Baptist University, delivered a lengthy report on the "troubled waters ahead" financially for colleges and universities. Ouachita is projecting a one percent decrease in freshman enrollment this fall. Each one percent decline from the 1,600 average full-time enrollment costs OBU \$50,000 in operating funds, Grant said. Ouachita operated \$600,000 in the black last year, Grant said. This year, a \$7.5 million budget came out in the black by a mere \$55.73.

The board's next scheduled meeting is just prior to the opening day of the state convention. This year's convention will be held Nov. 16-18 at Park Hill Church in North Little Rock.


McMurry in education; Pat Murphree in education; and Marcia Shofner in biology. Re-appointments include: Mary B. Dixon in education; Dennis Griffin in music; and Mary Worthen in music.

Several faculty and staff members have been given new titles and/or position changes. Dr. Mike Arrington is now assistant dean of the School of Arts and Sciences; director of academic skills development; and assistant professor of history. Lewis Shepherd has been named as assistant to the dean of students and admissions counselor. Charles Wright has been named

as the dean of the School of Music. Maj. A. D. Carnes is the new professor of military science. Mary Beth Zeagler will move to full-time teaching in the mathematics department. Carol Roper will be assisting Larry Bone in the Ouachita Centennial Alumni Campaign, along with her direction of the Ouachita Student Foundation. Frank Spainhour will be returning as part-time assistant coach in football, as defensive coordinator.

Other assignments include the naming of Fred Ball, a 1982 OBU graduate, as student to student worker with the campus BSU

organization. Coach Jim Dann in addition to his teaching duties in the physical education department, will serve as swimming coach, assistant director of intramurals, and coordinator of equipment use in the new \$4 million HPER complex now under construction. Dr. and Mrs. Bill Bullington from Accra, Ghana have been named as missionaries-in-residence. Dr. Ken Locke will be teaching four-fifths time in psychology, with a reduced counseling responsibility, and David Chism will be returning to the music faculty with a three-fifths time responsibility.



Drunken driving: report three

The 'problem drinker' problem

by Betty J. Kennedy

To Judge Floyd Lofton the seriousness of harming someone while DWI is clear. "When you drink and drive and kill somebody you are guilty of homicide in some degree," he says.

The degree varies, not the end result. Manslaughter is homicide that would be murder except for the circumstances of "extreme emotional disturbance for which there is reasonable excuse". Negligent homicide is causing death by unreasonably disregarding the risk to others involved in the act.

Lofton, Judge for the First Division of Pulaski Circuit Court, sees a lot of homicide cases through his court. And he hears many cases of rape, aggravated robbery or other serious crimes. Compared to these offenses, the misdemeanor DWI cases he hears from municipal traffic court may pale somewhat, he notes.

It's not that the non-injury cases of driving while intoxicated are not significant, the judge says, it's more a matter of deciding which offenders are the most dangerous to society and should be locked up in the limited jail and prison facilities. He emphasizes that the Arkansas Department of Corrections housing for inmates runs near capacity most of the time.

So the judge looks for alternative methods of penalizing DWI offenders. These might be a year of volunteer service with the United Way of Pulaski County or a fine big enough to really hurt the pocketbook of a highly-paid professional person. He explains that he might also "pass" imposing a sentence if he can be assured that the defendant is getting treatment for his drinking problem.

Judge Lofton rejects the notion that DWI offenders who appeal to his court from lower court get lighter punishment. Those cases that are not settled before actually coming to trial (80 to 95 percent, are settled, he says) are being judged on the merits of the case, not "technicalities".

"In most of these cases I hear, I'm probably more harsh than traffic court," Lofton claims.

But it's not as much the "social drinker" who gets caught once that he is the most concerned about. While the social drinker may cause injury or death in an accident, the seven percent of drivers who are "problem drinkers" and repeat offenders are the danger he wants society to deal with. These seven percent cause two-thirds of the alcohol-related accidents, research by highway safety programs shows.

Judge Lofton is convinced that the alcoholic is not cured by stiff fines and mandatory jail terms. "The alcoholic will spend a year in the county jail and the first thing he does when he gets out is to go out and get drunk," the judge laments.

Although the repeat cycle is true of most crimes, Lofton acknowledges, he thinks current practice is showing that alcoholism probably would have a better rate of rehabilitation than, say, robbery.

The failure of treatment, however, would mean locking up the drunken driver, Judge Lofton points out, to protect society from his crime.

Alcoholism treatment, plus identifying the problem drinker initially, would be a costly solution for getting drunken drivers off our highways, he admits, but the judge thinks it is the one that will work.

Judge Lofton rejects the finger-pointing at the laws or the judges. He thinks drunken drivers will be stopped when the lawmakers and those who foot the bill for enforcement are willing to pay the cost of what will be effective.

Next: some practical suggestions for stopping drunken driving.

Betty J. Kennedy is managing editor of the "Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine."

State missions is challenge . . .

Direct Missions: A five-prong approach to meeting special needs

Missions work in Arkansas is divided into five areas. The first, Direct Missions, is assigned to Conway Sawyers, director of State Missions. Church Pastoral Aid, Missionary Salary Aid, Student Preaching Aid, In-Service Guidance and the Arkansas-Indiana Linkage program of Bold Mission Thrust come under the umbrella of Direct Missions.

• **Church Pastoral Aid** is a program to help small churches unable to afford adequate pastoral leadership. Church Pastoral Aid benefits not only new church starts, which receive the largest individual amounts (maximum of \$400 per month in 1982), but also older church groups with special need. Churches interested in this available help should contact their associational director of missions or the State Missions Department.

• **Missionary Salary Aid** is an assistance program offered to associations in the state with need for a budget supplement. In recent years the level of giving to associational missions has been raised considerably. Only three of our 42 associations are receiving help this year. The total expenditure for this portion of the Missions Department budget in 1982 will be \$6,000.

• **Student Preaching Aid** is growing in popularity in recent years, with most requests coming as the school year begins each fall. Ministerial students in state colleges, as well as those at Ouachita and Southern Baptist College, are eligible for this assistance. Where need is established, student pastors may receive up to \$50 per week salary, plus mileage for one round trip from his school to the church field. This program is sometimes worked in conjunction with the In-Service Guidance program with our two Baptist Schools. Student Preaching Aid budget allocation this year is \$5,100.

• **In-Service Guidance** is a ministry initiated by the Home Mission Board several years ago, now fully funded by the Missions Department, Ouachita Baptist University and Southern Baptist College. Both institutions provide a faculty member who gives counseling and on-the-job training to students pursuing a full-time church related vocation. The faculty member helps the student find opportunities for ministry — both pastoral and other kinds of church staff work. Three students have been involved in a special "internship" program this year. A total of \$6,000 is budgeted for In-Service

Guidance in 1983.

• **The Arkansas-Indiana Linkage** is going very well in 1982. At least 50 groups made trips to Indiana this summer to offer various kinds of help to the churches of that mission frontier. Churches and associations in Arkansas are giving pastoral salary aid, conducting Vacation Bible Schools, surveys, music evangelism and revivals, exchanging pastors for revivals, sending work crews to help in building projects and more. All the events and activities happening in Indiana are part of the long range goal to establish 275 new churches and missions by Jan. 1, 1990.

