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Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1990-1994

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

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June 7, 1990

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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Deserving of Praise

Arkansas Baptist

June 7, 1990

Nothing Casual



James Hicks, James Freeman, and Matt Rees.

Humoke First Church ordained Gary Synco to the deacon ministry May 20.

South Side Church in Pine Bluff recently voted to purchase a new bus for outreach ministries.

Ridgeway Church of Nashville honored Fayrene Elrod May 20 in recognition of five years of service as music director. She was presented a love offering and a plaque.

Stephens First Church conducted a "Here's Hope: Jesus Cares for You" revival April 29-May 4 that resulted in six professions of faith and four rededications. Mike Huckabee, pastor of Beech Street First Church in Texarkana, was evangelist. Larry Harrison, admissions counselor at Ouachita Baptist University, directed music. Richard Stipe, director of the Student Center at Ouachita Baptist University, was guest pianist. Velma Branum was organist. Robbie L. Hobbs is pastor.

Horseshoe Bend First Church recently observed its first Children's Day with all-day activities geared to minister to the children, including a message in the form of an impromptu mini-drama. The church also has begun summer activities that include a vacation Bible school, a "Story Hour" each Tuesday; a Thursday night recreation, and camp at Cedar Glade. The church will host the Rocky Bayou Association Children's Day Camp July 9-14.

Strawflower Church at Jonesboro observed homecoming May 6 when former pastor R.W. Goodman was speaker. Dennis Davis is pastor.

Heber Springs First Church is again sponsoring a lakeside ministry that began Memorial Day weekend and will conclude Labor Day weekend. Jim Lambert and Collin and Freda Stark are serving as coordinators.

Piggott First Church will observe "Sadie Thomas Day" June 17 in recognition of her 100th birthday.

South Highland Church in Little Rock observed Pastor Appreciation Day June 3, recognizing Pastor Mark Tolbert, his wife, Joy, and their children, Jennifer and Jason.

Air Force BSU Ministry

The Baptist Student Union at the United States Air Force Academy would like to contact the men and women coming to the Academy June 18-29 as new basic cadets. They would like to meet their plane, provide lodging and transportation, and take them to the Academy at the required time.

If friends of cadets, pastors, or cadets themselves will provide the new cadet's name, address, and telephone number, the Academy BSU will correspond with them to secure flight arrival times and provide further information.

The Air Force Academy BSU can be contacted at 550 W. Woodmen Rd., Colorado Springs, CO 80919, 719-599-9094. Also, for anyone attending West Point or the Naval Academy, similar ministries are provided. At West Point contact: Alton Harpe, 11 Washington St., Cornwall-on-Hudson, NY 12520, 914-534-7954. At the Naval Academy contact: Dick Bumpass, 201 Hanover St., Annapolis, MD 21401, 301-263-0963.

ACTS Affiliates Honored

Four Arkansas affiliates were honored at the fifth annual American Christian Television System Awards ceremony at Travis Avenue Baptist Church, Fort Worth, May 17.

Little Rock ACTS took top honors in the short feature category for "Power Source Promo," in the religious series area for "Just Kids," and in the promotional announcement and spot of the year

categories for "TV-27 Promo."

ACTS of Texarkana received the promotion and public relations award, and it won top honors in the human interest series category for "Positive Alternatives."

ACTS of Jonesboro received the award for best events coverage for "Shearson Lehman Hutton Games."

ACTS of Fort Smith was recognized for best religious special for "Brazil Mission '90."

Other Arkansas nominees included: affiliate of the year, human interest special and short feature, ACTS of Texarkana; promotional announcement and musical/theatrical special, ACTS of Fort Smith; and short feature, ACTS of Jonesboro.

Pews Needed for Prison Chapel

A permanent chapel building is being established at the Benton work release center of the Arkansas Department of Correction, and used church pews are needed to furnish the facility.

Pews of any size, in any condition, can be used, according to chaplain Rusty Kising. Churches which have pews to donate may contact Kising at P.O. Box 162, Arkadelphia, AR 71923; phone 246-4527.

Softball Tournament

First Church, Hot Springs, is sponsoring a softball tournament on June 15-16 to benefit their youth going to Centrifuge. For more information, contact the church at 2350 Central Ave., Hot Springs, AR 71901; telephone 501-624-3345.

Carbon Sims Dies

Carbon W. Sims of Arkadelphia died May 23 at age 68. He was retired associate director of development at Ouachita Baptist University and was awarded the OBU Purple and Gold Heart Award May 12 for outstanding and meritorious service.

Sims had served as minister of music for Arkansas churches, including Hot Springs Second Church, Pine Bluff Immanuel Church, Monticello First Church and Camden First Church. He also had served as president of the Arkansas Baptist Religious Education



Sims

Association and as chairman of the Arkansas Baptist Foundation board of directors.

Funeral services were held May 26 at First Church in Arkadelphia, where he was a member and served as a deacon. Graveside services were in Camden.

Survivors include his wife, Jerl Dene Sims; two sons, Carbon Randall Sims of Conway and David Craig Sims of San Diego; a daughter, Susan Viser of Arkadelphia; his mother, Lois Sims of Houston, Texas; one brother; one sister; and six grandchildren.

Correction

The May 18 edition of the BAN should have reported that Michael Davis has joined the staff of Second Church in West Memphis, moving there from Immanuel Church in Paragould.

Arkansans Graduate

Southwestern Seminary

Nineteen Arkansans were among the 462 graduates receiving degrees from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, on May 11.

Receiving the master of divinity degree were:

Jimmy B. Gentry, son of Charles P. Gentry of West Memphis and Glenda Hanks of Memphis; son-in-law of Wayne Endes of Indianapolis, Ind. and Susan Darouse of Jonesboro. He is a church planter apprentice for Central Baptist Church in Jonesboro.

Randall Ray Hogan, son of the late Horace Hogan and Verna Jean Hogan of Lavaca; son-in-law of Arnold and Paula Sexton of Lavaca.

David E. Humble, son of Earl R. and Mable L. Humble of Osceola; son-in-law of Hiroyuki and Matsue Mishima of Kagoshima, Japan.

Kendall Lee Killian, son of David O. and the late Ann Curtis Killian of Forrest City; son-in-law of Gene and Pat Eatherly of Fort Worth, Texas.

Randy P. Magar, son of Alfred and Edith Magar of Batesville; son-in-law of Greg and Donna Gregory of Southside.

Charles Asajile Mwakitwile, son to the late Asajile Limbwe and the late Twisalie Nginde of Tukuyu, Tanzania; son-in-law of Enoch and Nisalie Kapang. His home church is First Baptist Church in Pocahontas.

Barry Patrick Smith, son Ernest L. Smith of Springdale and Geneva Garline Briggs of Lowell; son-in-law of the late Charles and Ole Mae Dunivan of Springdale.

Kent Lashley Tharel, son of George M. Tharel of Fayetteville.

John Gayle Windsor, son of Julius Gayle Windsor Jr. and Betty Kraft Windsor of Little Rock.

Receiving the master of divinity with biblical languages degree was Rick Freeman, son of T. W. and Nell Freeman of Little Rock; son-in-law Bill and Mary Pennington of Little Rock.

Receiving the master of arts in religious education were:

David Alan Graves, son of Roy Gene Graves of Fordyce.

Penny Powell Haire, daughter of William and Barbara Powell of Magnolia; daughter-in-law of Waymon and Bobbie Haire of Bossier City, Louisiana.

Jeffrey R. Lake, son of Eugene R. and Jane H. Lake of DeQueen; son-in-law of Dave and Faye Jeffery of Bentonville.

Matthew Allen Porter, son of Mr. and Mrs.

Richard A. Porter of Midway.

