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Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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Executive Secretary
Search ends: page 2



September 30, 1982
Arkansas Baptist
NEWSMAGAZINE

Fort Smith pastor fills Executive Secretary vacancy

by Bob Allen

An 11-month vacancy in the top administrative position of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention was filled Sept. 23 with the election of Don Moore, pastor of Fort Smith's Grand Avenue Church, as the convention's new executive secretary/treasurer.

Moore was elected unanimously in an open vote at a called meeting of the state's Executive Board at Park Hill Church in North Little Rock. After the vote, Moore announced he would resign his church the following Sunday (Sept. 26) and would be ready to begin serving at the Baptist Building Oct. 18.

Kerry Powell, chairman of a Search Committee formed to locate a prospect for the position, prefaced the vote by praising the committee for their work in 15 meetings over nine months. "They have spent many hours in seeking God's man, and we believe we have found him," Powell said. He described Moore as a man "who loves Jesus," who "preaches the word," and as a man who "could raise our sights" as a state convention. He called Moore "a man of impeccable character and high standards" and "a man who God has groomed for the task."

In accepting the call, Moore thanked the board for a unanimous vote. "I am terribly humbled by your confidence," he said. "I believe with all my heart that God is preparing me and has called me to do this."

Though the vote was unanimous, the election process was not without some ripples. Ed North, an Executive Board member from Mississippi Association, asked Moore four questions about alleged charismatic tendencies, a public censure of a Southern Baptist publication and why the Search Committee did not "consult" Baptist Building personnel during the search process.

Moore denied being charismatic, but said "I really desire to be a traditional Southern Baptist, but I desire to be a New Testament Christian more than anything else."

Of the Search Committee's decision not to seek input from state convention employees, Powell responded that the committee was not aware that it was precedent, and that they had decided early their deliberations should be confidential.

After North's questioning, a total of 10 persons took turns standing to endorse Moore, three of them state convention employees. In the end, North himself stood to clarify intentions in asking the questions, saying he was not trying to cause trouble. "If we call Don Moore, he'll not have a stronger supporter in this state than Ed North."

A motion for a secret ballot vote was defeated, with only five for.

Moore, 49, will leave the pulpit at Fort Smith after 12 years. During his tenure, church membership increased 59 percent, from 1,910 to over 3,000, and Sunday School enrollment increased 70 percent, from 1,583 in 1970 to 2,697 in 1981 (according to associational summary reports printed in state convention annuals.) He led the church to the top five in total giving to the state Cooperative Program. Grand Avenue was second in 1981 in CP giving, and was eighth per capita. Moore said he was recently informed that his church was ranked number five among 36,000 churches SBC-wide in the percentage of total dollars received going to the denomination's Cooperative Program.

Moore administered two building programs at Fort Smith: a \$500,000 activities building in 1975 and a \$2 million sanctuary in 1980.

The executive secretary-elect has been involved in state leadership throughout his time in Fort Smith. He was president of the Arkansas Baptist Pastors' Conference in 1972, served two terms as president of the state convention in 1974-1975 and was co-chairman of a 1976 statewide evangelistic campaign. He has also been a member of the state Executive Board and the Baptist Building Study Committee, was president of the BSU Advisory Committee and served as vice chairman of the Ouachita Baptist University Board of trustees from 1977 to 1981. He has also served on the Southern Baptist Convention Committee on Committees.

He has preached at the state Pastors' Conference, Evangelism Conference and State Convention; the Southern Baptist Convention Pastors' Conference; the Florida Baptist State Convention, and four times at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

He also has been on preaching missions to Bangladesh and India.

Moore was born in what is now the Fort Chaffee area of Sebastian County. He graduated from high school at Greenwood, Ark. in 1951. He attended University of Arkansas and Ouachita Baptist University, where he graduated with the class of 1955, and graduated from Southwestern Seminary in 1958.

He served churches in Smackover and in

Continued on page 4

On the cover



(Left) Arkansas' newly-elected Executive Secretary/Treasurer Don Moore and wife Shirley. (Above) Executive Board member Ed North (left), from Blytheville, questions Moore prior to unanimous vote. Moore announced he will take office as leader of the state convention Oct. 18.

Moore's selection signals bright days ahead

The editor's page

J. Everett Sneed



The election of Don Moore as executive secretary should provide the Arkansas Baptist State Convention with quality leadership. Moore's qualifications for the position are excellent. He is prepared for the job both through personal abilities and experience. We believe that under his leadership the work of the State Convention will advance.

Moore's background has equipped him for the job. He knows Arkansas and its people, both the large and the small churches of the state. As a junior boy, he was baptized in the Dayton Church, south of Greenwood. He has served one of the state's largest churches, Grand Avenue, Ft. Smith, as its pastor since 1970.

Moore is well acquainted with the work of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. He served as president of the Convention (1974-75), president of the Pastors' Conference (1972), a member of the state Executive Board, president of the BSU Advisory Committee, co-chairman of the 1976 state-wide evangelistic campaign, a member of the Baptist Building Study Committee, and vice chairman of the board of trustees at Ouachita Baptist University. These various places of service and responsibility have prepared him with personal involvement in almost every area of Arkansas Baptist life.

Moore is an excellent administrator. In addition to providing guidance for Grand Avenue Church, he has administered two massive building programs. Under his leadership the church constructed a \$500,000 activity building in 1975, and a \$2 million sanctuary in 1980.

Moore's administrative skill and commitment to Southern Baptist methods are shown in the growth which the Grand Avenue Church has experienced through its Sunday School. He said, "Four consecutive years of decline in a seemingly poor location with inadequate facilities is not very encouraging. In fact, it broke our hearts. In answer to our pleas God sent us the Laws of Sunday School Growth. We believed and acted immediately. The response was also immediate. For seven years, we have

maintained consistent growth. In fact, the rate of growth increases each year. Our average attendance has gone from 568 to 1,267 in 1982, and at the same location.

"The right emphasis at the right place with the right methods and the right motivation will result in a great Sunday School and a growing church."

Moore is committed to reaching people around the world. In his convention address of 1975 he said, "The anonymous masses of transients, indigents, derelicts, discontented, untrained, jobless, are our field. A brief trip through the inner-city of any metropolitan area shocks us when seen in view of Christ's commission and human dignity. There isn't much satisfaction in driving up on a 20 by 20 operation in the midst of 10,000 people who couldn't care less about our little shoestring operation."

Moore is committed to the Cooperative Program as the basic method of financing world missions. In his presidential address in 1974 he said, "I am very grateful for the emphasis on the Cooperative Program. One real blessing to me during this year of service as your president was the privilege of attending the SBC Executive Committee meetings. Anyone who has suspicions or fears about our work should attend one of these meetings. It will restore your faith in the system."

Moore is a man of prayer. When confronted with problems, he seeks the assistance of God. His reliance upon God's strength will mean much to Arkansas Baptists, as our new executive secretary wrestles with sometimes difficult problems.

Moore is doctrinally sound. No one can objectively listen to his preaching and doubt his commitment to the total integrity of God's Word. His example in accepting and preaching the Bible without reservation will provide both strength and example for Arkansas Baptists.

The Search Committee and the Executive Board are to be commended for a job well done. We believe that under the leadership of our new executive secretary bright days are ahead for Arkansas Baptists.

Arkansas Baptist

NEWSMAGAZINE

Arkansas' third largest publication,
meeting the information needs of Arkansas Baptists.

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J. Everett Sneed, Ph.D. Editor

Betty Kennedy Managing Editor

Erwin L. McDonald, Litt. D. Editor Emeritus

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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.

Photos submitted for publication will be returned only when accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Only black and white photos can be used.