The Dixie Jackson Offering is the source of 45 percent of the money spent on missions work in Arkansas. Promotion of the State Missions Offering in every church in Arkansas is important. — **Conway Sawyers**

Chaplaincy: Bold mission to Arkansas' 3,000 institutionalized

On any given day, more than 3,000 residents in state institutions have exposure to the gospel ministry because Arkansas Baptists care. These residents are located in the Cummins Unit of the Department of Corrections, two juvenile rehabilitation centers, the Hot Springs Rehabilitation Center for handicapped adults and the Booneville Unit for the mentally retarded.

Without your faithful support through the Cooperative Program and through the Dixie Jackson Offering for State Missions, these ministries would not be possible.

During 1981, our chaplains reported 229 professions of faith. At the Cummins Unit, Chaplain Dewie Williams planned a revival with Dr. Eddie Wheeler from the Home Mission Board as evangelist. Sixty-two professions of faith were recorded, "but that does not begin to tell the story", said Chaplain Williams. "Lives were changed, criminals made commitments and correctional personnel were challenged. There is a different atmosphere at Cummins."

Our institutional chaplains conduct worship services and Bible studies, lead fellowship groups, provide personal counseling and Vacation Bible Schools and offer other activities.

Our future plans for chaplaincy can be only as "bold" as the response from our churches. Your bold prayers and your bold gifts are greatly needed to make Bold Mission Thrust a reality. — **Leroy Sisk**

Missions Ministries: Finding a way to tell men of Christ

Missions Ministries is the new name which has been given the area of work previously called Special Missions Ministries. The three areas of work are all in the Missions Ministries section of the Home Mission Board. The title, Missions Ministries, will better describe the area of work.

Christian Social Ministries, Special Mission Ministries and Interfaith Witness are the three areas of work in Missions Ministries assigned to Pete Petty. Each of these depend on our Dixie Jackson Offering for State Missions. There are many "Open Doors . . . Open Windows" for Missions Ministries in Arkansas, the land of mission opportunity.

The words in the song, "We must find a way to tell a man of Christ," certainly describe the non-traditional ministries of Missions Ministries. Three field missionaries work with Pete Petty in Missions Ministries. Bob Gross is Director of the Migrant Mission Center in Hope, Ariel Hernandez directs the Bartholomew Baptist Mission Center in Hermitage and Dean Preuett is Central Arkansas Christian Social Ministries Consultant. These three men do an excellent job in sharing the good news of Jesus Christ and are dependent upon the prayer and financial support of Arkansas Baptists. — **Pete Petty**

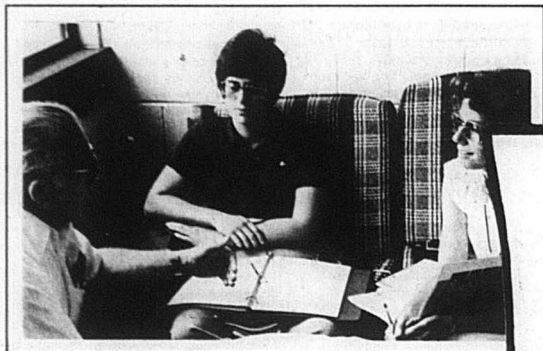
Church Extension: Starting new work and keeping it alive

Five areas of responsibility are assigned to Church Extension, and all lean heavily on the Dixie Jackson Offering for State Missions for their support. Working with our Associations and local churches to begin new work and to strengthen our existing churches is the over-arching purpose of Church Extension in Arkansas.

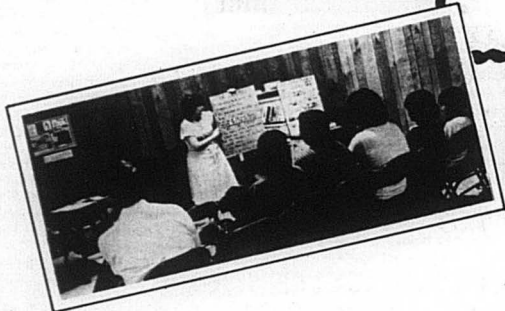
Resources — including personnel, promotional material and some financial help — are available through Church Extension to help in this work. Assistance is also available to help enlist and develop local Church Missions Committees and Associational Missions Committees. One of the most exciting responsibilities of these committees is to create a climate for starting new work.

1. The Church/Missions Sites Fund was established for the express purpose of aid-

(continued on page 14)



Missions around Arkansas



Harrison
Deaf

• Devil's Den State Park
Resort Ministries

Marshall
Student Preaching Aid

• Fort Smith
*Spanish, Laotian,
Vietnamese*

Fair
Resort

• Russellville
Resort Ministries

Booneville
Human Development Center

Litt
Jail

Alexander
Youth Services C

Hot Springs •
*Rehabilitation
Center*



• DeQueen
Spanish

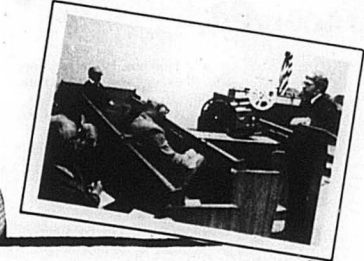
• Hope
*Migrant Mission
Center*

Hermi
*Migrant !
Cent*

El Dorado •
Deaf

TOP: Pulaski County Jail now has a part-time chaplain and estimates are that nearly 50 percent of the inmates attend chapel services he conducts.

BOTTOM: Student preaching aid enables this pastor to travel weekly to Morning Star Church near Marshall.



Piggott • Deaf



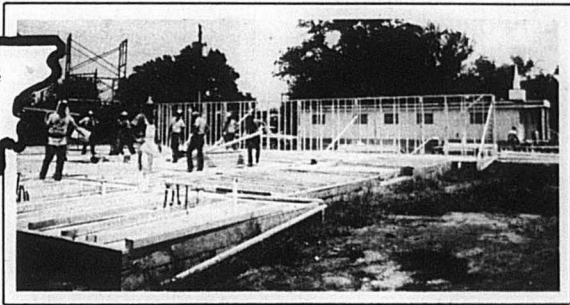
Shoebend • Deaf

Walnut Ridge • Deaf

Leachville • Deaf

Batesville • Vietnamese

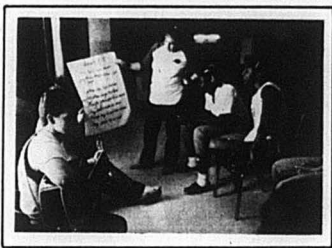
Jonesboro • Deaf



West Memphis • Refugee Ministry
Hughes • Spanish

Holly Grove • Building Aid

Fort Smith, Youth Services Center
Cummins Prison



Dermott • Refugee Ministry

The open doors of challenge and the places of success include (clockwise from top) Ken Prickett of the Home Mission Board told a resort ministries workshop for Benton County Association how ministries such as day camping lead to professions of faith □ among the state's summer missionaries were these young women working in a day care center □ after 14 volunteers from Allen, Texas, worked a week in August at Holly Grove, First Southern Church will soon be in more permanent quarters than the Missions' Dept. portable chapel at right □ chaplain interns like Kerry Alley work weekends at both the state's juvenile detention centers □ migrant farm workers making the trip between fields in the north and their home get more than physical rest at Hope through Baptists' Migrant Mission Center. Worship, Bible study and more offer spiritual refreshment □ language groups like this Vietnamese man are helped by several state churches. A Fort Smith congregation offered Bible study for this refugee □ planning with the pastor who supervised them laid the groundwork for resort ministry by two summer missionaries serving at Devils' Den State Park □ ministry to the deaf is provided around the state and includes sharing the good news with even persons both deaf and blind.