Debbie Jo Smith, daughter of William H. and Jo Ann Smith of Jacksonville; daughter-in-law of Ed and Charlene Smith of Star City.

Eric Norman Westerman, son of Norman and Frances Westermann Fort Smith; son-in-law of the late Wayne and Quenned Smith of Picayune, Miss.

Receiving the master of music degree was Keith W. Burrow, son of Burt and Shirley Burrow of North Little Rock; son-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. Darwin Caldwell of Atlanta, Ga.

Receiving the associate of divinity degree was David Morrison, son of L. B. and Helen Wiley of Sherwood; son-in-law of L. D. and Merle Frazier of Danville.

Receiving the associate in religious education degree was Larry D. Parker, son of Conley D. and Dean Parker of North Little Rock; son-in-law of the late Fred and Buna Moore of North Little Rock.

New Orleans Seminary

Five Arkansans were among those receiving degrees from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisiana on May 18.

Receiving the master of divinity degree were:

William V. Buchanan Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. William Buchanan Sr. of Brandon, Miss. He is the pastor at First Church in Tyrone.

Matthew Thomas Stuart, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Stuart of Conway. He is the pastor at Bee Branch Church.

Micheal Lee Hattabaugh, son of Dr. and Mrs. Fred Hattabaugh of Florence, Ala. His home church is Second Church in Arkadelphia.

Receiving the master of religious education degree was John Edward Alumbaugh, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Alumbaugh of Jonesboro.

Receiving the associate of divinity degree with special emphasis in pastoral ministry was Dwayne Harrison, son of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Harrison of Strong.

Mid-America Seminary

Seven Arkansans among the 48 graduates receiving degrees from Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary in Memphis, Tenn. on May 11.

Receiving the master of divinity degree were:

Thomas E. Allen, son of Mr. and Mrs.

Eugene D. Allen of Meroux, La. He is pastor of Central Church in Marked Tree.

Jim Taylor, son of Juanita Taylor of Cabot.

Mark Tetley, son of Hazel Tetley of St. Louis, Mo. He is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University.

Barry Walker, son of Maureen Walker of Jonesboro.

Receiving the associate of divinity degree were:

Robert Elton Inmon Jr., son of Mr. Robert E. Inmon Sr. of Conway. He is currently serving at Cedar Heights Church.

Doug Martin, son of Janet Payne of Long Beach, Calif. He is the pastor at the East Church in Wynne.

Receiving the master of arts in religion and education degree was George Duke, son-in-law of Mrs. Rosa Lee Hurd of Jacksonville. He is a graduate of Arkansas Tech University.

SBC Receives \$1 Million Gift

Southern Baptist College near Walnut Ridge recently received its first \$1 million gift, announced Dr. D. Jack Nicholas, SBC president.

The gift was made public at SBC's commencement exercises on May 11.

The Arkansas donor, who wishes not to receive any publicity, requested the gift be used for the following: \$500,000 for endowed scholarships; \$400,000 for program enhancement and \$100,000 for capital improvements.

"This \$1 million gift is a lead gift for the Golden Anniversary campaign to be launched late 1990 or early 1991," Nicholas said. "In a period of five years, the college plans to raise \$5 to \$10 million for program and degree expansion and enhancement, capital improvements and endowment."

SBC will celebrate its 50-year Golden Anniversary as well as a name change to Williams Baptist College this fall.

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BJC PROPOSAL

Challenge Planned

by Dan Martin & Marv Knox
Baptist Press

NASHVILLE (BP)—A proposal to shift responsibility for and funding of religious liberty concerns from the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs to the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission will be challenged at the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Frank Ingraham, a Nashville attorney and former member of the SBC Executive Committee, sent a letter May 8 to SBC President Jerry Vines announcing he will challenge an Executive Committee recommendation which would assign responsibilities for religious liberty to the CLC.

Although the letter was addressed to Vines, pastor of First Baptist Church of Jacksonville, Fla., Ingraham noted it is an "open letter concerning separation of church and state issues," and sent copies to Baptist Press and state Baptist newspapers.

Ingraham said he will challenge the actions during the annual meeting of the SBC, scheduled June 12-14 at the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans.

In its February meeting, the Executive Committee adopted a recommendation to add religious liberty concerns to the program statement of the CLC, the moral and social concerns agency of the 14.9-million-member denomination.

The Executive Committee also recommended cutting the allocation to the BJCPA by 87.24 percent, from \$391,796 in 1989-90 to \$50,000 in 1990-91. The budget also increases the allocation to the CLC by 40.70 percent, from \$897,508 in 1989-90 to \$1,262,836 in 1990-91.

Ingraham's announcement of his intention to challenge the changes in the pro-

gram statement and budget was one of four matters relating to the issue to arise recently. Others are:

— Oliver S. Thomas, general counsel of the BJC, wrote to Sam Pace, chairman of the Executive Committee, asking for an opportunity to appear before the Executive Committee in its June 11 pre-convention meeting in New Orleans, in order to present "full, fair and accurate information" on the BJC.

— Fifteen Southern Baptist church historians signed an open letter to Southern Baptists urging them to "continue funding the Baptist Joint Committee at its present level."

— Richard D. Land, executive director of the CLC, continued his pledge of "strict neutrality" on the issue but described its implications for a group of Maryland/Delaware Baptists.

Ingraham told Vines he will make a motion that the "program statement of the CLC remain as previously assigned by the SBC and that the CLC be congratulated for its work and its trustees directed to emphasize the presentation of Southern Baptist insights on morality and social ethics to our government in Washington, D.C."

He also said he will make a motion to amend the proposed budget to reflect a 1.89 percent budget increase for the BJC and CLC, "which is in line with the increase granted the other SBC entities."

In the budget proposal, the other entities of the SBC received a 1.89 percent increase. Ingraham said what he proposes to do supports "the traditional Baptist position on the separation of church and state rather than flowing with the present attempt to shift our emphasis from separation to accommodation on religious liberty issues such as school vouchers, religious entangle-

ment in government and governmental control of church affairs."

Presentation in the open letter is being done, Ingraham said, "in order to provide the messengers the opportunity to study and prayerfully consider the contemplated departure from our traditional position on separation of church and state."

In his letter to Pace, the BJC's Thomas took exception to a report of the Executive Committee, titled "Some Reasons for the Southern Baptist Convention 1990-91 Budget Allocation to Support Religious Liberty and Separation of Church and State."

He asked for time during the pre-convention meeting to "provide . . . the opportunity to review the document in order to correct its factual errors before it is presented to the SBC."

Pace told Baptist Press his intention is to put the request on the agenda for a meeting of the officers of the Executive Committee June 10.



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Correction

The article on p. 24 of the May 17 edition of the ABN entitled "A Mere Redundancy," dealt with the same case reported in the May 3 issue on p. 16, entitled "Free Exercise Affected." The facts of the case, which concerned religious use of the drug peyote, were inadvertently omitted from the article.

Bush Declines Invitation

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (BP)—President George Bush has declined an invitation to speak to the Southern Baptist Convention next month after some Baptist leaders disapproved that he hosted gay and lesbian leaders at an April White House ceremony.

SBC President Jerry Vines and a handful of Southern Baptist leaders reportedly discussed "disinviting" the president in a conference call May 10. But the SBC Committee on Order of Business, which is responsible for arranging the program for the annual convention, was not involved in the discussion nor immediately informed of Bush's decision.

Conservative leaders have been upset since Bush invited representatives of the Gay and Lesbian Task Force to join other minority activists at a White House ceremony April 24 to witness Bush's signing of new federal legislation requiring records on hate crimes.

Vines, pastor of First Baptist Church of Jacksonville, Fla., raised the gay issue with the White House and asked that Bush consider those objections in his decision whether or not to speak at the Southern Baptist Convention June 12-14 in New Orleans, a Bush spokesman said.