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Oklahoma while in school and spent five years at Elliott Church in Camden before going to New Orleans, La. for a three-year pastorate at Franklin Avenue Church. He returned to Arkansas in 1966 as pastor of Walnut Street Church in Jonesboro, where he remained until his call by Grand Avenue Church.

Moore and his wife, Shirley, are parents of a 26-year-old daughter, Cindy, and a son, Jeff, 20, a student at Ouachita Baptist University.

Moore's appointment fills an 11-month vacancy created by the unexpected death of Huber L. Drumwright on Nov. 2, 1981. Drumwright had held the office just 17 months after being named at the end of a year-long search to replace Charles H. Ashcraft, who took early retirement in April, 1979.

The state convention operating committee, in a called meeting immediately following Dr. Drumwright's funeral Nov. 3, authorized L. L. Collins, associate executive secretary to Drumwright, to serve as interim executive secretary until an Executive Board meeting two weeks later. They recommended that Collins continue to serve until a replacement for Drumwright be found, a recommendation passed unanimously by the Executive Board just prior to the state convention in Fayetteville.

A Search Committee was organized Dec. 8, made up of members of the Executive Board's Operating Committee, to begin the process of seeking a new executive secretary. A request for nominations to the position was published in the *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine* in the Dec. 24, 1981, issue.

The committee received about 50 names during the search process, but decided to consider candidates one at a time until they were able to "find God's man." In May and again in August, the Search Committee voted to recommend a candidate to the Executive Board, and both times the candidate declined.

The Search Committee voted to recommend Moore Sept. 9. A special meeting was called for Sept. 23 to allow the Executive Board to consider the recommendation.

Members of the Search Committee were Kerry Powell of Forrest City, president, Bernard Beasley of Hardy, Dwayne Fischer of Little Rock, Elmer Grier of Eureka Springs, Frank Lady of Jonesboro, Nina Hamilton of Hope, Bill Kreis of Paris, Jerry Wilson of El Dorado and Ferrell Morgan of Crossett. Also on the committee were Dillard Miller, president of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, and Ken Lilly, president of the Executive Board.

Bob Allen, a student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, is an intern with the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine.

New writers begin 'lessons for living' series

Three new writers begin with this issue series of Sunday School lesson comments in the ABN's "lessons for living" section.

Jerry Hogan, pastor of Baring Cross Church in North Little Rock, begins a series based on the International (Convention Uniform)

literature. A native of North Little Rock, he is a graduate of Baylor University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has conducted revivals in Taiwan and stateside in Texas, Oklahoma and Nevada. He is married to the former Linda Carol Baker. They are parents of two daughters, Julie Anne and Janie.

Tommy J. Carney, pastor of First Church of Mountain Home, is new writer for the Life and Work lesson series. He is a native of Blytheville, a graduate of Southern Baptist College, Arkansas State University and Southwestern Seminary. He served five years as a pastor in Springfield, Mo., where he appeared on a 30-minute weekly television broadcast, had a daily radio program and taught at Southwest Baptist University in Bolivar, Mo. He served on the Committee on Committees of the Southern Baptist Convention in 1981 and is a trustee at



Hogan



Carney



Warmath

Southwest Baptist University. He and his wife, the former Mabelee Lunsford of Blytheville, have five grown children.

Jerry S. Warmath, pastor of Pulaski Heights Church in Little Rock, is the third new writer. He will write comments on the Bible Book lesson series. He is a graduate of Baylor University and holds the B.D. and the Ph.D. degrees from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has written for Southern Baptist publications and has been a conference leader for the Church Administration Department of the SBC. He has also led Bible study and preached at conventions in Florida, Mississippi, Tennessee and here in Arkansas.

Warmath served churches in Indiana, Kentucky, and Florida before coming to Pulaski Heights in 1972. He and his wife, the former Barbara Ann Hyde, are parents of three children.



ABN photo/J. Everett Speed

First Church, Russellville (Southern Baptist), New Prospect Church, Russellville, and St. John's Church, Dardanelle (both National Baptist), held a joint revival recently at First Church, Russellville. Shadrech Lockridge, who is nationally known, was speaker. "The most significant thing that has been evident in this revival is the beautiful spirit of love among all Baptists and others cooperating in fellowship," said Jack Riley, pastor of the host church. Dr. Lockridge said, "We are making progress and I am happy that it is happening without force. The best thing that we can do to promote Christian race relations is to accept every individual as he is." Pictured (from left) are Lockridge, Howard Landrum, Norman McGill and Riley.



One layman's opinion

Daniel R. Grant/President, OBU

Learning to enjoy a Chinese garden

Honesty requires me to confess I've never been big on gardens, even the beautiful Chinese or Japanese meditation gardens. On my recent trip to China, however, I discovered I had never been properly educated on the prerequisites for full enjoyment and appreciation of a garden. Our articulate guide in the Chinese garden city of Suzhou, Mr. Hua, explained there are four things required:

1. knowledge about the background and construction of the garden — why it was built, by whom, of what material, and with what purposes in mind;
2. an uncluttered mind, "with all troubles banished from your thoughts," so the garden can be approached with peace of mind;
3. imagination, and
4. discipline to search out the special beauty spots that are often hidden on first

view — by looking carefully through windows, doors, up above, and down below.

With these instructions fresh on my mind, I was amazed at the beauty I discovered that previously had gone unnoticed. What started out to be a joke among our tour group members in "looking for hidden beauty spots" (at mealtime or when baggage became burdensome), turned out to be a whole new world of beauty and enjoyment that was there to be claimed by the true seeker.

I could not miss the parallel lesson for the Christian on entering his personal garden of prayer. All too often we stumble into God's spiritual garden which he has pre-

pared for us with all kinds of blessings and spiritual nourishment available only for the seeking. Unfortunately, I come with a cluttered mind and with all too little discipline to seek his will and his wisdom for my life.

Before leaving the beautiful Chinese garden we did run into one serious problem. Just as I was beginning to master the fine art of looking for the hidden beautiful spots, we were engulfed by the aroma of an open sewer nearby. I was reminded again how exceedingly difficult it is to focus on higher things when the mind is troubled with lower things.

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

Letters to the editor

In this issue

2 ABSC has new leader

Don Moore, pastor of Grand Avenue Church of Fort Smith, was selected new Executive Secretary for the Arkansas Baptist State Convention at a called Executive Board meeting Sept. 23. Moore's election ended an 11-month search to fill the vacancy created by the untimely death of Huber L. Drumwright last November.

8-9 The new Sunday School

New and improved literature and an Arkansas-born growth plan were features of the 1982 Arkansas Baptist Sunday School Convention, Sept. 20-21 at Geyer Springs First Church in Little Rock.

10 Draper speaks out

SBC President James T. Draper Jr. was in Little Rock recently, and talked with ABN editor J. Everett Sneed about the current situation in the denomination and his plans to correct the problems he sees.

Inerrancy not heresy

I would like to respond to the article in the August 26 issue covering a speech delivered by the Foreign Mission Board president, R. Keith Parks, at Glorieta in which he is quoted as saying that overemphasis on biblical authority is a heresy among Southern Baptists.

Cannot he, and all others of similar viewpoint, see that the veracity of the Bible is the most important doctrine of all because it is basic to the rest of them? All Baptist doctrine is taken from the Bible, and if the Bible (in its original manuscripts) is not the inerrant inspired Word of God, then all of the other doctrines, including those from which we derive our justification for missions, are necessarily subject to strong doubt.