... state missions is blessings received

ing a church or an association in securing land for a new mission or for relocating an existing church.

2. The Building Aid Grant Fund offers limited money as an outright gift to a qualifying congregation to help them erect a building or improve an existing one.

3. All six portable chapels owned by the Arkansas Baptist State Convention are cared for by this department. All are currently in use and we have a waiting list of other congregations needing one.

4. The Revolving Loan Fund has for some years been the most widely used resource of the Church Extension department. More than \$350,000 is loaned out to churches all over Arkansas, and as of July 15, 1982 there were 30 churches on the waiting list.

5. A Program of Continuing Theological Education to aid our pastors and other church leaders is sponsored by Church Extension. This program includes Boyce Bible School, directed by Ralph W. Davis, which offers certificate and diploma credits. The Seminary External Education Division offers basic and college level work through Seminary Extension Centers throughout Arkansas, and through home study. The Seminary External Education Division also offers a Seminary Satellite Program in Little Rock with courses on master's degree level. A Doctor of Minis-

tries program will begin Oct. 25 with seminar sessions meeting at the Baptist Building in Little Rock. This program is offered in conjunction with Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City. — **Lehman Webb**

Language Missions: Going to all people everywhere

What is Language Missions? It is the witness and ministry of Arkansas Baptists to people who are identified with a language-culture group other than English. It is the mission work of Arkansas Baptists among people in whose life the non-English language and/or culture is an important factor in winning them to Christ, enlisting them in church or ministering to their needs. Language Missions is an expression of Arkansas Baptist's concern for people... people of all nationalities, languages and races, people who, when won to Christ and enlisted in churches, become part of the mosaic fabric of Southern Baptist life. And, it is obedience to the command of Christ: "Go, then, to all peoples everywhere and make them my disciples" (Matthew 28:19, TEV).

Arkansas Baptists have an opportunity to minister to American Indians, Asians,

deaf, Europeans, Filipinos, Hispanics, and Internationals. Indeed, Language Missions offers a unique opportunity for each Christian to give a meaningful witness to his language friends and for Arkansas Baptists to work together in meeting the spiritual need of our fellow Americans.

The primary goal of most Baptist churches is to carry out the commission of our Lord that they make disciples of "all people everywhere." The bold mission objectives of our denomination are that every person in our land have an opportunity to hear and accept the gospel, and that all people have an opportunity to worship with fellow believers. These objectives can only be reached through the evangelizing of our nation's vast ethnic population and the establishment of ethnic congregations.

Arkansas churches are developing programs that meet the needs of those they are seeking to reach; their characteristics reflecting those of their constituencies. The "winning of America to Christ" requires the establishment of ethnic congregations. This can be done by:

1. prayer consideration,
2. discerning the need in the community,
3. sharing findings with church leaders,
4. determining ministry approach,
5. cultivating the people and
6. beginning the ministry. — **Randy Cash**

Sawyers

Sisk

Petty

Webb

Cash



Conway H. Sawyers is Director of the Missions Department. A native of Walnut Ridge, he has been a pastor, a director of associational missions, and has served as department director since June, 1979. Sawyers and his wife, Marcie, are the parents of a son and a daughter. He is a graduate of Baylor University and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Leroy A. Sisk has been Director of Chaplaincy Ministries with the department since April, 1979. He is a native of North Carolina who served with the U.S. Army for 20 years, achieving the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He was pastor of churches in North Carolina and Texas. Sisk is a graduate of Baylor, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and the U.S. Army

Chaplain School. He also has completed courses in clinical pastoral education and guidance and counseling. Sisk and his wife, Nancy, have four children.

Pete L. Petty, an Oklahoman by birth, began serving as Director of Missions Ministries in 1978. Before that he was a pastor in Oklahoma and Arkansas and served seven years as Director of Missions for Washington-Madison Association in Arkansas. Petty holds degrees from Oklahoma State University and Southwestern Seminary. He and his wife, Bonita, are the parents of three daughters and a son.

Lehman F. Webb, an Arkansas native, has directed Church Extension since November, 1977. Before that he served seven years through the Foreign Mission

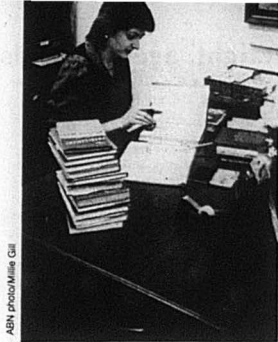
Board as pastor of International Baptist Church of Singapore. He is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University and holds degrees from Southern Seminary. Webb has been pastor of Arkansas and Kentucky churches. He and his wife, Virginia have one daughter.

Randall Cash, who has been a regional missionary to the deaf with the Home Mission Board and National Language Consultant on Refugee Resettlement for the HMB, has been director for language ministries in Arkansas since last year. A North Carolina native, he is a graduate of the University of North Carolina and Southeastern Seminary. He is married to the former Martha Wellmon of South Carolina.

Meet your state missions directors



Woman's Missionary Union writers Roma Zeltner (left) of Fort Smith, and Karen Gross (right) of Hope recently attended a writers' conference at national WMU headquarters in Birmingham, Ala. they are curriculum writers for "Aware" and "Discovery" magazines, and are pictured discussing plans with the magazine's editor, Barbara Massey. "Discovery" is for members of Girls in Action (GAs), WMU's organization for girls in grades one through six. "Aware" is for GA leaders.



ABN photo/Mike Gill

Jan Kelley, librarian at the Baptist Building in Little Rock, processes some of the more than 1,600 books given by Mrs. Huber L. Drumwright in honor of her husband, Arkansas' late executive secretary. The books are to be used by students engaged in seminary study programs, those in Boyce Bible School and by professional staff in the Baptist Building.

Indiana update

North Little Rock makes Indiana trip

Eight young people from First Church of North Little Rock worked with youth at Rosedale Church in Fort Branch, Ind., to hold five Backyard Bible Clubs in the Fort Branch and Haubstadt, Ind., area enrolling 50 children.

In addition, the North Little Rock group brought chairs and hymnals to donate to a mission at Santa Claus, Ind., which is sponsored by another Indiana church.

Bartholomew men aid in construction

A team of men from Bartholomew Association planned a trip to Middletown, Ind. to assist in construction of First Church there.

Berryville choir completes tour

The youth choir from First Church, Berryville recently returned from spending 11 days in Modoc, Ind. While in Indiana, the group of 24 worked with the Mountview Church, a new work that Berryville First helps support.

The group worked in five Big A Clubs in the communities of Modoc, Huntsville, Losantville, Blountsville and Moreland. There were 110 enrolled in the clubs. The choir also presented the evangelistic musical "Bright New Wings" and held revival

services under a big tent provided by the Evangelism Department of the Indiana Baptist Convention. Rich Kincl, pastor of the Berryville church, served as evangelist and Rex Rains, minister of youth and music, as music evangelist.

The missionaries also did survey/canvas work for the church, completely surveying two nearby towns and nearly 20 miles of semi-rural highways.

There were 15 professions of faith.