"He wanted us to be aware of the fact ... that some conservatives might raise the (gay) issue," said Doug Wead, Bush's liaison to religious organizations. "He didn't want to see the president embarrassed or the meeting disrupted."

According to Wead, Vines also pointed out "some moderate and liberal Southern Baptists" were opposed to the president speaking at the convention under any circumstances. Wead said the president declined the invitation—which the White House had sought—because of a schedule conflict.

But Wead acknowledged the gay dispute was part of the discussion. He said he sympathized with Southern Baptists upset about the presence of gays at the signing ceremony. "The concern was not just these homosexual leaders being invited to the White House, but some of these are anti-religious bigots," he explained.

Critical Need For Volunteers

ATLANTA (BP)—With the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting nearing, a "critical need" for witnessing volunteers has surfaced.

"We could use as many as 1,100 to 1,200 more people" in the door-to-door witnessing project, said Howard Ramsey, director of personal evangelism for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

A pastor-teacher has been assigned to each of the 117 participating area churches. Another 400 people have agreed to be part of neighborhood witnessing teams.

However, Ramsey said he had hoped for more than 2,000 volunteers.

Participating New Orleans area churches also include 16 from the Gulf Coast Baptist Association in Mississippi, 35 National Baptist churches, one French-Haitian church and five Hispanic churches.

Additional volunteers are needed to meet the requests of participating churches. Ramsey noted that one or two churches have said they will "take as many volunteers as are available."

The personal evangelism project will take place Saturday, and volunteers are asked to attend training sessions and a rally Friday.

Ramsey sees Friday's required training as one reason the number of volunteers is not what was expected. He said some people who would otherwise be willing to participate in the witnessing project could not come early.

The first meeting for the witnessing effort will be at 3 p.m. Friday, June 8, for pastor-teachers, followed by a 4:30 p.m. rally for all participants. The volunteers will visit homes of New Orleans area residents Saturday, and area churches will hold special evangelistic services Sunday morning.

Ramsey said he is not anxious about the project. "We'll just leave it in the hands of the Lord now," he said.

People willing to be involved in witnessing campaign should contact the HMB's evangelism department at (404) 898-7180 or 1350 Spring Street NW, Atlanta, GA 30309-9976.

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LESSONS FOR LIVING

Convention Uniform

Careful Comparisons

by Harrison Johns, retired pastor, Harrisburg

Basic passage: Psalms 37:1-11

Focal passage: Psalms 37:9

Central truth: Both investments and returns must be considered for a valid choice of lifestyle.

Our focal passage summarizes the basic passage: "For evil men will be cut off, but those who hope in the Lord will inherit the land" (NIV).

The rewards of the wicked, as stated in this passage are: (1) they will soon wither and die (v. 2); (2) they will be cut off (v. 9); and (3) they will be no more (v. 10). None of these are preferred choices for a thinking person.

Those who "trust in the Lord" (vv. 3, 5) are assured they will "dwell in the land" and "enjoy safe pasture" (v. 3). This implies a settling down. Many people eagerly look forward to a time and a place when and where they can settle down and live safely and securely. God offers this to those who "delight in him" (v. 4), "commit their way to him" (v. 5) and "hope in him" (v. 9).

This scripture also teaches the way to emotional stability. When a person chooses to "be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him" (v. 7), he can anticipate that he will not "fret" (vv. 1, 7, 8). For one to fret may reflect envy (v. 1), anger and wrath (v. 8). For fretting to be a lifestyle is a violation of the teaching of God and a psychological negative.

"Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart" (v. 4). What we desire will be inspired of God when we delight in him. If God inspires our desires, he is glorified in the fulfillment of those desires. "But seek first his (the heavenly Father's) kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well" (Mt. 6:33), Jesus said.

Careful comparisons of the rewards of the godly person and those of the wicked, ungodly person should persuade us to strive for godliness. "For it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose" (Ph. 2:13).

A large number of choices per day are made by each person. Life is the sum total of those choices. A fellow in jail told me, "I need to make a change. The choices I have been making are not leading me where I want to go." Then he trusted Jesus.

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Life and Work

God's Forgiveness

by Emil Williams, First Church, Jonesboro

Basic passage: Jeremiah 3:12-15, 19-23

Focal passage: Jeremiah 3:12-14a, 22-23

Central truth: God's great desire is not to judge, but to forgive.

Though judgment must come as the unavoidable divine response to human rebellion, God's best work and greatest desire is forgiveness.

The previous lessons have reminded us of judgment, but God sets judgment aside when men respond to his forgiveness. Thus, judgment is never irrevocable or unconditional, but always conditioned by our response to God. God's forgiveness is always offered.

Jeremiah, a "son of the South," offers God's mercy, not only to Judah, but also to Israel, the Northern Kingdom, which had been overrun by Assyria in 721-722 B.C.

There had always been the feeling that the Northern Kingdom had been inferior to the Southern Kingdom in service to God and sensitivity to his call. Here, however, it is to that people the prophet offers the forgiveness in the name of God (see 3:11). So, it is "faithless Israel" who is invited to return to God, and the promise is made that God will not look upon them in anger. Even though they have suffered greatly and been humiliated, there is the hope of better days. They can receive mercy (3:12).

There is, as always, a condition. God's forgiveness is offered, his mercy extended, but there must be the acknowledgment of need, confession of guilt (3:13).

Such acknowledgment—confession is not a matter of persons despising themselves or wallowing in despair. It is simply the recognition that persons do not receive what they do not need. Israel's confession would have been an acknowledgment that they had been unfaithful to God, broken the covenant relationship and gone after other gods (3:14a).

The forgiveness of God which thus seems to alter judgment actually changes man's own personal history. This helps us to see, too, how some of the predictions of doom upon Israel were, in fact, conditional. Judgment is set forth as a certainty. There is, however, always a "Yet, if . . ." If persons respond and receive forgiveness, God himself sets judgment aside.

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Bible Book

Teaching Wisdom

by Verne Wickliffe, First Church, Des Arc

Basic passage: James 3:1-18

Focal passage: James 3:1-18

Central truth: Qualification for teaching and wisdom goes beyond knowledge.

It's hard for us to imagine the desire to teach in the early church. Those who wished to were allowed to teach and some confusion resulted. We have evidently cured the problem as there is now more reluctance to teach than desire. Looking at James 3:1 and 3:13-18 together points out a qualifying factor for those who would teach.

Motivation is an important factor. Notice the difference in motivation in 3:13-14. True wisdom motivates out of goodness and works in meekness. False wisdom is motivated with envy and self seeking. Verse 15 gives the source of false wisdom and the results are seen in verse 16. The characteristics of God's wisdom and results of sharing it are seen in verses 17-18. Illustrations of the truth in these verses are abundant and you can probably think of some from your own experience.

"Let not many of you become teachers" because teachers are responsible for motivation, what is taught, and the manner in which it is taught. The stricter judgment for the teacher is seen in the words of Jesus in Matthew 12:36-37. The teacher is also accountable for accurate teaching because of the powerful influence teachers have on students. The teacher is responsible, but so then is the church for calling out qualified teachers and providing the necessary training.

Perhaps we should all quit. Quitting is not the answer "for we all stumble in many things" (Ja. 3:2). If God's grace is sufficient to cover the sins of the tongue, it is sufficient to cover the sins of the teacher seeking to share true wisdom. The bit in the horse's mouth and the rudder of a ship are both small. The tongue is a small part of the body, but its actions are much bigger than its size. The tongue displays only what is in our mind and will, it betrays us. What it betrays is up to us.