No one that I know of believes the way Parks states in his speech; i.e. that "the authority of the Bible should be the sole rule for faith and practice and emphasizes that to the point it is the *only* criterion that is chosen and nothing else matters." However, almost all Baptists believe that the inerrancy of the scriptures is the basic truth and the one that lends authority for all of the other doctrines and rules for faith and practice. If we don't believe that the Bible is the inerrant Word of God, then we might as well take our other doctrines from the Koran or from the sayings of Confucius or from "Dear Abby" or from any other writings that suit our fancy.

Missions are very important. But they are only important because God authorized them in his Word. However, if the Bible is not all true and inspired of God, how do we know whether the great commission is true

or not?

The veracity of the Bible is basic to all other doctrines and, as such, it is the most important doctrine; and those who declare it to be so, are *not* expounding heresy. — Bonnie Fiser, Greenwood, Ark.

Concern not 'petty'

Concern about Dale Moody's doctrinal position is not "petty." A person charged with teaching young people to interpret the Bible has a serious responsibility to the Baptist people who support the institution, and provide the students.

Dr. Moody is confused at best. I have seen a letter in which he states that he rejects all five points of Calvinism. The second point is the idea of "Unmerited Grace." If he really rejects this, he is a legalist. He repeatedly cites the book of Galatians, without seeming to understand that the term "falling from grace", used once there, obviously means to fall back upon the law, and away from the grace of God. He quotes A. T. Robertson as saying that "Most writers" take Paul to refer to loss of personal salvation in the "castaway" passage, I Corinthians 9:27, and implies that this was Dr. Robertson's view.

The doctrine that the believer can lose his salvation is not especially "unpopular," but it is unscriptural, and has always been regarded as such by the majority of Baptist people. If Dr. Moody wants to teach in a Baptist school the appropriate place would be a General Baptist or Freewill Baptist institution, where he could do so honorably under his true colors. — Clay Hale, El Dorado

by Millie Gill/ABN staff writer

J. W. Whitley has resigned as pastor of the Meadowview Church at Sheridan and is residing in Mabelvale.

Nick Farley

began serving Sept. 12 as pastor of the Hebron Church in Little Rock. He has pastored other Arkansas churches including those at Hoxie and Marianna. Farley is a graduate of the University of Central Arkansas, Conway. He and his wife, Lilli, have two children, Lisa and Janie.

Alvin A. Harris

is interim pastor of the White Oak Church in Black River Association.

Fred Compton

is pastor of the Big Flat Mission.

Steve Pelz

is pastor of the Hopewell Church at Mountain Home, coming there from Siloam Springs.

Harold Chandler

was ordained to the gospel ministry Sept. 26 at the Plainview Church in Little Rock where he is pastor. W. T. Holland was moderator.

Jim Clark

was recently ordained to the gospel ministry and is serving as pastor of the Eagle Mills Church at Bearden.

Bill Hill

has joined the staff of Bald Knob Central



Whitley

Church as minister of music and education. He was a staff member at Bryant First Southern Church.

Tim L. Reddin

has been selected as a 1982 candidate for "Outstanding Young Men of America." He is pastor of the Barcelona Road Church at Hot Springs Village.

Taulbert Martin Stone

joined the staff of Monticello First Church Sept. 1 as minister of music and youth. He came to Monticello from the Parkview Church in Monroe, La., where he had served as minister of music and administration since 1978. A native of Louisiana, he is a graduate of Northeast Louisiana University, Monroe; North Texas State University, Denton, Texas; and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is married to the former Paul Jean Scivicque. They have two children, Deborah and Kimberly.

Barry King

was ordained to the gospel ministry Sept. 19 at the Lakeshore Heights in Hot Springs. He is pastor of the Buie Church at Prattsville.

Don Martin

has been called as full time pastor of the Westvale Church at Jonesboro. He is a student at Arkansas State University.

Herbert Waddell

began serving Sept. 5 as pastor of the New Hope Church at Jonesboro.

Bob Connerly

is serving the Fisher Street Church in Jonesboro as pastor, coming there from a Mississippi church. He is a graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and

Luther Rice Seminary.

Donna Minx

is director of college ministries at Jonesboro First Church. She is a graduate of Arkansas State University.

Benny Turner

has joined the staff of the Nettleton Church at Jonesboro as minister of education/music. He is a graduate of Valdosta State College, Valdosta, Ga., and will graduate in the near future from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary with the master in religious education degree. He and his wife, Brenda, have two children.

Ron Ballard

is serving Park Hill Church in North Little Rock as coordinator of children's choirs.

Mike Edwards

has resigned as minister of music/youth at Hot Springs First Church to join the staff of the North Oxford Church in Oxford, Miss.

Robert F. Tucker

will be honored Nov. 1 at the Union Avenue Church in Wynne in recognition of his 10th anniversary as director of missions for Tri-County Association.

Glen H. Smith

began serving Sept. 19 as pastor of the Douglasville Church in Little Rock. He came there from the Steel Bridge Church at Lonoke.

Billy Mac Harris

died Sept. 7 at age 43. He had been a member of the Roland North Point Church for 32 years. Survivors include his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Harris of Roland.

briefly

Elkins First Church

celebrated its 12th anniversary Sept. 19 with activities that included both the traditional morning and evening worship services and a 2:30 p.m. service. Jack Taylor, a former pastor, and J. B. Kyger, pastor of the Sulphur City Church at Fayetteville, were speakers.

Fayetteville First Church

held Sunday School teacher training sessions Sept. 26-29 that featured Lawson Hatfield, director of the Sunday School Department of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, as speaker.

Mount Pleasant Church

at Montrose ordained Sanders Brooks, pastor of the Florence Church, to the gospel ministry Aug. 29. Raymond Carpenter was speaker.

Little Rock Second Church

has organized a handbell choir ministry for

children, youth and adults. Practice will begin Oct. 3.

Barcelona Road Church

in Hot Springs Village ordained John Haughton and Kermit Riffle to the office of deacon Sept. 19.

Little Rock First Church

is planning to aid deserving families by applying recommended weatherization measures to their residence. Young married men will do installation.

El Dorado First Church

launched its "First Festival" Sept. 26. Six Sundays of celebration will mark the opening of the Christian Life Center and the 137th anniversary of the congregation. Pastor Don Harbuck's uncle, George Harbuck, spoke Sept. 26.

Tri-County Association

is sponsoring a clinic Nov. 8 from 7 to 9 p.m. at Wynne Church for church pianists and organists.

buildings

Wilmot Church

has completed payment on a \$220,000 indebtedness incurred Oct. 9, 1979, according to an announcement made Aug. 29 by Marie McGarry, church treasurer. Pastor Kenneth W. Overton and members celebrated the church being debt free with a potluck dinner Sept. 5. A notebooking service has been planned for the near future.

Focus on youth

South Side Church

at Pine Bluff began services Sept. 24 for high school students. They will meet each Friday at noon for lunch, Bible study and fellowship.

Boyce school plans for Term II

With Term I of the new year at Boyce Bible School barely underway, registration is already open for Term II, to begin Oct. 22.

The current term began Aug. 27, according to Director Ralph W. Davis, with 42 enrolled.

Term II will be held Oct. 22 through Dec. 18 with no classes Thanksgiving week, Davis announced. Courses offered Term II

will include: Orientation to Study and Ministry (0500), 6-7:55 p.m. Friday, taught by W. T. Holland; New Testament Survey II, part 2 (0561B), 8:20-10:15 p.m. Friday, taught by L. L. Collins; Marriage and Family Counseling (0748), 7:45-9:40 a.m. Saturday, taught by Dean Preuett; Music in Worship (0800), 10:15 a.m.-12:10 p.m. Saturday, taught by Kathy Ferguson; and Developing

the Christian Leader (0808), 12:50-2:45 p.m. Saturday, taught by Bill Falkner.