Westbrook Chapel doing well

Westbrook Chapel, a new work in Muncie, Ind., receiving support from First Church of Morriton and Conway-Perry Association, reported an average Sunday School attendance of 12, evening worship attendance of 18 and an average offering of \$171 during July, the first month of the chapel's existence. Eugene Triplett, a native Arkansan and former pastor at First Southern Church at Sheridan, is pastor of the new work. He reported 51 prospect contacts for July.



Pastoral care seminar at Hot Springs

There will be a one day seminar on Pastoral Care led by Myron Madden on Monday, Sept. 27, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Hot Springs Rehab Center. The theme of the conference will be "The Give and Take of Ministry." Subjects to be explored include burn-out, managing power, getting hungers met, the weight of personal expectations, carrying a role or playing a part, meeting church and community expectations. Each session will include a dialogue on the subject covered.



Madden

Madden is presently chaplain and director of the Department of Pastoral Care at Southern Baptist Hospital, New Orleans, La. He is a graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and former pastor of St. Charles Ave. Church in New Orleans. He writes a monthly column for *Home Life* magazine entitled "Questions and Answers."

This seminar is jointly sponsored by the Hot Springs Ministerial Alliance, the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, and the Hot Springs Rehab Center. Meals will be available in the Center cafeteria. For further information please contact Chaplain Roy Remont, P.O. Box 1358, Hot Springs, Ark. 71901

Wright, agency heads address peace meeting

by Dan Martin and Marv Knox

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP) — A United States congressman offered President Reagan a "little idea" on peacemaking as more than 300 persons from 20 states attended a National Peace Convocation.

U.S. Rep. Jim Wright (D-Texas), majority leader of the U.S. House of Representatives, was one of a number of speakers at a "Strategies for Peacemaking" conference sponsored by Deer Park Church of Louisville (Aug. 5-7).

Wright, of Fort Worth, suggested both the United States and Soviet Union reduce arms spending by 10 percent a year for five years, using the money to establish a fund "to benefit the needy of the world."

The congressman said such reduction would provide \$200 billion a year, after five years, which could be used to equip hospitals in every town of more than 10,000 population in the world, build 250,000 schools, millions of miles of roads, or "build 10 million modern homes to replace the world's infested slums."

"Using it that way makes a whole lot more sense than spending it on weapons which kill and destroy," he said.

Wright, speaking on the 37th anniversary of the dropping of the first atomic bomb on Hiroshima, noted the United States "celebrated" that anniversary a day early by exploding an underground nuclear device at Yucca Flats, Nev., which was seven times more powerful than that first bomb.

The purpose of the convocation was to "raise the consciousness of people concerning the issue of peace," said C. Carman Sharp, pastor of Deer Park Church in Louisville and primary coordinator of the meeting.

"We're hearing some very wise people say, 'This is the (most significant) issue of our time; if we don't solve it, nothing matters,'" Sharp explained. "There are untold millions of people who don't know what's going on. When they find out about it they're going to rise up and stop this foolishness."

The meeting included five workshops dealing with various aspects of peacemaking, designed to help participants "translate ideas into action," Sharp said.

Helen and William Caldicott, physicians and anti-nuclear activists from Boston, Mass., told participants continued escalation of nuclear arms eventually will result in the "final epidemic" to strike mankind.

Mrs. Caldicott, national president of Physicians for Social Responsibility, decried the idea of blaming the arms race on the Soviet Union. "This country could save the planet," she said. "The U.S. has led the arms race for 37 years with Russia copying and following, copying and following."

"This is not just a life and death issue," her husband, a practicing physician, warned. "It is a matter of extinction," he said.

Also included in the list of speakers were

executives of four Southern Baptist Convention agencies: Jimmy R. Allen, president of the SBC Radio and Television Commission, Fort Worth, Texas; Foy Valentine, executive director of the Christian Life Commission, Nashville, Tenn.; James M. Dunn, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, Washington, D.C., and Carolyn Weatherford, executive director of the Woman's Missionary Union, auxiliary to the SBC, Birmingham, Ala.

Allen, a former president of the 13.8 million member SBC, encouraged leaders of the growing peace movement in the denomination to persevere, despite "strife" which will inevitably accompany such efforts.

Allen spoke of the "emotional fire" which surrounds the peace issue in the United States, pointing out that "anxieties create an atmosphere in which pressure toward peace sparks a conflagration of anger and accusations which make peacemaking a perilous pursuit."

Valentine, who for 22 years has headed the moral and social concerns agency of the denomination, said that "no convincing case can be made for the neutrality of the church in the face of the ultimate obscenity of nuclear war."

He labeled injustice in society as "the mother of war" and said injustice "wants to fight its way to brotherhood, hate its way to love and war its way to peace."

"In contrast," he added, "when there is commitment to peace with justice, the body politic chooses morality over mammon, leans toward compassion instead of exploitation, elects freedom rather than tyranny, opts for order in preference to anarchy and pursues peace in preference to war."

Dunn told participants the "real hope for

peace is that the very gravity of the world situation will make more people aware of the desperate need for peace and force the democratic process to reflect the will of the people for peace.

Otherwise, he said, the options are bleak. "If we cannot muster the energy necessary to get our act together for the sake of survival, then democracy is an empty dream."

Weatherford said peacemaking and missions go hand-in-hand and told participants that Christians today are beginning to understand and accept their responsibility for proclaiming the gospel to the whole world. "Those who go are called missionaries; they go as peacemakers into the world."

Frank Stagg, senior professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, pointed out that the teachings of Jesus Christ make it clear that "peacemaking is not an option to Christian discipleship," but a "vocation under the Lordship of Christ." Further, he added, "Peacemaking is not only God's primary work in salvation but it is bound up with the reconciling cross."

The New Testament scholar said: "Hate breeds hate. Vengeance breeds vengeance. War breeds war. Evil stops only where someone is big enough, strong enough and good enough to absorb it. That is precisely what God did at Golgotha."

He commented that Moral Majority with its support for massive new military spending, is one of the most "secular" groups in American life today and referred to it as an "immoral malignancy, not a moral majority."

Stagg added that while the U.S. has spent \$3 trillion on arms since World War II, "we are scared to death."

Glen Hinson, professor of church history at Southern Seminary, said the "sickness of war is ultimately caused by anxiety and

Simultaneous rallies for peace planned

An estimated 20-25 "celebrations for peace" are planned in counties across Arkansas on Sunday, Oct. 10. Peace Day is sponsored by Peace Links Worldwide Inc. and is an opportunity for local citizens statewide to display support for world peace.

A rally in Little Rock will be staged on the grounds of the State Capitol to begin shortly after noon with a family picnic setting, speakers and live entertainment, a representative at Peace Links office in Little Rock said. Other locations around the state are being firmed up, she said, and starting times will be announced later.

The demonstration is a first-time event.

peacemaking through the political process" begins with the realization of the near-hopelessness of the situation.

He suggested that a ray of hope for

Peace Links was organized early this year by Betty Bumpers, wife of Arkansas' senior senator. The announced purpose of the organization is to bring together existing organizations, clubs and interested individuals to work for peace and to promote alternatives to nuclear war. The group is encouraging churches to participate.

A press release from Peace Links' office described the purpose of Peace Day as (1) making people aware that working for peace is patriotic; (2) promoting parenting which teaches children peaceful methods of conflict resolution; and (3) encouraging participation and recognition that each person can make a difference in averting nuclear war.

fear, adding that the answer is prayer in response to God's love. "Only the opening of our hearts and minds to his love will still our anxiety and cast out fear," Hinson said.