The irony of the Christian is that "out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing" (Ja. 3:10). Finding ourselves in the same situation Paul described in Romans 7:15-25, we can only praise God for his grace.

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Indiana Boyce Center Closed

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)—Southern Baptist Theological Seminary has closed its Boyce Bible School center in Indiana in response to a rift between the seminary administration and center director Mark Coppenger.

Coppenger, executive director-treasurer of the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana, expressed his disenchantment with seminary policies and personnel in an article in the May 8 issue of the *Indiana Baptist*, the weekly newsjournal published by the state convention.

Boyce, a division of the Louisville, Ky., seminary, provides ministerial training for people without college degrees. The school's Indiana center conducted classes in Indianapolis and Kokomo during the spring semester.

In the article, Coppenger criticized several seminary professors and administrators, including the provost and president. He also accused seminary trustees of failing to deal thoroughly with concerns raised by the Southern Baptist Convention Peace Committee in 1986.

Seminary Provost G. Willis Bennett an-

nounced with "deep regret" that Boyce would close its Indiana center May 31. Boyce could no longer effectively function in Indiana due to the climate created by the article, he said, adding, "At the same time, we express hope that the problems may be resolved and the work resumed under a new administration and with a cooperative spirit."

Boyce, which operates 17 off-campus centers, opened the Indiana Center in 1982.

Gauthe Declines Nomination

DOTHAN, Ala. (BP)—Van Gauthe, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church of Dothan, Ala., will not allow his name to be included in a list of alternate nominations proposed by David Montoya of Gravette, Ark.

Montoya, pastor of First Baptist Church of Gravette and an Arkansas member of the 1990 Southern Baptist Convention Committee on Nominations, announced March 23 he would challenge some of the people nominated by the Committee on Nominations.

The Committee on Nominations annually nominates people to serve on the boards of trust of the 24 entities associated with the SBC.

On May 3, Montoya announced a list of 32 "alternate nominations" to those proposed by the Committee on Nomination. Gauthe was listed as being an alternate nomination for the board of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Gauthe told Baptist Press he had not been contacted by Montoya for permission to include his name on the list.

"He (Montoya) never talked to me. I am neither attacking nor supporting him. I simply was not contacted. You cannot say no until you have been asked to say yes," he said.

Montoya told Baptist Press he thought he had contacted every one of the 32 names on his list. "I made a mistake in my paper work and marked that I had talked with him when I had not," Montoya said.

He added, "I nominated him because he is not political. He is a good man, a conservative man. He seemed to me someone who the convention should consider."

Montoya said he had written to Gauthe apologizing for the error.

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Seminary Endures Shelling

by Mike Creswell
SBC Foreign Mission Board

MANSOURIEH, Lebanon (BP)—Artillery shells injured a Lebanese Baptist woman and damaged the Baptist seminary complex in mid-May in Mansourieh, Lebanon, a village east of Beirut.

Iskander Kusta suffered a broken arm and bruises when hit by flying debris as an exploding shell tore through the bedroom wall of her home in Mansourieh. Her husband and son were uninjured.

A shell also exploded in the seminary complex, narrowly missing Wissam Hadda, 11, who was running across an open area toward a bomb shelter. Hadda's sister works for Baptist Publications, located in the complex.

The blast sprayed razor-sharp shrapnel against several buildings in the complex, breaking windows in the chapel, kitchen, administration offices and a house. It also severed electrical wires and water pipes.

Another shell exploded just outside the seminary complex but did no damage, reported Southern Baptist representative Emmett Barnes. Barnes continues to administer many of the seminary's programs from his base on the island of Cyprus.

Occurring without warning, the shelling ended a period of relative calm that had prevailed in the area since the last period of intense fighting in January and February.

Seminary classes have continued despite the latest shelling. A new student recently enrolled, bringing the number of students to nine. Nidal and Wissam Arnouk, a Syrian couple, are expected to graduate in June.

All students and some of the seminary teachers now live on the seminary complex. Transportation has become too difficult for commuting to class, Barnes said, and the seminary is considered safer than the homes of some students. In recent days many Baptists have been sleeping in a bomb shelter beneath one of the seminary buildings or in an underground recording studio.

A radio station operated at least six hours a day by Lebanese Baptists has expanded its programs of Christian preaching in recent days. The station's signal extends throughout Beirut and the surrounding hills, reaching a potential audience of about 1 million people.

A key concern of the Baptists is the need to get a new diesel generator to provide electrical current for the seminary, publishing house, media studio and a Baptist church that meets on the complex. The existing generator also supplies current for heavy-duty pumps that bring water from deep wells for use in homes

on the complex.

Such heavy use each day taxes the unit's capacity, Barnes said. Beirut's electrical system has been left in shambles by years of fighting.

Along with physical needs, Lebanese Baptists feel depressed and alone amid the constant turmoil, Barnes said. "They feel that somehow people have forgotten them. But our Baptist people want to feel they're not forgotten, that people are praying for them," he said.

PHILIPPINES

Student Summer Missions Canceled

MANILA, Philippines (BP)—Forty-one Southern Baptist college students won't go to the Philippines as summer missionaries because of recent violence and threats against American service personnel there.

Philippine Baptist leaders have recommended that Baptist Student Union summer missionaries cancel their 10-week service planned this summer, said Sam Waldron, a Southern Baptist missionary administrator in the Philippines.

The recommendation came after the May 13 shooting deaths of two U.S. Air Force enlisted men in the Philippines. The New People's Army, the armed branch of the outlawed Philippine Communist Party, claimed responsibility for the deaths. The NPA warned that killings will continue until American troops and military bases leave the country. The lease for six U.S. bases in the Philippines expires in 1991.

Although NPA threats are not directed against American civilians, the U.S. State Department has issued travel advisories for Americans in some areas where the students would have worked, Waldron said.

Thirty-nine of the 41 students, who were trained and ready to go, already have been named to new assignments in the United States, Canada, Hungary, Israel, Korea and Madagascar. Placement was arranged through the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Home Mission Board and Baptist state convention student ministry departments.

Missionaries and Philippine Baptists are disappointed about the cancellation, Waldron said. Student summer missionaries "are always like a shot in the arm to us," he said. "We'll miss them."

The students would have worked in about 50 Baptist churches on the Philippine islands of Luzon and Mindanao.

Cover Story



SWBTS photo / Morris Abernathy

Nothing Casual 6

Bringing others to Christ is the consuming passion of this young couple's life.

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IT'S UPLIFTING

Hungry For Spiritual Bread

PRAGUE, Czechoslovakia (BP)—About 1,000 people—one-tenth of the audience—stepped forward to express interest in accepting Jesus Christ as Savior during a May evangelistic crusade in Prague led by former American astronaut James Irwin and British Baptist evangelist Vic Jackopson.

It was one of the largest evangelical crusades held in Czechoslovakia since democracy was established last December. Baptists joined Methodists, Brethren and other groups in sponsoring the event in a Prague sports hall.

Most of those responding checked cards indicating, "I want to accept Jesus as my Savior" or "I would like my spiritual life to be deeper." Czechoslovakian Baptist Union leader Pavel Titera joined Jackopson and Irwin, a Southern Baptist, in a visit to Hradcany Castle in Prague, where they presented national President Vaclav Havel with a Czechoslovakian flag that had been to the moon. The three also prayed with Havel.

The visit was the third time Titera has spoken to Havel. Earlier he gave a personal Christian testimony to the leader, urging him to follow in the steps of former Czechoslovakian President Tomas Garrigue Masaryk, a staunch evangelical who led the country between 1918 and 1935.

"Brothers, it's a new day," Titera told the union's central administrative committee recently as he displayed an engraved invitation asking him to attend a state reception given by Havel at Hradcany Castle. During the reception, Havel ordered the doors opened and allowed the public to enter. "Hundreds of people came in off the street. It was quite remarkable," Titera said.