Assembly will be held each Friday night from 8:00-8:15, and chapel on Saturdays from 9:45-10:10 a.m. Registration materials and information, including textbook requirements, are available from Davis at his home, 2121 N. Van Buren Street, Little Rock, AR 72207, phone (501) 663-4098.

missionary notes

Cheryl Reed, missionary journeyman to Yemen, has arrived on the field to begin her two-year term of service as a nurse at Baptist Hospital, Jibla, Yemen (address: Box 8080, Ibb, Yemen). Born in Whittier, Calif., she also lived in Anaheim, Calif., and considers Summers, Ark., her hometown. Before she was employed by the Foreign Mission Board in July 1982, she was a nurse at Gravette (Ark.) Medical Center Hospital.

Michael Lee, Baptist representative to Israel, has arrived on the field to begin his two-year term of service as a youth worker/teacher (address: c/o Dale Thorne, P.O. Box 187, Nazareth, Israel 16000). He considers Warren, Ark., his hometown. Before he was employed by the Foreign Mission Board in July 1982, he was a teacher at Searcy (Ark.) High School.

Mr. and Mrs. David Garrison, missionary journeyman to Hong Kong/Macao, have arrived on the field to begin their two-year term of service (address: 169 Boundary St., Kowloon, Hong Kong). He will serve as assistant lecturer in religion and philosophy at Hong Kong Baptist College and she as a youth worker at International Baptist Church. He is a native of Camden, Ark. She is the former Sonia Hutchins of Arkadelphia, Ark. They were employed by the Foreign Mission Board in July 1982.

Ann Cross, missionary journeyman to Surinam, has arrived on the field to begin her two-year term of service as a secondary teacher and youth worker (address: Postbus 1907, Paramaribo Zuid, Surinam). A native of Arkansas, she was born in Magnolia and considers McNeil her hometown. Before she was employed by the Foreign Mission Board in July 1982, she was a music teacher for Corning (Ark.) Public Schools.

Nancy Bryant, missionary journeyman to Jordan, has arrived on the field to begin her two-year term of service as a nurse (address: Baptist Hospital, Ajloun, Jordan). She was born in Munch Weiler, West Germany, and has lived in Louisiana, Texas and Kentucky. She considers Pine Bluff, Ark., her hometown. Before she was employed by the Foreign Mission Board in July 1982, she was a nurse at Baptist Medical Center, Little Rock, Ark.

Mr. and Mrs. Doug Buchanan, missionary journeyman to Zambia, have arrived on the field to begin their two-year term of service as teachers (address: P.O. Box 8196, Lusaka, Zambia). He is a native of Memphis, Tenn. The former Janet Ferguson, she was born in Bethesda, Md., and has also lived in Bristol, R.I., and considers Fairfax, Va., her hometown. Before they were employed by the Foreign Mission Board in July 1982, he was youth minister at First Baptist Church, Batesville, Ark., and she was a special education teacher in the Batesville School District.

Allan Aunspaugh, missionary journeyman to Japan, has arrived on the field to begin his two-year term of service as youth director at Central Baptist Church in Urasoe City, Okinawa (address: P.O. Box 75, Urasoe, Okinawa 901-21, Japan). He was born in Russellville, Mo., and considers Russellville, Ark., his hometown. He was employed by the Foreign Mission Board in July 1982, he graduated from Arkansas Tech University, Russellville.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard O. Cheek, missionaries to Malaysia, have arrived on the field (address: 40 A-D, Mukim 17, Batu Ferringhi, Penang, Malaysia). He was born in Little Rock, Ark., and lived in several places, but considers Midwest City, Okla., his hometown. The former Jene Criswell of Arkansas, she was born in Pine Bluff and also lived in Little Rock. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1981.

Mr. and Mrs. Mark A. Sutton, missionaries to France, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 332 Atlantic Ave., Shreveport, La. 71105). He is a native of Hot Springs, Ark. The former Susan Hill, she was born in Shreveport, La., and considers Mansfield, La., her hometown. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1975.

Mr. and Mrs. James D. Bryant, missionaries to Bangladesh, have arrived on the field (address: Box 99, Ramna, Dacca 2, Bangladesh). Born in Harrison, Ark., he also lived in Wichita, Kan., and Aurora, Ill., while growing up. The former Virginia Estes, she was born in Tyler, Texas, and grew up in Omaha, Ark. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1980.

Statewide pastors' retreat scheduled Oct. 4-8

A statewide pastors' retreat, the first of its kind to be sponsored by the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, is scheduled Oct. 4-8 at Camp Paron.

The retreat will be held in two sessions, with identical program and personnel. The first runs from Monday afternoon to Wednesday noon and the second from Wednesday afternoon to noon Friday.

The program is to be highlighted by three speakers. George Harris, pastor of Castle Hills Church in San Antonio, Texas, and Damon Shook, pastor of Champion Forest Church in Houston, both former Arkansans, will deal with aspects of pastors' "inner" life and "outer" ministry. Glen McGriff, director of the Ministry of Crisis Support for the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, will also share.

Ample time is planned for discussion, sharing, questions and fellowship.

Reservations for the retreat may be made by calling 376-4791, extension 101, at the Baptist Building in Little Rock.

OBU gifts, grants reach record

ARKADELPHIA — Ouachita Baptist University received a school record of \$2,890,295.23 in gifts and grants for last fiscal year, ending May 31, 1982, according to Roger Harrod, vice president for development. The amount reflects a 27 percent increase in comparison to last year's total of \$2,269,714.79.

The dollar amount includes a record contribution of \$1,494,686.74 from the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

"The need for gifts and grants to Ouachita Baptist University increases as the general state of the economy is depressed. Our friends have responded marvelously to this phenomenon," said Harrod. "At a time when the economy has performed poorly, Ouachita has been able not only to maintain its level of services, but to improve its margin of excellence. This improved level of support for the university is a good indication that Ouachita will continue to be a strong institution."

Ouachita now has an endowment with a market value of approximately \$5.8 million.



Pre-schoolers, beginning at age 2, were among those considered when the Sunday School Board redesigned much of its Sunday School curriculum. Bonnie Lawson, (above left), Little Rock, a conference participant, looks at the literature. Freddie Pike, (above) hands out "Way of the Cross" attendance forms.

Sunday School convention offers look at literature, growth plan

by Millie Gill

Introduction of new curriculum and an Arkansas-designed attendance campaign highlighted the 1982 Sunday School Convention held Sept. 20-21 at Geyer Springs First Church in Little Rock.

More than 825 participated in the two-day event according to Lawson Hatfield, director of Sunday School work for the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

"The Way of the Cross Campaign," was introduced by Freddie Pike, state associate director, and Herbert West of Pine Bluff, campaign designer.

Pike said that the campaign, to be introduced to other Arkansas churches Feb.

27-April 3, 1983, has already proven successful for Watson Chapel Church at Pine Bluff, Berryville First Church and Harmony Association.

Conferences were used to interpret new preschool, children's and youth literature. Linda Pike of North Little Rock, Edith Wiley of Searcy and Barbara Kent of Fort Worth, Texas, were instructors.

Other Sunday School growth ideas were shared by keynote speakers, Harry Piland, director of the Baptist Sunday School Board's Sunday School Department, and Leon Kilbreth, a Sunday School evangelist from Herrin, Ill.



Edith Wiley of Searcy exhibits new children's curriculum to workshop participants in a children's conference. A highlight of this year's Sunday School Convention was the introduction of new literature. Harry Piland of the Baptist Sunday School Board and Sunday School evangelist Leon Kilbreth spoke in large-group sessions.