More weapons means more insecurity Sisk tells U.S. House subcommittee

by Duann Kier

WASHINGTON (BP) — Military spending for more nuclear weapons does not increase security and is inflationary, a Southern Baptist ethicist told a House of Representatives subcommittee on defense appropriations.

Ronald D. Sisk, director of program development for the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission, told the representatives, "Southern Baptists are patriotic. We support a strong defense. We have offered ourselves and our willing tax support in defense of America whenever it has been called for in the past. There is nowhere a wavering note to indicate we will not continue to do so in the future.

"While we resist government waste we strongly support the constitutional duty of government to provide for the common defense and promote the general welfare."

But Sisk pointed out Southern Baptists also believe nations are accountable to God for the methods by which they defend themselves and for the effects those methods have upon the lives and fortunes of humankind.

"Given the size and power of our current nuclear arsenal, continued construction and deployment of nuclear weapons is an indefensible redundancy and an unconscionable waste of the taxpayer's money," he said.

Sisk said the cruise missile, as a virtually undetectable potential first strike weapon, seems "destined" to increase American insecurity because it could invite preemptive

attack from the other side. "It is my conviction we have reached a point where national security is best served by refusing to continue to escalate the arms race. Adding destabilizing new weapons systems to the strategic mix is the worst thing we could do."

Sisk argued that military spending is inflationary because it requires more and more millions of dollars for less and less product.

"We are all conscious of the recurring cost overruns for virtually every major item on the military shopping list," he told the subcommittee. "Such inflationary spending is one of the chief internal enemies which you have an opportunity to defeat in this budgeting process."

The Southern Baptist Convention at its annual meeting this past June passed a resolution which supported a program of "mutually verifiable disarmament, including nuclear disarmament."

"I submit that the reality of statements like this from a group as traditionally conservative as the one I serve signals the need for a responsible rethinking of budget priorities, both near and long-term," he said. "It is time for America to rechannel funds from efforts to build a 'fortress America' into efforts to eliminate the need for an 'American fortress.'"

Sisk told those at the hearing Southern Baptists have historically supported "peace with justice" and explained this meant peace pursuits must also include a concern

for justice.

"Justice is a concept which applies both to protection from external enemies and to the preservation of internal values and priorities," he said. "We do not want you to build our military machine on the backs of the poor. It does not serve the cause of justice to reduce needed social programs in order to finance extravagantly priced military schemes."

Sisk observed that nations which have prospered most are those which have majored on the production of consumer goods rather than military hardware.

"A strong America is a working America. A sound economy is sound defense," he said. "It does not serve the cause of justice to siphon investment capital from civilian into military channels at a cost of uncounted tens of thousands of American jobs."

Sisk said the goal of any good defense budget should be peace and the more that is spent in weapons systems the more our economy is placed on a footing for war.

"The more we divert capital and resources into the production of defense material the more we become arms merchant to the world," he said. "And the more we act as arms merchant to the world the more we create the very instability and danger we seek to defend ourselves against."

"You are responsible for rejecting this madness while moving our nation in the direction of greater liberty and justice for all," Sisk told the subcommittee.

Nagasaki survivor recalls atomic devastation, horror

by David Wilkinson

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP) — The last time Kasumi Hirayama tried to recount her eyewitness experience to the 1945 atomic bombing of Nagasaki, Japan, she broke into uncontrollable sobs.

That was 25 years ago.

She had been invited to speak on Japanese culture to a small church group in Oklahoma where she was attending college. One question naturally led to another — and eventually to Nagasaki. "The experience was a disaster," she recalled. "I became too emotional to talk about it — and the audience became guilty and defensive."

Since then she had declined invitations to speak publicly about the horror she witnessed at age 13.

But Aug. 6, before a hushed audience of more than 300 at a Southern Baptist-sponsored National Peacemaking Convocation, the diminutive, 50-year-old university professor attempted to describe the moments and days following the atomic blast in her hometown.

Hirayama spoke on the 37th anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima. A sec-

ond bomb was dropped on Nagasaki three days later.

She survived because her family was living that summer in a Buddhist temple on a hill on the outskirts of the city. Though her memories are "somewhat blurred," there are some details she said she can never forget.

In a soft-spoken voice broken occasionally by faltering English and irresponsible emotion she recalled:

— The excited voices of children crying, "parachute, parachute" as the bomb descended;

— The blinding, "yellowish, then whitish" flash that filled the sky, the deafening noise of the explosion, the roaring wind and searing waves of fire;

— Naked men, women and children wandering through the destruction hours later, their clothing blown away by the blast, many with skin "hanging from their bodies like strings."

— The starvation, skin diseases and other tortures which plagued the initial survivors, including the "maggots, fleas and lice

which tormented us no matter how much we tried to keep clean."

School opened the next year with a memorial service for teachers and students killed by the blast and its aftereffects and the "people who survived, including me, felt guilty being alive," Hirayama said.

New teachers, including several Americans, joined the school. New Japanese students returned from Korea and China. But the survivors "never discussed the atomic bomb experience at school or at home."

In fact Hirayama never talked about the experience with her parents until last year. "We always looked forward, never to the past," she explained. Now she has decided to speak out because survivors of Nagasaki and Hiroshima are becoming scarce — "and our children must know."

Hirayama concluded "the most critical thing surrounding this issue (of nuclear war) is people's underestimation or lack of knowledge of the real destructiveness and horrible nature of nuclear war."

WACO, Texas (BP) — Defending the Bible is not a Christian's purpose, the Sam Cannatas shared during the Texas Woman's Missionary Union Leadership Conference (Houseparty) last week. "If this is the inerrant, infallible Word of God then he doesn't need us to defend it," Cannata said.

Ginny Cannata added, "God's word will stand. I believe God wants us to believe his word and teach it to other people and stop defending it."

Returning to Texas for furlough after two-and-one-half years in the Sudan, Ginny told the more than 2,900 women attending the meeting that their return to the United States had been a sobering experience. "We came home to tell and share the exuberant and the great things happening in the Sudan and people really didn't want to hear. Instead all they were interested in was which side we were on or which issue we supported. We have been very, very sad indeed."

While attending Foreign Mission Week earlier this summer at Glorieta, N.M., Ginny said she and Sam had been questioned about their beliefs and political leanings in

the convention. "We began hearing critical words from friends about other friends and vindictive and degrading words about people we have loved for years. We saw much anger as people talked to us and heard over and over again, 'it's really bad in our convention, maybe our convention is even going to split,' and our spirits were dampened," she said.

The Cannatas stated in the 24 years they have been missionaries they have taught the people that their God is a God of order and not discord, a God of love and not hate.

"It is then very discouraging to return to our home and find discord in our convention and people talking about one another," Ginny said. "God tells us in his Word that

he is molding us into the image of his Son, Jesus. And as I read the Bible I don't see Jesus talking about his friends and others in the manner I hear people discussing one another these days."

"I believe God wants us to be like Jesus, to show love and compassion to our fellow men — to be busy about making disciples," she said.

The Cannatas have previously worked as medical missionaries in Rhodesia, Kenya and Ethiopia. In the spring of 1977 while in Ethiopia, the communists entered the country and the Cannata's home was searched, resulting in Sam Cannata's imprisonment for 16 days. Following that experience the Cannatas returned to the United States and wrote the book, Truth On Trial.