Evangelical Christians still are marveling at such occurrences less than a year after church leaders tried to keep a low profile to avoid communist government scrutiny. In January the government scrapped a 1949 law controlling religious activities.

Follow-up with people who made spiritual decisions during the crusade will be a top priority with Baptists and other evangelicals in coming weeks, said Eva Titera, the Baptist leader's wife. "It's very important that these people be nourished well. It's our responsibility to lead them and let them grow."

The high response of crusade participants shows "that people in Czechoslovakia are hungry for spiritual bread," she said.

That impression was echoed by British-born Diana Jankovic, who lives with her husband, Slavomer, in Bratislava. The two work with young people at the Bratislava Baptist Church.

"People are starving. I see many people who are hungry for God's Word and don't know how to live as Christians."

GOOD NEWS!

How Not to Pray

Matthew 6:5-8

It is important to examine Jesus' words of caution on prayer. The Jews were a praying people, especially the religious leaders. But Jesus was aware that the meaning was gone, though the form remained.

Prayer may become formalized—The Jews had certain times of the day to pray and were careful to observe these. From Jesus' words we can conclude that they were merely saying words which had long since lost any meaning and purpose.

The Shema, "Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord," had to be recited every morning and evening. No matter where a person found himself, he had to stop at the appointed time and repeat the prayer. It is evident from Jesus' tone that praying had become a habit with no meaning.

Prayer may be connected with certain places—The Jews had the Temple and the synagogue. We have our "sacred" places

too. The tendency is always present to assume that there is something holier about the church building than the office building and thus to limit our prayer to times when we go to church to "meet God."

Prayer may be too long—During a pastoral exchange in Scotland, I was asked by a young minister who attended the church where I was preaching why my prayers were so short. My first impulse was to remind him of Jesus' story of the Pharisee and the publican, but on second thought I decided not to be unkind. The Scots spend much time preparing their prayers, and they tend to be long. They also tend to be meaningful.

Some seem to have the idea that the longer we badger God with our prayers the more likely he is to grant our request.

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Manyfold Dividends

J. EVERETT SNEED

Perhaps the most important decision to be made at the Southern Baptist Convention is the funding of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs. The SBC Executive Committee has recommended that the SBC portion of the BJC be cut from \$391,796 to \$50,000. This is a tragic mistake, since the Joint Committee has served Southern Baptists with excellence for many years.

Those seeking to defund the Baptist Joint Committee have tried to do so for a number of years. A motion was defeated to defund the BJCPA in 1984; a motion to defund again was referred by the messengers to the Executive Committee and a special fact finding committee was appointed in 1986; in 1987, after a year-long study, dozens of meetings, at a cost of nearly \$250,000, the SBC voted "to continue to relate to the BJCPA"; in 1988 the Baptist Joint Committee was given a special line item status in the convention budget, although the BJC's budget was reduced 11 percent; and in 1989 a motion on the floor of the convention to reconsider the Baptist Joint Committee's budget was soundly defeated by the messengers. On the basis of the past, messengers should strongly reject this Executive Committee proposal.

Some have argued that the Baptist Joint Committee has not followed the wishes of the messengers. G. Hugh Wamble, professor of church history at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo., was asked by the special study committee in 1986 to study the record of the Baptist Joint Committee since 1970. The research was based on minutes from the *Report From the Capitol*, BJCPA statements to congressional committees, BJCPA briefs with courts, and SBC convention minutes. The study resulted in a 39-page paper with 27 pages of text and 12 pages of end notes.

The conclusion drawn from the paper was that the BJCPA had consistently represented the views expressed by the convention, with one exception. But this exception was due to the convention's brief change in its position, not to the BJCPA's change.

Prior to 1982, the convention consistently had adopted resolutions against compulsory or government-directed religious exercise in public schools. In 1982, however, the convention broke with its own tradition and supported a prayer



amendment which was proposed by President Reagan.

In explaining this amendment on May 6, 1982, the White House said, "State boards or local school boards (would) be free to compose their own prayers" if the amendment passed.

In the 1983 resolution we again expressed confidence in the "adequacy and sufficiency" of the First Amendment. The implication of this resolution was that the convention did not favor any kind of compulsory or government-mandated prayer.

Some have erroneously characterized the Baptist Joint Committee as opposing prayer. Nothing could be further from the truth. The Baptist Joint Committee was the major architect of the "Equal Access" legislation. Our own Sen. Dale Bumpers and Republican Sen. Mark Hatfield were

the co-sponsors of this legislation. The legislation provides for both secular and religious non-school sponsored groups to have equal access to any limited open forum created in a public high school where students meet on their own initiative without official encouragement or sponsorship. Simply stated, this legislation means that high school students can meet to have free exercise of religion (prayer and Bible reading) in any school that has such things as a Young Democrats Club, a Young Republicans Club, or a Stamp Club. This legislation was successful, and, although it is being challenged in the courts, the Baptist Joint Committee is confident that it will stand as constitutional legislation.

Through research and petition, the Baptist Joint Committee has saved Baptist pastors untold amounts of money. A partnership between the SBC Annuity Board and the Baptist Joint Committee was able to get the housing allowance exemption continued for ministers.

Again, the Baptist Joint Committee joined with the Foreign Mission Board to gain a stronger reassurance that the CIA would not allow CIA agents to act under the cover of missionary identity overseas.

The truth is the Baptist Joint Committee is one of the most respected religious organizations in Washington, D.C. When an individual has all of the facts in hand, we believe that the money the Executive Committee has taken from the Baptist Joint Committee will be restored. Southern Baptists have probably received more per dollar from the BJCPA than from any other group. The small amount of money that Southern Baptists provide for this group returns manyfold dividends.

Arkansas Baptist

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DON MOORE

You'll Be Glad To Know



The Southern Baptist Convention came into existence at the request of the churches, just like the association and state convention. The constitution of our state and SBC forbid the conventions to ever exercise any authority over the churches.

The convention provided for fellowship between the churches by way of messengers to the annual convention meeting. Shared information and inspiration were carried back to the churches to spur them on to greater educational, evangelistic, missionary and benevolent activity. As their common concerns began to be shared, they began to share their resources of money and personnel to undertake tasks that the churches could not do alone. Some of those concerns were outward, toward reaching the world. Thus, the missions boards were formed. Some of those concerns were inward, toward starting new churches, providing an educated ministry, and improving local church ministries.

For a brief time, these things were attempted by volunteers. It was soon apparent that permanent leadership would be needed to provide stability and consistency in the development of these ministries. Hence, people began to be paid for services rendered on behalf of the churches and to the churches.

As times changed and churches began to make more demands upon those who assist and serve them, the programs, agencies and institutions were expanded to meet the demands. This is what has given rise to what I call the institutional nature of our denomination.

There is no question in our minds or the world's mind about where Southern Baptists come down on the Word of God. A perfect God can only give a perfect revelation. There is a question about whether Southern Baptists understand, appreciate and will sustain the life (institutional life) she has birthed. Next week's Southern Baptist Convention, like all previous conventions, will address that question. Please pray for God's overwhelming presence to pervade and prevail in our deliberations.

Don Moore is executive director of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

Letters to the Editor

Common Sense

In a recent article in the *Northwest Arkansas Morning News*, Dr. Sneed was quoted about the Southern Baptist "conservative"-"moderate" situation. His response was a voice of reason in the midst of controversy. He was quoted as saying that some moderates in agency levels of the SBC were not responsive to the conservative elements at the grass roots of the denomination and a "buddy system" was intact, limiting conservatives appointment to the various SBC boards and agencies. Now the "buddy system" seems to have shifted to the conservative court, he said.