BSU reaches \$1 million goal

Arkansas Baptist Student Union has raised the \$1 million needed to endow an augmentation of their operating budget. While they do not quite have the total amount on deposit with the Arkansas Baptist Foundation, the goal is close enough that Jamie Jones announced the achievement to the state convention's executive Board Sept. 23.

Jones, who was director of the effort, called the Third Century Endowment Campaign, said that more than \$980,000 has been invested with the Foundation to generate additional operating funds.

The campaign was approved by Arkansas Baptists at their annual meeting in 1976 so that BSU could grow beyond just keeping pace with inflation in their

regular funding through the Cooperative Program.

State Student Department Director Tom Logue credited former Executive Secretary Charles H. Ashcraft with mobilizing the BSU Advisory Committee on the plan. He said the board had been talking for a long time about doing something bold, and Ashcraft suggested \$1 million to the advisers at a retreat meeting.

Campaign personnel reported that more than 400 individuals have given a total of \$150,000 and more than 400 churches have donated approximately \$850,000. Campaign expenses were covered by state Cooperative Program overage allotments each year, but close

to \$20,000 will be paid from the gifts now.

The income from BSU's endowment will go primarily for "student-to-student" workers who lead Bible study and do one-to-one evangelism on Arkansas college campuses, and part-time workers for the state's five new community colleges. Another use will be mission projects out of state.

Leading the effort, besides Jones, who is BSU Director at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, were Jon Stubblefield of Magnolia and John Finn. Finn is a former director of missions for North Arkansas Association, now a pastor in Michigan, and Stubblefield is pastor of Central Church in Magnolia.

'New and improved' accurately describes literature youth workers say

by Betty J. Kennedy

Some of those normally sleepy young people are in for a surprise this Sunday morning. As a new Sunday School quarter begins, the young people (as well as other age groups) will find that their Sunday School study materials are enough to wake them. It won't be quarterly-as-usual this time. They will be receiving a four-page booklet dressed up with colorful illustrations and filled with hands-on learning activities.

"It's no longer the 5½ inches by 8 inches 'quarterly' we're used to," explains Martin Babb, Youth Consultant for the Arkansas Sunday School Department. Pupil materials for the Life and Work and International curriculums now come as magazine-size leaflets of four pages per Sunday. "One difference between the two," Babb notes, "is that the Life and Work materials are not stapled together and the International are."

That's because the Life and Work curriculum is intended to be distributed one week ahead so pupils can have their study materials for the next Sunday. International materials are still in booklet form.

Babb and Betty Wilfong, who is traveling to other states to explain the changes, are enthusiastic about the transformation. And Wilfong, who is being sent out on behalf of the denomination's Baptist Sunday School Board, is preparing to use the new materials with the youth she teaches at Immanuel Church in Little Rock. A concern of both workers is that teachers understand the revisions so they can properly use the literature.

"A lot has been written about the changes in materials they were using this quarter," explains Wilfong, "so teachers should be aware." And it is not a spur of the moment idea, according to Wilfong. She has been in on much of the planning over the

past five years. She explains that the ideas were put together by a grassroots workers design team and youth editors at fall conferences for writers.

"Changes are the result of listening to users of the literature," Wilfong says. "We spent time reading the letters commenting on our materials, looked at surveys and considered other requests," she recalls.

"Actually, we started preparing workers for the new materials back in 1980, at national conference centers," she points out.

Babb explains that the State Sunday School Convention offered conferences to guide workers into the transition just last week. "And information has been in teachers' books for the last three quarters," Babb says, "but it's still hard to reach all teachers."

"Let's remember that all literature work is begun four years in advance," Wilfong says. This material has been through the normal process and still aims to teach the Bible. "All three curriculums teach the Bible," she emphasizes. "Literature is just the guide." Resource kits are still provided with all three youth Sunday School curriculums.

The new materials have advantages besides attractiveness and activities to involve the youth, according to the workers. "The Life and Work individual leaflets can be sent to absentees," says Babb, "as a reminder and we-missed-you note all in one." "And you can take next Sunday's lesson to a prospect, instead of a whole book."

"The real genius of the format," Wilfong claims, "is that it's a method of getting the young person to prepare for next Sunday's lesson." She says that having a learning activity for each day of the week encourages the young person to read the Bible daily, and thereby to study the week's scripture passages, which are next Sunday's lesson.

Wilfong is using Life and Work curriculum

in her teaching and already has separated the leaflets by Sundays. She says teachers using International curriculum materials also could distribute the study helps week by week by removing the staples in their



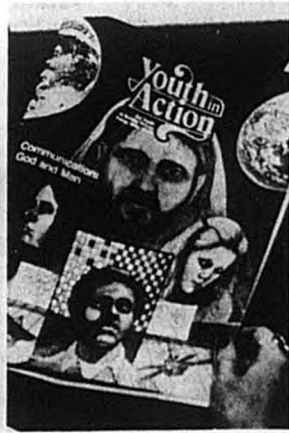
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It's not the same old quarterly, Martin Babb explains.

booklets.

Both Babb and Wilfong say the new materials definitely will require planning by teachers, but all three Southern Baptist literature curriculums have guidelines for teacher planning.

"It's up to workers to evaluate their youth and decide which curriculum meets their needs," Wilfong says. The Southern Baptist people who responded with the new ideas are trying to meet needs, according to Wilfong. And that's straight from the mouth of one of those grassroots people.



Betty Wilfong shows some of the changes in the youth literature: (from left) the new size, lots of illustrations and daily Bible study activity, helps to study for next week.

Draper evaluates Southern Baptist Convention

by J. Everett Sneed

"My biggest effort has been to build relationships," declared Jimmy Draper, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, who was a speaker at the 1982 Paul Jackson Bible Conference, held Sept. 9-11 in Little Rock. "We need to get to know each other," Draper continued. "I am trying to create situations where dialogue can take place naturally and normally."

Draper said in an interview with the *Arkansas Baptist* that he has met with a number of groups since his election as president, including one meeting with Cecil and Bill Sherman, Vernon Davis, and Ed Perry, all spokesmen of a so-called "moderate" faction of the SBC. Another meeting is planned to bring together people with strong or opposing views, including the academic community, for dialogue. Draper said that he was not at liberty to reveal more details on this particular meeting at the present time.

In November, Draper will take approximately 15 people to Israel to attend a meeting of the Jewish Anti-Defamation League. "These people will include every facet of Southern Baptist life. It is not to be theological, but it is to build relationships," Draper said.

Dr. Draper believes that there are some real issues which must be confronted. "How can our campuses and literature deal with the great diversity of Southern Baptist life that we keep hearing about?" he asked. "Most of our literature and campuses are, at best, middle of the road."

Draper said members of the conservative element in the convention feel they are not being properly represented in the literature and on the campuses. And the moderates feel "that perhaps they are not represented on the committees now. So we must find what we can do to discover common ground for everyone."

Draper said the second thing he is doing to draw Southern Baptists together is to be as many places as he can. He has accepted

only one revival, he said, and this was in Nashville, so he could talk with agency people while he was there. "I am spending one day here and one day there, so that I can communicate my love for the denomination, as well as my belief that some changes need to be made," he said.

Draper said he is trying to be as honest and open as possible. "I want Baptist people in our various states to begin to trust some of us that, perhaps, they have been afraid of," Draper said. "In order to build trust, I am communicating with as many people as possible."

In commenting on the relationship of Southern Baptists to other denominations, Draper said, "If one looks at the whole spread of Christian theology, all Southern Baptists would be middle to right. But when you look at some basic issues, we find that some liberal views are present. Some people apparently don't believe in the substitutionary atonement of Christ. They believe that Christ died but not as a substitute for our sins. This is the beginning of liberal theology."