While traveling in the Southern Baptist Convention, Annuity Board President Darold H. Morgan often is questioned about the Southern Baptist Retirement Program for ministers and church employees. The following represents his response to a frequently asked question.

Q. How much can I tax shelter?

A. If the employer pays all contributions, the rate of exclusion is based on gross taxable income. If the employee contributes on a salary reduction basis, the rate of exclusion is based on the gross taxable income after the exclusion.

The basic formula is: 20 percent times includable compensation, times years of service, less previous contributions.



S. M. Lockridge
evangelist



Keith Clutts
singer

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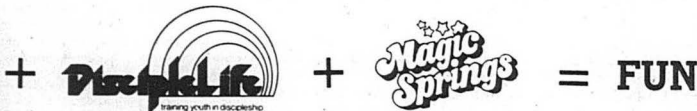
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Arkansas Baptist Youth Day

Saturday, September 11, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information, contact Church Training Department,
Arkansas Baptist State Convention, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, Ark. 72203

Changed lives reported from Ridgecrest experiences

by Linda Lawson

RIDGECREST, N.C. — Testimonies of conversions, calls to denominational service and changed lives as a result of experiences at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center here are recorded on several hundred postcards sent as part of Ridgecrest's 75th anniversary this year.

The cards are posted on a bulletin board in the lobby of Spilman Auditorium, named after B. W. Spilman who was instrumental in establishing Ridgecrest.

Paul Early, a Southern Baptist missionary to the Bahamas, wrote that his father helped

Spilman pick the site for the conference center.

"My first visit there was 1928. I was called to preach there during BSU Week in 1938 and 32 years of pastorates followed," said Early. "I was called to foreign missions there July 2, 1974 and seven years of service in the Bahamas have followed. Praise the Lord for Ridgecrest!"

Timothy C. Pennell, professor of surgery at Wake Forest University and Bowman Gray School of Medicine, Winston-Salem, N.C., noted, "Jacque, my wife, and I met on

your hallowed grounds and you are still a vital part of our lives."

Viola Templeton, a pastor's wife in Fremont, Calif., sent a copy of a card she received July 25, 1941, when she made a public commitment at Ridgecrest. She said she still carries the card in her billfold.

A Sunday School teacher, Shirley M. Cross of Bristol, Va., reported, "At Sunday School week in 1951 or 1952, I was inspired to do my utmost for Christ through leading an intermediate Sunday School department at Euclid Avenue Church. From that department came several full-time workers, including a missionary and a state BSU director."

A former Ridgecrest summer staffer, Mrs. John Ingouf, now of Bandung, Indonesia, wrote, "I thank the Lord for the privilege of serving on the staff, waiting tables in the summer of 1951. The busboy who helped me is now my fellow missionary here in this city!"

Ella McWhite of Columbia, S.C., said she made a commitment to full-time Christian service July 25, 1943, during training union week. "I have served five churches in education and youth ministry and now serve on the staff of South Carolina Woman's Missionary Union as business manager for WMU camps."

George Deadwyler, pastor of Bethlehem Church, Clarksville, Ga., served as a staffer in 1952-53. "In 1952 I made a complete commitment to the Lord's will," he said.

Mrs. Fred Swift of Shelby, N.C., reported that her eight-year-old son James "accepted Christ as his Lord and Savior when Dr. Porter Routh was speaking." James Swift now serves as a deacon in his church in Hillsboro, Ore.

Harold Gregory, a retired director of missions living in Nashville, Tenn., said he attended Ridgecrest for 32 consecutive years. I first attended Ridgecrest preaching week the last of August 1939 with Dr. George Truett preaching," said Gregory. "I made a recommitment of my life at that time."

Mary Ellen Wooten Garrett who lives in the town of Ridgecrest, N.C., said, "In 1935 at the BSU conference when Chester Swor was giving the invitation, I responded to try to let Christ have absolute control. After completing the WMU Training School (now a part of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary), I have served in full-time church work at home and abroad."

Juanita Mays of Macon, Ga., committed her life to volunteer missions during 1980 WMU Week. Since then, she said, she has participated in missions trips to Gulfport, Miss., Cripple Creek, Colo., and Houston, Texas.

W. Cary Hedgpeh, pastor of First Church, Cheran, S.C., said "I came to Ridgecrest in 1973 as a Sunday School teacher. When I left, I had given my life to Christ. At 39, I entered Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary."

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Your state convention at work

Evangelism

Area Evangelism Conferences

The theme for Area Evangelism Conferences for this year will be "Outreach for the Unreached". The information, interpretation and inspiration will be directed toward reaching those in the communities who are unreached.

The conferences will be the following dates and places: Sept. 13, Central Church, Jonesboro; Sept. 14, Eagle Heights Church, Harrison; Sept. 16, Oak Grove Church, Van Buren; Sept. 17, First Church Cullendale, Camden.

These conferences should appeal to all pastors, staff members and lay people. We will have the following special training seminars: "Youth in Witnessing", Wes Kent; "Laity



Sanderson

in Witnessing", Gerald Taylor; "Pastors — Evangelistic Preaching", Clarence Shell; "Music Directors—Evangelistic Music", Ervin Keathley.

Each of our host pastors will give a testimony on "My Most Productive Evangelism Method". This should prove very interesting and inspirational for all.

The one-night conference will be closed with an inspirational message by Leonard Sanderson. Dr. Sanderson has served as Director of Evangelism for the Home Mission Board and for the past 15 years has been Director of Evangelism for the state of Louisiana. He was a very successful pastor and has a pastor's heart. He will soon be involved in full time vocational evangelism.

Stop, think and pray about the conference. You and your people should attend. — **Clarence Shell Jr., director**

Christian Life Council

Preventable ridiculous irresponsibility

Betty Kennedy, the managing editor of the *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine*, is to be highly commended for her articles regarding drunken driving in the newsmagazine. They reflect many hours of thorough research and study of an extremely serious and tragic problem in our society.

It is even more serious when we consider the useless, wasted potential of lives snatched by thoughtless, irresponsible persons.

God is not ignoring this tragic, senseless epidemic fed eagerly by adults who greedily profit financially from increased consumption of their death-producing products. "What does it profit a man to gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" (Mark 8:36). "Be not deceived, God is not mocked, for whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap," (Gal. 6:7) and "woe unto him that giveth

(or selleth) his neighbor drink," (Hab. 2:15a).

Recently, the whole world was shocked when in France 44 children and nine adults died in the fiery crash of two camp buses that reportedly were racing on a rain-slick highway. It isn't known whether drinking was involved, but regardless, the words of comment by the respected Paris newspaper, *Le Monde*, are appropriate. It called the accident a tragic example of "innocence killed by the irresponsibility of those who call themselves adults." It's a ridiculous irresponsibility that has been stopped in other countries and can be in ours if we really want it to be.