So what has been labeled a "power play" from other sources, has been succinctly identified by Dr. Sneed. It doesn't take a lot of common sense to understand that when the power is in your hands and someone comes along to challenge it, to try to take it back, you are going to hear complaints that "power politics" are being used.

So, when we vote at the national convention in June, our vote should not be for a candidate and his personal views, but who he represents, i.e. who stands behind him and what is their "track record" when in control.

If you are committed to our seminaries teaching, with no equivocation, what is in the Baptist Faith and Message, then you have to support the candidate who represents assurance that no professor can hold any view that does not support the inerrancy of the Bible, the virgin birth of Jesus, his total humanity yet total godliness and completely sinless life, his substitutionary death for our sins, resurrection from the dead and ascension into heaven.

Any seminary that accepts any professor who teaches other than that is taking money—yours and mine—under false pretenses. We cannot say that they should not be allowed to teach, but that they should look elsewhere for employment.

Our future pastors, evangelists, etc. must have the power of biblical inerrancy so

Woman's Viewpoint

Deserving of Praise

MARY LOU HEARD

To be a dad for three teenagers and a pastor at the same time is an incredible task. To be a dad for three teens, a pastor, and have both parents living in your home with terminal illnesses at the same time is an overwhelming task. To be a dad for three teens, a pastor, have dying parents, and preside over the Arkansas Baptist State Convention at the same time was an awesome task. Although his presidential duties have ended, this incredible dad has taught me some valuable lessons.

He arranges his personal schedule around his children's school activities wherever possible. Our congregation will never remember that he left a church growth conference

once after the invocation, but our son will never forget that his dad was at the game that night to see him. He is on call 24 hours a day to our church family but he has also always been available to administer discipline and praise to our family at home. Nothing encourages church growth more than healthy families.

This incredible dad sets a standard for care giving in real life that matches what he says from the pulpit. He equips our children with an understanding of what it means to honor their parents through his example. He has taught them about life and death.

This incredible dad can preside over an entire convention or over his home with same determination for God's leadership and fairness. He knows Roberts

Rules of Order and Heard's Handling of Confusion equally as well. He makes all his children feel their opinions are valuable. He insists they attack the problem but not each other.

This incredible dad had taught his children to honor their mom. They know their parents have a marriage that will endure. His love for family is unconditional but tough.

The divorce rates and insurance rates for pastors fall just below those of stunt pilots and crop dusters. In such a high-risk profession, remember that doing both jobs well deserves our praise.

Mary Lou Heard is the wife of Cary Heard, pastor of Park Hill Church in North Little Rock, and the mother of three teenagers.

deeply ingrained into their very being that nothing can shake it, so we can enter the 21st century as strong as we entered the 10th in our unashamed reliance in 2 Timothy 3:16.—Harvey E. McClellan, Rogers

Where is the Cover-up?

Where is the cover-up at Southern Seminary? A trustee of Southern Seminary has accused President Honeycutt and several faculty members with covering up doctrinal infidelity in the Louisville seminary. Can you imagine that? All of the issues developed by the trustee are issues which have been addressed in great detail in the last couple of years. The Peace Committee itself addressed these issues at Southern. In fact, the Board of Trustees exonerated the members of the faculty studied by the Peace Committee. All of this has been publicly discussed ad infinitum.

A trustee surely cannot believe that these things have been "covered up." Where has he been the past few years? The quotes addressed by the trustee come mainly from the Broadman Bible Commentary. If I remember, this commentary has been a matter of public record for perhaps 20

years. If there is anything which has not occurred, it is a cover-up. Roy Honeycutt's very life has been an open book before Southern Baptists.

It seems to me that this is basically another vicious personal attack on the integrity of President Honeycutt and the faculty members mentioned. As a lifetime Southern Baptist, I am honestly embarrassed that such totally unsubstantiated complaints are made so openly and circulated so widely among the brethren. If this trustee's charges were true, obviously, Roy Honeycutt would not be the president of Southern Seminary. If the charges he has made are not true, he should not be a trustee of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.—Ronald M. Ford, North Little Rock

Abuse of Trust

I am writing in reference to Randall O'Brien's column in the May 24 issue of the *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine*. At the very least, it is an abuse of the privilege and trust afforded him as a contributing writer.

Let us not focus upon the fact that Randall O'Brien is the coordinator for the Bap-

tists Committed group in Arkansas, which is a partisan organization of Southern Baptist moderates dedicated to reversing the chosen course of Southern Baptists over the last 11 years. Neither will we belabor the point that he was arbitrarily chosen by the management of the *Newsmagazine* to write a series of 12 columns (the fourth issue every month for a year), entitled "A Pastor's Perspective." And, I acknowledge his right to believe as he chooses.

I do draw sharp distinction, though, with his use of *Newsmagazine* space to advocate radical views on issues such as the ordination of women. In his May 24 column, he goes to great length to affirm Rev. Jan Carruthers, who he suggests might be perceived by some as being theologically "liberal." He notes she has fulfilled pastoral roles in the local church. Her and her husband, we are told, "laugh a lot" to overcome their theological differences. He then describes she and her husband as "models" for the rest of us. This theme of promoting "inclusion" at the expense of doctrinal accountability is one of the primary tenets of the Baptists Committed group, as indicated on the front page of their May newsletter.

I submit that this Yale-educated pastor does not accurately reflect the views of most Arkansas Baptist. And regardless of how clever and witty he may be, he should not be afforded free space to promote the Baptists Committed agenda through the *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine*.—Michael L. Trammell, Jonesboro

SILOAM SPRINGS ASSEMBLY

Meeting Our Leaders

Stability, consistency, righteousness, humility, friendliness, and availability have been and continue to be the legacy of the leaders and department heads of the Arkansas Baptist Convention, as they spend weeks living with the campers at the Siloam Springs Assembly. As they teach, preach, work and mingle with people from all around the state, the convention takes on a personal, close and inclusive nature. This characteristic affords Baptists—both adult and youth—access to the Baptist Building (in Little Rock), and it assures convention leaders and workers of a firm base of grassroots support and of a widespread network of contacts.

Who could forget the eternal cheerfulness and optimism of Ralph Davis, the hour-plus Sunday morning sermons of B. L. Bridges, the wholesome character of the student nurses from Baptist Hospital under the guidance of Juanita Straube, the enthusiasm of Lawson Hatfield, and the ability of Edgar Williamson to guide the life-direction of large numbers of persons in spiritual planes. To completely list all these past and present

leaders would fill an entire book.

In recent years, our six or seven weeks of different assemblies has diluted the presence and influence of these leaders. My prayer is that more of them will attend the weeks at Siloam. The dilution of their influence is a missed opportunity for campers of all ages and for our convention.

What a joy and inspiration each summer at Siloam to see Bob Parker (director of Christian Life Council) and Dr. Sneed (editor of the *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine*), just to name two of the many present-day leaders who attend. What they say in tabernacle talks is not nearly as important to me as is their relaxed conversation with whomever they meet and the camaraderie in their coffee-drinking sessions with pastors and others in the dining hall. Their presence is a quiet but refreshing breath of fresh air.

May I express my personal gratitude for the privilege of the last 47 years—of meeting these people, observing their example of everyday living, and absorbing their teachings.—Rel Gray, Ruston, La.

Resurgence Myth

Many Southern Baptists have been deluded by a small group of self-proclaimed "saviors" of the Southern Baptist Convention. They take credit for what they perceive to be the "conservative resurgence."

There has not been a "conservative resurgence" because there was never a "conservative falling away."

Many of us who have "voted wrong" for the last eleven years have conservative credentials (by Bible standards) as strong or stronger than some of those who "voted right."