Draper said there are quite a few people who do not believe in the substitutionary atonement who serve on our Baptist college campuses. "There are a few in our Southern Baptist seminaries but most of them are on the college campuses. It is more difficult to deal with the problem on the college campus because each school has its own board of trustees and many of the professors have tenure. It would be wrong for anyone to say that all of our schools are liberal. They are not. Some of the most godly men I have ever known serve in our schools. But it is, also, wrong to say that we don't have a problem. The vast majority of our seminary professors are committed, godly men."

Draper said he recently spoke at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex., and "it was like a revival. The one time they applauded me was when I challenged the students to forsake the

county seat towns and to go where it would be difficult and no one would ever hear of them."

Draper said that where there is a problem, there is a right way to deal with it, and this is through the trustees. "I don't want to imply that I just want my view taught. I just don't want my view to be ridiculed. The teachers need to be balanced in their teaching."

Regarding Southern Baptist agencies, Draper said, "There is a crisis of leadership in many of our agencies and institutions. We have had a massive turnover in our leadership in the last few years. But I believe that as our leaders gain experience they will rise to meet the challenge."

The Baptist Sunday School Board is more crucial than are any of the other agencies "because it is where we get our literature, and our literature forms the thinking of many of our lay people. And whether we admit it or not, there is pressure from all of us for everyone to use our Baptist literature."

Draper made two suggestions regarding the procedure of the Sunday School Board. First, the Sunday School Board needs to be more responsive to the criticism that comes to it — not just pass it off and defend themselves. Second, "They need to be more creative in developing conservative options. I would like to see Revelation taught from a premillennial viewpoint. We had it last year from the amillennial perspective and, in fairness, the other viewpoint needs to have the privilege of being heard."

"Agency heads need to deal with their jobs and stop trying to be interpreters of our denomination. But I feel very positive about the future of Southern Baptists. As we work together, listen to each other and make missions and evangelism our priority, the future is bright."

J. Everett Sneed is editor of the *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine*.



"My biggest effort has been to build relationships."



"I want Baptist people . . . to begin to trust some of us that, perhaps, they have been afraid of."



Draper believes there are some real issues which must be confronted.

Give us this day our daily bread

We are accountable for what we waste

by Dillard Miller

On a television newscast recently, there was the account of a man who had found enough food in the dumpsters of our nation's capitol to feed many scores of people. Thousands of dollars' worth of this salvaged food was displayed. Nutritious

meals were prepared from this salvaged food. The telecast showed two United States Senators eating a noon meal prepared from it. About the same time, another newscast reported that each day 130 million tons of food was thrown away, every day, from the restaurants in our country.

With all this waste, God will hold us accountable.

Baptists of Arkansas need to be made aware that across the world, millions are starving. They need to know that there is a program and plan to get food supplies to the places of need. Our World Hunger Committee, headed by Dr. H. E. Williams of Southern Baptist College, is trying to make us keenly aware of this world-wide situation.

It is a reproach upon us as citizens of America that we do so little in this area of responsibility. The need is urgent. The resource is with us. Where is the bottleneck? It must be in communicating the message. Some of us have not heard, or having heard, we have not responded.

October 10 is World Hunger Day.

There is a cry of a hungry child, a starving mother and father, some place calling for food. Let me urge upon all of us as Baptists of Arkansas, to share out of our abundance with those who are in such extreme need.

"He that giveth a cup of cold water in my name shall have a reward." This same scripture will apply to dollars.

Dillard Miller, pastor of First Church of Men, is president of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

Church Training Convention

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- 2 p.m.- 4:15 p.m.
- 7 p.m.- 9:10 p.m.

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Little Rock**

**Tuesday,
October 26, 1982**

ACTS files twenty more low power applications

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) — The American Christian Television System (ACTS), the proposed Southern Baptist TV network, has applied for 20 additional low power television (LPTV) stations, bringing the total applications for the network to 125.

Early last year ACTS filed with the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) for 105 of the newly authorized stations to serve as the base of its proposed network of family and Christian programming. But then the FCC stopped accepting applications April 9 of last year to provide the agency time to process the 6,000 filings that had accumulated.

The FCC accepted the 20 new ACTS applications because they were for rural areas which, until June 17 of this year, were exempt from the freeze on applications. All 20 were filed just under the June deadline.

One of the new applications is in Jonesboro, Ark.

The FCC defines rural areas as those outside the 55-mile radius of the center of the 212 established TV markets, a definition which includes many medium-size cities. Rural filings account for approximately 15 percent of the 6,000-plus LPTV applications.

The advantages of the rural status is those applications will be processed by the FCC ahead of all others. Additionally all 20 new ACTS filings, as yet, have no other applicants competing for the same channel. These uncontested applications also will take priority in FCC processing. Four of the initial 105 stations proposed by ACTS also qualified for "uncontested rule" status and should receive FCC attention soon.

The Bible speaks to —

Estate Stewardship

Plan for the Unexpected Prov. 6:6
Provide for your Family I Tim. 5:8
Give Generously I Cor. 16:2
Minimize Taxes Matt. 22:21
Prepare for Retirement Prov. 10:5
Recognize God's Ownership I Chron. 29:14
Consider Final Distribution Luke 12:20

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The Sunday School's pace setter

"Every institution is the lengthened shadow of one man" is the seasoned observation of Ralph Waldo Emerson. What is true of the institution is equally true of the Sunday School organization. The Sunday School is the lengthened shadow of one man, and that man is the pastor. He is the pace setter. Webster says that a pace setter is one who takes the lead or sets the example. A pastor who is unwilling to assume this posture will have a waning Sunday School.

For years I was not willing to be on the cutting edge of our Sunday School organization. It was my opinion that ministers of education or Sunday School directors were solely responsible for this work. Pulpit work has always been at the top of my priority list and still is. However, I erred in communicating the idea by my non-involvement that the minister of education would run the Sunday School and I would preside over the pulpit. While I still have a lofty opinion of the preaching ministry, the conviction that one cannot build a great church without a strong Sunday School has gripped me with such force I cannot escape it. Such a Sunday School will never occur without the pastor's personal involvement. Observation of growing churches in our convention, as well as personal experience, substantiates this evaluation. Churches in our convention whose Sunday Schools are exploding have pastors who are pace setters. Our own church last year received a citation for having the largest gain in Sunday School average attendance of any church in the state. We have seen a decided trend upward as a result of my involvement as pastor. No ministry of the church will succeed that does not have the pastor's support. This includes the Sunday School.

Pastor, this article is written with you in mind. I want you to read it as though I were on one end of a log and you on the other discussing your role in Sunday School and what you can do to become its pace setter.

You must prioritize the Bible teaching program of the church. Of the multifaceted ministries of the church, Bible study transcends them all. It is impossible for you as pastor to divide your time equally among all the worthwhile activities of your church. To say that the Sunday School organization

is the most important is not to derogate the others. It is an irrefutable fact, however, that every organization in the church depends upon the Sunday School for survival. It may sound mercenary, but the financing of these ministries comes from the Sunday School. Disband the Sunday School and all other organizations will die. It is as simple as that. The ministers on our staff know I support them fully, but they also know my first loyalty is to the Sunday School. There is no jealousy over this because they concur with my philosophy.

As an innovation experiment with curriculum preaching. Curriculum preaching is preparing your sermon on the Sunday School text. This should be done a week prior to the lesson, either on Sunday or Wednesday night. This not only stimulates interest in the lesson, but also gives insights for future study on the part of teachers and class members. This procedure also gives continuity to what the church is teaching. It is important in many scripture lessons for the class members and teachers to know what the pastor's position is on certain passages. When the teacher is uncertain about a given scripture, it is important to know what the pastor believes and then give support to it.