Clip the Kennedy articles and do what you can in following preventative measures discussed in the last one. Save them for future reference, reminder and challenge. — **Bob Parker, director**

WMU

WMU, SBC consultants at WMU Leadership Training Day

Four national consultants for Woman's Missionary Union will lead conferences for the annual WMU Leader/Member Training at Immanuel Church, Little Rock, on Sept. 9. Beverly Sutton, Field Services Department director and author of *The Enlistment Book* will lead the conference for WMU Enlistment/Enlargement Directors. Jimmy Winter, Baptist Women consultant, will lead the conference for Experienced BW/BYW Presidents. The conference for BW/BYW Mission Support Chairmen/Prayer Group Leaders will be led by Sheryl Churchill, BYW consultant, and Marti Solomon, Acteens consultant will lead a conference for all adults who work with Acteens. Other out-of-state conference leaders are Barbara Joiner, Adele Maness, Camilla Lowry and Gerry Dunkin. The lead-

ers for the remaining 10 conferences are some of Arkansas' most capable women.

Baptist Women members will have an opportunity to receive church study course credit for the *Baptist Women Manual*. This study will be led by Carolyn Porterfield, BW/BYW director for Arkansas. The conference which begins at 10 a.m. and closes at 2:30 p.m. offers Arkansas women the best training this side of Ridgecrest and Gorieta. Each year some working women take annual leave in order to attend. For the most in-depth training members and officers will want to attend Church WMU Training Day on Sept. 9. — **Betty Jo Lacy, Acteens director**



Sutton



Winter



Churchill



Solomon

Family and Child Care

Baptist Home offers opportunities for adults

Are you in middle life and want a change? Would you like to go back to college and finish a degree or get a new major? Would you like to invest some years in Christian Child Care? These are all possibilities at Arkansas Baptist Home.

Middle aged couples, who have reared children of their own, have learned a great deal about youth. Our child care program does have an in-service training which will add to the knowledge and skill you already have. A team of workers will assist you in working with the children.

Of course, my first interest is in giving children a second chance in life. I have found that some couples can accomplish both goals, child care and an education. Perhaps you are one of those couples who could.

Stewardship

Who prepares the budget?

A stewardship secretary in Canada was asked, "Haven't you got a quick, easy way to raise money?" The director answered, "Have you tried bingo?" Churches that seek the easy way out in stewardship matters will have little success.

It takes work to develop, promote and subscribe a church budget.

Some churches use the same people year after year in budget planning. This has an advantage in that the people are familiar with the budgeting process. The major disadvantage is that few people may be involved in the financial decisions of the church. The committee, without studying ministry needs, may rubber stamp last year's budget.

If you have your children reared and you love youth, we have a challenge for you. Ten teen-aged girls will demand your very best. We are looking for Christian couples who are willing to minister.

If you are one of those couples needing a new direction in life, call or write Charlie Belknap, P.O. Box 180, Monticello, Ark. 71655, phone 367-5553.

It is such a good chance to grow and serve. Make our program and your needs a matter of prayer. I truly believe I would have more Child Care Workers than I could employ if our Baptist middle aged population knew about the challenges and possibilities of child care. — **Charlie Belknap, superintendent, Arkansas Baptist Home for Children**

The Stewardship Committee with four sections, education, missions, budget and accounting, gives the church a broader concept of stewardship and budget development.

The committee functions throughout the year in providing stewardship information, administering the church budget and encouraging the church to participate in mission support.

Committee membership may range from five up depending upon the size of the church.

Churches interested in using a Stewardship Committee may request Stewardship Committee Plan Books from the Stewardship Department — **James A. Walker, director**

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All former members and friends of First Church, Hughes are invited to the church's 60th Anniversary Homecoming, Sunday, September 19. Ben Rowell will be the morning speaker. Potluck lunch will be served, afternoon program at 1:30 will include a concert of sacred music by John Dresbach. Also on the program will be former pastors and staff members. Pastor, Carroll Evans.

Exciting 11-day Holy Land Tour Nov. 30-Dec. 10

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International God creates persons

by Don Hook, Little Rock
Basic passage: Gen. 2:4b-25
Focal passage: Gen. 2:4b, 18-25

Central truth: God created persons to be his stewards in perpetuating all of creation, and to experience and maintain a spiritual relationship with God.

This lesson does not deal with the manner, extent, or order of creation. It deals only with the creation of persons, the purpose of such creation and the privileges and responsibilities of the created ones.

Man's presence upon the earth establishes the fact of creation. No one but God knows how it was done. By divine revelation we do know that God did it (Gen. 1:1, 27; 2:7; Matt. 19:4).

1. God's purpose in the creation of persons was to give meaning to all other creation. What meaning would the land, seas, animal, fish, fowl, and plant life have in the absence of man? God's purpose in creating woman was to provide a help-mate for man (Gen. 2:20, 21). Generically, Adam and Eve were one (2:23-24). Spiritually and sexually they were to be one (Matt. 19:4-6). In responsibility to God, in their expected and commanded respect for each other, and in their guilt in sin they were equal.

2. The privileges these persons were to enjoy were:

(a) To till the land (2:8-10, 15, 16). Before he disobeyed God and was driven out of Eden, Adam was to till the land (2:15). On the first page of human history God places a special dignity and divine sanction on honest labor. It is still true (Mark 13:34; 1 Thes. 4:11; 2 Thes. 3:10);

(b) To enjoy the fruits of the land (2:8-10, 15, 16); and

(c) To reproduce themselves. Before the fall God commanded this (1:28). These scriptures plainly teach that each species had within itself the power of reproduction "kind after kind" (1:24-25). Today God desires his children to reproduce themselves. This we do in personal evangelism and witnessing. Jesus tells us that we are to reproduce spiritually (John 15:8).

3. These created persons were responsible to God. On the first day of their existence God put some restrictions on them to teach them that God was the owner and they were tenants (2:17). Here, on the first page of human history, God lays down the basic principle of responsible stewardship.

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Life and Work Rahab: Faith that acts

by Homer W. Shirley Jr., Family and Child Care of Little Rock

Basic passages: Joshua 2:1-21; 6:15-25; Hebrews 11:30-31; James 2:25-26
Focal passages: Joshua 2:1, 8-9, 11; 6:22, 24a, 25; Hebrews 11:30-31; James 2:25-26
Central truth: Faith activates every part of life and enables us to do God's will.

1. Faith is anchored in God who acts (Josh. 2:10). He is not lifeless and helpless as are idols. He makes himself known through his mighty acts. He is not only creator but controller of the universe. When he acts to reveal his supernatural power over natural forces, such as deliverance of his people through the Red Sea, people take notice. This was the case of Rahab, the prostitute. She knew of God's mighty deeds and acted accordingly. People of honesty and integrity acknowledge God when they see his mighty works and order their lives accordingly.

2. The kind of faith that believes God is the kind of faith that controls actions. Rahab acted upon what she knew to be true about God. Therefore she took great risk to her own life to protect God's messengers. Faith that acknowledges God as sovereign is faith that stakes everything upon him. Our actions can never be the same after believing him.

Right actions are a testimony of faith. "Was not even Rahab the prostitute shown to be upright by her good deeds, namely, by entertaining the scouts and sending them off by a different road?"

Another very vivid example of faith that acts in Noah. He believed God when told to build an ark. Every piece of timber he cut and fitted into place was a declaration of his faith in God.

3. Faith that acts receives personal attention from God. Rahab and her family were spared when their city of Jericho was destroyed. We are told the protection was a result of her faith that resulted in the protection of the spies who were sent into the city (Josh. 6:22-25; Heb. 11:30-31).