I personally do not see a more conservative stance in our convention.

I regret the personal hurts that have come to so many good men (and women) who have voted "right" and "wrong."

My prayer is that the SBC can imitate Arkansas and find a strong candidate who enjoys the confidence and respect of all our people, who will point us toward the 21st century as a body fitly joined together for the Master's use.—Sidney G. Carswell, Little Rock

Nothing Casual

by Chip Alford
Southwestern Seminary

DALLAS—Blue jeans, tennis shoes and a comfortable knit shirt may complete Erwin McManus' on-the-job wardrobe, but there's nothing casual about his Christianity.

The 31-year-old director of evangelism for the Dallas Baptist Association has an intensity for sharing the gospel and he's determined to help other believers develop the same.

"When I accepted Christ, I assumed immediately that I was called to preach the gospel," McManus said, recalling his conversion as a 20-year-old college student in Orlando, Fla. "In fact, after I became a Christian I went and told my mom that I was going to pack my bags and start walking across the country telling people about Jesus. She just about had a heart attack."

But for McManus there was an urgency to evangelism. Born to a Mormon father and Catholic mother in San Salvador, El Salvador, he grew up confused about religion. He moved to the United States as a preschooler, but none of his new Christian friends and neighbors shared the gospel with him.

He grew increasingly alienated from the church as a teenager. By the time he reached college he considered himself an atheist. But during the week of his 20th birthday, a woman from the First Baptist Church of Orlando asked him a direct question: "Have you ever considered giving your life to Jesus?"

McManus' search for truth had ended, but his journey in the Christian faith had just begun. And he was eager to share that faith with others.

McManus realized finishing his college education did not prevent him from sharing his faith, so he went to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he helped evangelize the campus by starting a Bible study group.

Three years later he began his theological training at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

"I think it was a very positive experience and I encourage people to go to seminary," McManus said. "The seminary teaches you

SWBTS photo / Morris Abernathy



Erwin and Kim McManus, along with their son Aaron, have made evangelism a family matter.

how to study the Bible and prepares you for many things. But it's not where you go to learn to walk with God. That comes from your personal life with the Lord."

While at Southwestern, McManus took his Bible, guitar and a heart for the lost and helped organize a street ministry at the Water Gardens, an outdoor park in downtown Fort Worth. Then one day, while reading the student newspaper, he noticed an advertisement that read: "Inner city church in Dallas needs pastor — No salary."

"It didn't sound very appealing," McManus remembered. "And when I interviewed with them I discovered they were in a part of the city that had the highest crime rate."

The church was Cornerstone Baptist and the area in south Dallas is often referred to as "The War Zone" because of violent battles between drug dealers. But McManus didn't back out. He accepted the pastorate and provided leadership to the congregation for six years.

McManus and his wife, Kim, also a Southwestern graduate, decided to trust God for their safety and guidance in ministry. They worked to build Cornerstone through meeting the physical and spiritual needs of the community, from feeding the hungry, clothing the poor, counseling drug addicts and prostitutes, to holding Bible studies in crack houses.

"We had a wonderful ministry in south Dallas," Kim said. "The people in the church were so wonderful and loving that the community didn't seem threatening."

McManus accepted his current post with Dallas Baptist Association two years ago. His responsibilities include equipping

pastors and laypeople to improve their witnessing skills and helping churches plan evangelist strategies.

McManus' ministry today includes work not only with inner city missions, but contact with suburban and affluent churches as well. He has learned "to network the believers the Lord has blessed financially with the areas and people that are underprivileged."

The McManuses also serve as missionary associates with the Home Mission Board—Erwin as a metropolitan evangelism consultant and Kim as a missions coordinator for east Dallas. Part of her job involves organizing inner city dramas. She organized Christmas and Easter pageants that drew crowds in the hundreds to El Pueblos de Dios, a Hispanic mission of Cornerstone.

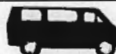
"Because of internal pressure most churches make most of their decisions based on what keeps the congregation happy," McManus said. "Somehow the church is going to have to come to a turning point of selflessness where the decisions and life of the church are not based on what is comfortable, but what is relevant and effective in ministry."

Classifieds

Position Available—First Baptist Church, Nashville, Ark. 71852, is presently seeking a full-time minister of youth and outreach. Applications should be received before June 15, 1990, and should be mailed to First Baptist Church, Attention: Bob McGill, P.O. Box 339, Nashville, AR 71852-0339. 97

Positions Open—Second Baptist, Conway, seeks associate pastor to preach, administer, and do other pastoral duties. Also, part-time college minister. Send resume to 701 Polk Street, Conway, AR 72032. 97

Classified ads must be submitted in writing to the ABN office no less than 10 days prior to the date of publication desired. A check or money order in the proper amount, figured at 90 cents per word, must be included. Multiple insertions of the same ad must be paid for in advance. The ABN reserves the right to reject any ad because of unsuitable subject matter. Classified ads will be inserted on a space-available basis. No endorsement by the ABN is implied.



Quality Van Sales

Used 12 and 15 passenger vans, special prices to churches. 501-268-4490, 1500 E. Race, Searcy 72143. Larry Carson

God Bless the Child

Armed with 1,000 toothbrushes, 28,000 pills, eight gallons of liquid medicine, and 10 pounds of ointment, a six-member mission team from Calvary Church in Little Rock set out for Guatemala on what they thought would be a week-long trip. Little did they realize that their medical/dental mission trip would result in a deeper ministry.

The team, consisting of Rudy Jolly D.D.S., Kathryn Eisenkramer, Cindy Riddle, Tommy and Bonnie Holmes, and Jim Byrum M.D., set out for Guatemala in August 1989. Southern Baptist foreign missionaries Frank Johnson and Mike Owen helped with the arrangements.

The team held noon and night evangelistic worship services in the farming village of Chicua, but they also had decided to conduct a four-day medical/dental clinical to help with physical needs. The dental team saw 150 people and the medical team treated 300 patients. Both teams had to give instruction in basic hygiene measures that most American four-year-old children know.

On one of the clinic days, Dr. Byrum examined a very small three-year-old Quiche Indian girl who was sweating profusely. He detected a loud heart murmur that was evidence of congenital heart disease. He indicated that the little girl, Alicia Tecum, was in need of further testing and missionary Frank Johnson volunteered to take her to Guatemala City. A couple of months

after the team returned home, Johnson contacted Byrum to let him know more extensive testing was needed due to the severity of her condition.

Byrum discussed the case with Dr. J.B. Norton, staff cardiologist at Arkansas Children's Hospital, who felt that while surgery would be required, the case was not unusual. The cardiologists and heart surgeons volunteered their services for the procedure. Phillip Gilmore, Children's Hospital administrator, offered the hospital's services for \$5,000, a fraction of the actual cost.

Even though God's provision was clearly evident, it was not to stop there. As Byrum was leaving the hospital, he met Dr. Sydney Hagen, pediatrics resident from Guatemala. Hagen's mother, a travel agent in Oklahoma City, Okla., arranged for free airline tickets for Alicia. Calvary Church provided the \$5,000 needed for hospital services.

In February 1990, the now four-year-old Alicia was on her way to Little Rock, accompanied by her father, Manuel. Her mother stayed behind to care for the family's four other children. Manuel spoke only broken Spanish and Alicia could only speak her native Quiche, so the first priority was to provide translators. Guatemalan and Spanish-speaking families, including those from Geyer Springs First Church's Hispanic Mission, helped comfort and translate. Members of Calvary Church

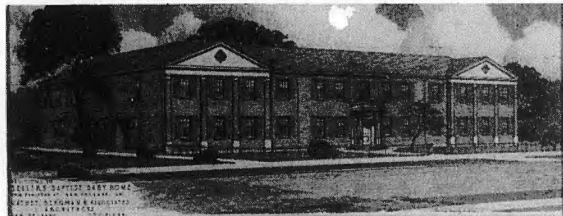


Alicia and her father, Manuel

worked around the clock to help father and daughter feel at home.