Curriculum preaching is a good way for a pastor to say to the congregation, "What you do during the Bible study hour on Sunday morning is important to me and I am going to help you."

Attending Sunday School Leadership Conference at Gloria and Ridgecrest is an excellent way to establish yourself as a pace setting pastor. The summer schedule is demanding and the pastor's first thought is, "I just can't get away for another week." This is where the element of priority must

by John B. Wright

be recognized. If Sunday School is as important as we say it is, we should include this week in our schedule. For years I have traveled with our leadership to these conference centers and have been non-plussed by the number of pastors present. If I were a minister of education, a division director, department director, or teacher, it would encourage me to see my pastor sitting in on these conferences learning with me how to do a better job in Sunday School. Pastor, we have a lot to learn about Sunday School work and one of the best places to acquire this knowledge is Sunday School week at one of our conference centers.

Our leadership in the Sunday School Department of the Sunday School Board in the past few years has made a desperate effort to provide challenging conferences for the pastor during these weeks. I never return home without having gained good information, coupled with the inspiration to carry it out.

Pastor, meet with your Sunday School leadership in the next few days and make plans to join them at Sunday School Week.

Next week we discuss the following aspects of the pace setting pastor:

1. The pastor as a pace setter should set the tone for good biblical studies.
2. The pastor should not neglect to offer accolades and plaudits to those in leadership positions.
3. The pastor should be a pace setter in conveying the advantages of the Sunday School organization to his pastoral ministry.
4. The pastor should be a pace setter in using the Sunday School as an evangelistic tool.

John B. Wright is pastor at First Church of Little Rock.

First Baptist Church of Pochontas is accepting resumes for the position of Minister of Education and Youth.

Persons interested should mail resumes to First Baptist Church, Staff Search Committee, 507 Church Street, Pochontas, AR 72455.

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Church Administration

Group career assessment offered to Arkansas ministers

Pastors and church staff members will have an opportunity to take a serious pause in their busy schedules for a time of self-evaluation of their life purposes and ministry during the Group Career Assessment to be offered Nov. 29-30. The Group Career Assessment will be directed by Fred McGehee, consultant in career guidance in the Church Administration Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board. Dr. McGehee has been pastor of churches in North Carolina and Tennessee and has been a chaplain at Memorial Baptist Hospital in Houston. He holds graduate degrees from Southeastern and Southwestern Seminaries and is the author of *A Manual of Career Assessment for Ministers*.



McGehee

The Group Career Assessment seeks to help participants an-

swer the question, "How can I best invest myself in my work in the immediate future so as to glorify God, bless others, and find fulfillment for myself?" It provides a time for affirming strengths and for focusing on specific areas of needed growth. The thrust of the career assessment experience is on helping the minister find more fulfillment in life and work and being a good steward of abilities and talents.

The sessions will meet at the Baptist Building in Little Rock on Monday afternoon and evening, Nov. 29, beginning at 1 p.m. The sessions on Tuesday will begin at 8:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. with adjournment at 4 p.m. The maximum number of pastors or staff members that can be accommodated in the Group Career Assessment is 20.

For additional information about cost, reservations, or housing, write Robert Holley, Church Administration Consultant, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, Ark. 72203. — **Robert Holley**

Evangelism

The youth are leaders

"The youth of today are the leaders of today if they are trained," said Dave Bennett, former National Youth Evangelism consultant for the Home Mission Board. These words are true and we need to train our young people in personal evangelism.

On an average day, Arkansas young people sit in seven classrooms surrounded by eight other people in each class. How many of these 56 people know Christ? Our students can minister to these people five days each week for 36 weeks of the year. It is our dream in Arkansas to have at least 10 trained young people witnessing on each campus. Four thousand young people would walk onto their school campuses every day with the willingness to share their faith with another person if the Lord would give



Kent

them opportunity. All the Lord needs is 10 in your community.

I believe if Arkansas young people are trained and are praying for the opportunity to share their faith, that God will run people across their paths with whom they can share. If they are trained, we will see them leading hundreds of their friends to Christ every year.

We have a wealth of excellent training materials. The WOW (Win Our World) materials can be used to train young people in very short time in how to share their faith in a very simple way. DiscipleYouth can be used in an undated Church Training quarter in a local church. A one hour session with these students teaching the "Old Roman Road" would bear fruit.

Are your youth leaders today? They will be leaders of today if they are trained. Let's train them in evangelism! — **Wes Kent, pre-college associate**

Stewardship

Should members pledge?

The \$75 million campaign, launched in 1919, used a form of the every member canvass in soliciting pledges and gifts. Southern Baptists committed themselves to \$92 million. Due to a depression in the early 1920's, the amount received came to \$58.5 million.

Sixty-three years after the \$75 million campaign Baptists are still raising questions about the every member canvass and signing pledge cards.

Some are against it and will not hesitate to protest loudly. A church may have a challenging budget, and exceed that budget without asking members to sign pledge cards.

Other churches, with an established tradition of canvassing and pledging, point to their successful records of financial growth

and the maturity of their people.

Whether or not a church will contact every member and give their members an opportunity to sign a card is a local church decision.

But one thing is important. Members should have the claims of biblical stewardship clearly presented. They should also have the opportunity to commit themselves to Christian stewardship. That commitment might include signing a card, participating in a verbal commitment service or making a private commitment witnessed by the Lord and family members. — **James A. Walker, director**

Church Music

Reception honors music leaders

A reception honoring three outstanding music leaders was held during Music Arkansas at Ouachita Baptist University. Honored were Ervin Keathley, secretary of the Church Music Department of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, for 10 years as di-

rector of the Youth/Adult Music Conference; Dr. William Trantham for 22 years of service as dean of music at Ouachita; and Dr. Charles Wright, new dean of music at OBU. — **Glenn E. Ennes, associate**

International God reaffirms his promise

by Jerry Hogan, Baring Cross Church of North Little Rock

Basic passages: Exodus 5:22-6:9, 13

Focal passages: Exodus 5:22-6:8

Central truth: We can rely on God's promise

In this passage we find Moses extremely upset and depressed and filled with anxiety. His self-esteem had been shattered by the fact that God had not immediately fulfilled his promise of deliverance. Instead of having the "mighty leader image", the children of Israel were pointed and harsh in their criticism of his confrontation with the Pharaoh. Naturally this reaction hurt Moses deeply. He felt betrayed and went looking for an answer or someone to blame.

Moses' prayer does not follow the usual guidelines for model prayers, but nevertheless he is open and honest about his needs and hurts. He wants to know why God asked him to do something that brought heartache to his people. His heart is pounding with the anxiety of waiting on the Lord and his proper timing. God always does things correctly and at exactly the right time. Our problem has always been to wait patiently on the Lord.

Waiting patiently is always based on mature faith in the fact that God never fails to honor his promises. He always calmly reassures us as a loving Father when we are doing his will. This passage reflects a very thorough and loving response to Moses and his concerns.

In seven specific ways God shares with Moses that he is in control and able to deal with the situation. God says: I will bring you out of Egypt. I will rid you of their bondage. I will redeem you. I will take you for my people. I will be God to you. I will bring you into the land. I will give the land to you for a heritage. This was signed, if you please, "I am the Lord".

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Life and Work Fellowship with God

by Tommy J. Carney, First Church of Mountain Home

Basic passage: I John 1:1-10

Focal passages: I John 1:3, 6-10

Central truth: The Christian life is realized in fellowship.

The dominant note of this passage of scripture is that we have fellowship with God the Father and with fellowship Christians and it is through Jesus Christ. The purpose of the gospel is very simple: It is for fellowship with God and with man. The first four verses are one long sentence declaring Jesus to be the Christ and that through him we have fellowship with the Heavenly Father and with our Christian friends.