So it is that all those who believe God enough to act upon that belief, have assurance of his protective custody. This does not mean we will never experience difficulties but it does mean God will deliver us through them.

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Bible Book Community thanksgiving

by John C. Matthews, pastor, First Church of Ozark

Basic passages: Psalm 67:1-7; Psalm 75:1-10
Central truth: A principle that runs throughout scripture is shown clearly in these Psalms: God blesses us to the extent that we praise him.

Try to break one stick, and you'll find the job is a "snap" . . . easy to accomplish. But take many sticks bound together and try to break them, and the task becomes difficult, if not impossible. This illustrates one truth in these Psalms. The devil may "break" one Christian alone. But when many Christians are bound together with love for each other and praise for God, the devil is defeated and knows it. Even if only two or three agree in Jesus' name, the bond between them is powerful enough to give victory over the enemy in every situation.

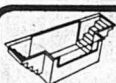
Psalms 67 and 75 emphasize "community" thanksgiving — the praises and prayers of many people who are of one mind and heart. There is strength in numbers; but there is even more strength as those numbers follow God's formula. The formula for strength is simply stated in "if-then" statements in Psalm 67: If — God be merciful (which he is) (v. 1); the people praise him (v. 3); the nations praise him (v. 4); the individuals praise him (v. 5), then — the earth shall yield (v. 6); and God shall bless (v. 7).

If prayer is the key that unlocks heaven's door, then praise unlocks God's heart. Just being aware of the key, however, isn't enough. We must also know how to use it. Have you ever tried to put the right key in a lock the wrong way? It doesn't work, does it? Psalms 75 gives us some guidelines for using the "praise" key in the right way.

1. Give thanks to God only (v. 1)
2. Remember: God is the judge (v. 2, 8); and everything good comes from him (v. 6, 7)
3. Come to God in humility (v. 4, 5)
4. Now, you are ready to praise him: Just put in the key and open the door for God's blessings in your life.

Oh, that men would praise the Lord!! (Ps. 107:15)

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S.C. seamen's center to reach sailors

CHARLESTON, S.C. (BP) — A new international seaman's center "will make waves that will wash up on shores you and I will never see," Ray Rust said.

Rust, executive secretary-treasurer of the South Carolina Baptist Convention, was referring to the possible impact of a 3,200-square foot center that is being built in Charleston by South Carolina Baptists.

When completed in 1983 the center is expected to expand significantly ministry to some 48,000 international seamen whose commercial ships dock annually in Charleston ports. The center will also enlarge the state convention ministry — sponsored jointly by the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, the South Carolina state convention's mission depart-

ment and the Charleston Baptist Association — to seven days a week.

About 65 Southern Baptists attended the groundbreaking ceremony (Aug. 3) at Portside Baptist Church in north Charleston which is adjacent to the center's location. The center is to be built by volunteer workers who belong to Southern Baptist churches in South Carolina.

N. Larry Bryson, director of the South Carolina convention's missions department who is coordinating construction, said South Carolina Baptists now minister to international seamen from 70 nations — 27 of which allow no Southern Baptist missionaries inside their boundaries.

Oscar Romo, director of the language missions division of the SBC Home Mission Board, considers the center another example of Southern Baptists becoming more involved in "transglobal" missions. "The world isn't only in America," he explained. "It is coming to America. America is a mission field and the world is our doorstep."

The 40 X 80 foot center will be block construction and will include a small kitchen, a game room, restroom facilities for men and women and volleyball and basketball courts.



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Judge orders 'non-cooperating' church to return property to state convention

WINCHESTER, Tenn. (BP) — A Franklin county judge has ruled the property of Bethel Church of Estill Springs, Tenn., should revert to the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention because of the church's "breach of the trust."

Chancellor Earl H. Henley of the Franklin County Chancery Court issued his memorandum opinion Aug. 5 to settle a 1981 lawsuit concerning the property of the church (formerly Paynes Church). The lawsuit, which was heard July 29-30, 1981, was brought by members and former members of the church, charging that the present congregation does not fulfill a provision of the deed which requires the church "to adhere to, maintain, and propagate the doctrines, faith and practices of Missionary Baptist churches to cooperate with the local Baptist Association, Tennessee Baptist Convention and Southern Baptist Convention."

The deed and original bylaws of the church contain a reversionary clause that if the church ceases to fulfill this condition the property will go to the group of members who do or will revert to the TBC Executive Board "to be used for church or mission purposes."

The Executive Board voted on Dec. 12, 1980, to respond to a request for support from the group which sought to regain the property and was also a plaintiff in the lawsuit.

At the July 1981 trial Henley repeatedly stated the case would be decided on the basis of legal documents, rather than doctrine or the exercise of religion.

Testimony revolved around what is necessary to be a "cooperating Southern Baptist church." The plaintiffs noted that the church had made no contributions to the association or any TBC or SBC cause since 1978, nor had any member attended any meeting or conference conducted by these groups. The defendants argued that these contributions or activities are not necessary to be considered a "Southern Baptist church."

At the conclusion of testimony Henley stated he considered the case to be precedent-setting and desired to take adequate time to study it before rendering his decision.

In his Aug. 5 memorandum opinion Henley wrote, "The record clearly shows that no effort was made to cooperate with either of the conventions."

He added, "It is true the proof reveals it is not specifically necessary that a financial contribution be made in order to be a member in good standing of the Tennessee or Southern Baptist Conventions. It is not necessary that the literature be used; and, it is not necessary that messengers be sent in order to be a member in good standing;

but, when the Court reviews the activities of Bethel church and listens to the proof of the Baptist conventions as to their requirements this court unequivocally rules that there is a breach of the trust and the property is subject to reversion."

Henley concluded, "Rather than place the property into the hands of the minority members who are not presently participating in the church's activities due to a conflict in doctrinal belief, the court is of the opinion that it would be wiser to adhere to the alternate prayer and allow the property to revert to the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention."

The attorney for the plaintiff will prepare an order to implement the provisions of the memorandum order and submit it to the Chancery Court. If Henley approves, he will file this with the County Clerk and Master's Office. The defendants will have 30 days to file an appeal after the documents are sent to the Clerk and Master's Office.

In 1963 First Church of Estill Springs, which was the sponsor of the new mission chapel in the Paynes community, and Duck River Baptist Association requested financial assistance from the executive board in purchasing property for the Paynes congregation. The board granted \$1,500 and also provided financial aid for the church's pastor for four years.

In response to the court's ruling, TBC Executive Secretary Tom Madden said, "if and when the title is transferred to the executive board, I am confident the board will follow the provisions of the deed that the property be used 'for church and mission purposes.' Our only concern is to see the property used by a cooperating Southern Baptist Church."

Reverter clauses are common across the Southern Baptist Convention but are not universally welcomed by convention employees who must deal with them. Several church bond specialists in both state conventions and with the Home Mission Board, when contacted by Baptist Press, said the inclusion of a reverter clause creates a lien on the church's property that makes securing later loans very difficult.

Some state conventions will no longer use reverter clauses, others look at each church on a case-by-case basis and the Home Mission Board has rewritten its reverter clause for its church loans.

The question of ownership of church property may be uncommon in Southern Baptist circles but it is not unheard of. Approximately 25 years ago a Southern Baptist church in North Carolina voted to become independent but a court ruled that the church's constitution required the church be a "Southern Baptist" church and the property was returned to the North Carolina convention.