The surgery was successful and the pediatrics resident, Dr. Hagen, was Alicia's primary care physician due to his rotation schedule. Due to the hard work of nurses, doctors, and social workers, Alicia's hospital stay was uneventful. Juan Carlos and Maria Bran took Alicia and Manuel into their home during the recuperation period.

Before the Tecums left to go back to Guatemala, Byrum shared the gospel with Manuel. He replied that he knows there is but one God and he had shown his love through each of the people who cared for Alicia.



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People

Carlton Berry, minister to single adults at Grand Avenue Church in Fort Smith, resigned May 20 to serve in the same position on the staff of Calvary Church in Beaumont, Texas.

Jerry Miller, minister of music and education at Mount Carmel Church in Cabot, will be ordained by the church to the gospel ministry June 24 at 6 p.m. He attended Ouachita Baptist University and is a graduate of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Miller and his wife, Linda, have two children, Nathan, and Lauren.

John Vose Jr. will join the staff of Blytheville First Church this month as minister of youth, coming there from the Arapahoe Road Church in Littleton, Colo. He is a graduate of Southwest Baptist University in Bolivar, Mo., and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Jeannie, have two children, Emily Corinne, and Jordan Thomas.

Doug Bradberry has joined the staff of First Church in Alexander as minister of music and youth.

J.C. Myers has completed his service as interim pastor of Harmony Church, Perryville. He resides at 1516 Northline in North Little Rock, AR 72116; telephone 501-753-1125.

Todd Parr will serve as summer intern for Geyer Springs First Church in Little Rock. He currently is a student at Ouachita Baptist University.

Timothy L. Deahl observed three years of service May 24 as pastor of Olivet Church in Little Rock.

Blake McKinney has joined the staff of Second Church in Little Rock as summer pastoral intern. He is a student at Ouachita Baptist University.

Herbert O. Riddle Jr. will begin serving June 10 as pastor of First Church in Ashdown, coming there from Emmanuel Church in Arcadia, La. He also has served churches in Texas. Riddle and his wife, Glenda Gayle, have three sons, Christopher Blake, Nicholas Brandon, and Andrew Byler.



Berry



Miller

Aubrey C. Halsell of Hot Springs Village, a retired Southern Baptist pastor, recently conducted a "Here's Hope, Jesus Cares for You" revival in North Pole, Alaska, that resulted in 24 professions of faith. He also conducted one in west Texas that resulted in 17 professions of faith.

Chuck LeMar has resigned as pastor of Buie Church, Prattsville.

Jeff Dial began serving May 14 as part-time minister of youth and music at First Church in Hardy.

Teresa Stephens has joined the staff of Hillside Church in Camden as youth direc-

tor, coming there from Auburn University in Alabama, where she has served with the Baptist Student Union. She is a graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

R. Dale Wicker Jr. recently completed two years of service as pastor of First Church in Conway.

Chris Lynch, a native of Hot Springs and a student at Ouachita Baptist University, will serve Warren First Church as summer intern to children and youth.

Randy Stracener recently observed five years of service as minister of music for Second Church in Pine Bluff.

Charles Fisher began serving May 18 as pastor of Harmony Church in Perryville.

Tim Reddin was honored May 2 by Barcelona Church in Hot Springs Village in recognition of 10 years of service as pastor. He was given a love offering.

David McCord has resigned as pastor of Linwood Church, Moscow, to serve as pastor in Hazen.

Johnny Ross resigned as pastor of Calvary Church in Batesville May 29 and is now residing in Warren.

ABN photo / Mark Kelly



The Hardin Church near Pine Bluff dedicated a \$48,000 sanctuary remodeling on May 20. The extensive project included insulating and sheet rocking the walls, carpeting the floor, enclosing the baptistry, redesigning the platform, and installing new lights and windows. Melba Gilbert was chairman of the decorating committee. James Walker, director of stewardship and annuity for the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, delivered the dedication message. Howard C. Clark is pastor.

Keith Byrd is serving as interim pastor of Calvary Church in Batesville.

Coy Lee Kromer of Rosie died May 14. He was a member of Rosie Church and a retired farmer. Survivors include his wife, Manola Kromer; a son, G.L. Kromer of Memphis; a daughter, Glenda McKay of Searcy; four brothers; five sisters; three grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and five step grandchildren.

Bertie Crutcher of Rosie died May 6 at age 81. She was a member of Rosie Church and a homemaker. Survivors include three sons, Edward Crutcher of Rosie, Billy Crutcher of Oil Trough and Bobby Crutcher of Salado; four daughters, Addie Fike and Patsy Simmons of Rosie; Louise Rutledge of Huff; Annetta Kelly of Batesville; one stepson, Dan Crutcher of Rosie; two stepdaughters, Myrtle Burge of Jonesboro, and Irene Simpson of Batesville; four sisters; 21 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and one great-great grandchild.

Earl R. Humble recently observed three years of service as pastor of First Church in Osceola.

Clytee Harness has resigned as pastor of Grand Avenue Church in Hot Springs, following more than 11 years of service, to serve as pastor of First Church in Elfers, Fla.

Terry Morris recently observed his fifth anniversary of service as minister of youth at Watson Chapel Church in Pine Bluff.

Darrel Ray is serving as summer youth intern for Grand Avenue Church in Fort Smith. He is Baptist Student Union director for Westark Community College.

Tom Daniel has resigned as minister of youth at Immanuel Church in Little Rock to serve as minister of youth and students for the First Church of Starkville, Miss.

Joey Walters has joined the staff of Spaulding Church in Fort Smith as minister of youth. He is a graduate of the University of Arkansas. Walters is the son of Carroll and Joey Walters of Jenny Lind, where his father serves as pastor of First Church.

Matt Stewart is serving as pastor of Bee Branch Church.

John Evans Jr. is serving as pastor of Pee Dee Church, Clinton.

Briefly

Meadowview Church at Sheridan celebrated its ninth anniversary May 6 with activities that included a potluck noon meal. Carl Overton of Hot Springs was speaker.

New Life Church at Alexander has launched a monthly ministry at the Union Rescue Mission in North Little Rock. Pastor Les Aldridge and Joe Campbell are speakers, with Chester Caldwell serving as music director and Janet Aldridge as pianist.

Hardy First Church recently ordained Sam Hill, Dan Sample and Randy Liggett to the deacon ministry. Pastor Wes Pruitt preached the ordination message. Charges were brought by Jess Taylor, director of missions for Rocky Bayou Association. The church recently honored its graduates, Russ McNulty, LaGina Swetnam, Terry Sweet,

Gurdon Church Rebuilds After Fire



Beech Street Baptist Church in Gurdon celebrated the formal opening of new church facilities with a dedication service May 20. The 22,000 square foot complex replaced a three-year-old building leveled by fire in April 1989. Although pastorless at the time, the congregation rallied to rebuild under the leadership of interim pastor Bill Steeger. The new building provides an octagonal 350-seat sanctuary rimmed by adult class rooms and a music room, an office suite, a children's wing, and a



ABN photo / Mark Kelly

fellowsip/recreation hall with full kitchen. The facility was built on the slab of the former building, and cost is estimated at \$650,000, according to building committee chairman Al Thomas. Steeger preached the dedication message. The afternoon program also included L.B. Jordan, director of missions for Red River Association, and former Beech Street staff members James Wilson and Mike and Sandy Hooks. James Gulbrie has pastored the congregation since June 1989.