The Christian life is realized in fellowship with God. Some ask the question, how can I really know that I have a right relationship and a daily fellowship with God? I believe that the purpose of this passage is to let those who have life, know that they possess that life.

Christ's redemptive work brought man from enmity to friendship and fellowship with God. This fellowship includes access to the Father, the assurance of his favor, the consciousness of his love, the enjoyment of his truth, and the possession of his love.

Fellowship means "partnership." It is sharing something that is common. These verses include the things which hinder our fellowship with God and those things which help our fellowship with God. The proof of this fellowship is in the way that we talk and in the way we walk.

1. "If we say" (v. 6-10): If we say that we have fellowship with God we will walk in the light. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we say that we have not sinned, we make God a liar and his word is not in us. The person who is walking in the light lives a life of righteousness, but when he does slip and sin he makes it a practice to confess his sin and to receive present cleansing from God.

2. "If we walk" (v. 6-7): If we walk in darkness, we lie, and the truth is not in us. The person who habitually walks in darkness has no basis for claiming fellowship with God. Since darkness represents moral evil, walking in darkness is a figurative expression from living a life of sin. One who lives such a life cannot have fellowship with God who is holy, because the two have nothing in-common on which to base fellowship.

The Christian life is a life of fellowship with God. The test of fellowship, according to John, is in the way we walk and talk.

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Bible Book Praise for God's comfort

by Jerry S. Warmath, Pulaski Heights Church, Little Rock

Basic passage: II Corinthians 1:1-11

Focal passage: II Corinthians 1:1-11

Central truth: Paul praises God for divine comfort in the midst of suffering.

Paul offers us a summary statement of the way Christian life and faith are lived. He does this out of his own experience. There's no attempt here, or anywhere else, to paint an unreasonably peaceful picture of his own life or ours.

We sometimes wish that we could be good enough to escape the trials of life. We long to be free from heartache, suffering, and problems. But that kind of perfection will simply not be present on this earth.

Paul knew what it was to suffer. He understood that there is no crown without a cross. We need to come to that same perspective, understanding that we don't go very far in this life before some kind of affliction is experienced first hand.

If that were the end of Christian teaching, our situation would be most miserable. But God does not forsake his own. God did not forsake Paul, and so the apostle could speak for the God of all comfort — the God who sends all kinds of comfort. Divine comfort is that which brings courage, the comfort which enables a person to meet with assurance all the unfortunate experiences that life can bring.

What is the result of this divine comfort? It is that the Christian can gain the capacity to comfort others who know suffering. So Paul can claim the sufferings which he has experienced and the comfort which he has received from God have made him able to be a source of comfort to others.

It is no wonder that Paul could praise God for the divine comfort he had received in the midst of suffering.

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ABC to spotlight Ruschlikon seminary

RUSCHLIKON, Switzerland (BP) — International Baptist Seminary of Ruschlikon will be featured in a three-segment series to be telecast in North America beginning Oct. 3.

The series, produced by the American Broadcasting Co. (ABC) in cooperation with the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, features the seminary in its role of providing theological education for Baptist ministers from Eastern Europe.

Southern Baptists, through the Foreign Mission Board, assist in the support of the seminary, which this year enrolled 73 stu-

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dents from 20 nations, an all-time high.

The first segment, titled "Ruschlikon: Training Christians for Marxist Society," is scheduled for feed to network affiliates at 12:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 3, as part of the ABC Directions series.

The second two parts of the series have been filmed but not yet scheduled for airing. Tentative dates are to show the second part in November and the final segment in early 1983.

One of every five deaths in the world is from hunger.

Oregon woman ordained for prison chaplaincy

by Herb Hollinger

CORVALLIS, Ore. (BP) — Joyce Marie Borders, 34, has been ordained by Grant Avenue Church in what is believed the first ordination of a woman by a Northwest Baptist Convention church.

Borders was ordained to the correctional chaplaincy ministry although her ordination followed the regular pattern of a Baptist ordination, including the laying on of hands.

Grant Avenue's pastor, Keith Springer, noted the unique nature of the ordination service as he brought the ordination message. He said the ordination service was the culmination of more than a year of personal praying and studying.

"We are working to reconcile traditions and what we feel is the leading of the Lord (in the ordination)," Springer told the congregation of about 60 people.

Springer said Borders came to him about a year ago and asked about ordination. The question caused him to begin to study and eventually led him and the church to go outside of tradition to find the answer.

Springer also made a distinction between Borders' ordination and the traditional ordination for a man entering the pastoral ministry, adding he would be opposed to ordaining a woman to enter the pastoral ministry.

In her testimony to the church, Borders said God had "called me to the institutional setting. I have no feelings toward pastoring a church or to a church staff..."

Borders, a member of Grant Avenue Church for several years, became a Christian while attending the Seattle Pacific University. She first became acquainted with

Southern Baptists through First Church of Longview, a Seattle suburb.

She is a graduate of Seattle Pacific University, has a masters degree from Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Wash., and recently completed a master of divinity degree at Western Evangelical Seminary, near Portland, Ore.

In a letter of invitation to the service, Springer said, "This is certainly not traditional to Southern Baptists. There are those who question whether such an ordination is biblical. Some of our own people have questioned."

Springer said two or three families did leave the congregation since the church's decision to ordain Borders.

"We see this action as what God has asked us to do to provide Joyce with the certification institutions require before she can serve in the prison system. This ordination would not be used in any other way."

An ordination council was convened just before the service and the council voted to advise the church to proceed with the ordination. The church, in a unanimous vote, elected to do so.

The ordination prayer was offered by Carlton Butler, pastor of Capital Church, Salem, Ore., and the only other pastor at the ordination from Central Baptist Association. Twelve ordained men, including pastors Butler and Springer, participated in the "laying on of hands," most of whom were deacons at the Corvallis church.

Hollinger is editor of the "Northwest Baptist Witness", news journal of the Northwest Baptist Convention.

Anti-abortion effort fails in U.S. Senate

WASHINGTON (BP) — Senate efforts to pass tough anti-abortion legislation came to an abrupt halt when a rider pushed by Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) was tabled shortly after Sen. Orrin G. Hatch (R-Utah) announced the withdrawal of his proposed constitutional amendment on abortion.

Those moves, along with a decision by Sen. Mark O. Hatfield (R-Ore.) not to bring his bill to the floor in the face of certain filibuster, dealt a triple defeat to anti-abortion forces who saw the conservative 97th Congress as their best chance in years of tightening restrictions on abortion. The Hatfield proposal would make current restrictions in federal funding of abortions permanent.

The Helms amendment, attached to a debt ceiling bill Congress must pass before Oct. 1 to keep the government functioning, would have permanently barred federal agencies from performing abortions and banned the use of federal funds to pay for abortion except to save the life of the

mother.

Despite efforts by President Reagan in support of the amendment, Helms fell 10 votes short in his third try to cut off a filibuster on the amendment. Then a motion to table the measure narrowly prevailed, 47-46.

A second Helms amendment which would strip the Supreme Court and lower federal courts of jurisdiction in school prayer cases was pending the debt ceiling bill, but Sen. Lowell P. Wicker (R-Conn.) who joined Sen. Bob Packwood (R-Ore.) and Sen. Max S. Baucus (D-Mont.) in a filibuster against the abortion rider, vowed to continue the effort against the school prayer amendment. With majority leader Sen. Howard H. Baker Jr. (R-Tenn.) planning to finish action on the measure by Sept. 17, chances of passing a debt ceiling bill without any controversial amendments appeared to be growing.