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Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1990-1994

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

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July 5, 1990

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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Resignations Forced

Arkansas Baptist

July 5, 1990



**Miracle in
El Dorado**

'Mighty in Spirit'

Twenty-one Arkansas youth made commitments to Christian ministry during the sixth Super Summer youth evangelism training school on the campus of Ouachita Baptist University at Arkadelphia June 18-22.

They were among 256 decisions registered during the school, which seeks to equip youth with lifestyle evangelism skills.

"We are training future church leaders to be mighty in spirit and aggressive with the gospel," said Randy Brantley, evangelism associate with the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

"We discourage churches from sending us a lot of kids who need to be evangelized. We encourage them to send us students who are showing leadership qualities and need to be challenged.

"Super Summer is one of the keys to the future as Arkansas Baptist youth rise to the challenge of church leadership in the next century."

This year's program offered evangelism schools for the students, in addition to the

usual seminars on teen issues. Also for the first time, youth workers had their own week-long training workshop. Lamar Slay of Saddleback Community Church in Mis-

Photo / Debbie Dillon



Celebrating victory in Christ

sion Viejo, Calif. led that workshop.

Youth communicator Rick Caldwell, who helped found Arkansas Super Summer in 1985, was featured speaker for the week. Jamie Page of Fayette, Mo., was the musician. A total of 654 youth registered for the event, which is sponsored by the ABSC Evangelism Department. A steering committee of Arkansas Baptist youth ministers plans and coordinates the program.

Guatemala Prayer Calendar

July

- 5 Frank Johnson, Church Growth Department Director
- 6 George Hardeman, church planting, Quetzaltenango
- 7 Jim McGriff, leadership training among K'ekchi
- 8 Jose Samol, president Guatemala Baptist Convention
- 9 Open doors for evangelism and new churches
- 10 Discovering evangelistic social need ministries
- 11 Ron Carothers, physical health as church planter
- 12 Guatemalan commitment to the "Vision 2000" plan
- 13 Oscar Corleto, home missionary on south coast
- 14 Missionary conference, today, in Quetzaltenango
- 15 Rosalio Ramirez, national executive secretary
- 16 Guatemalan Baptist Mission meeting begins today
- 17 Mike Huckabee, Bible study leader at the meeting
- 18 Missionary families to grow closer together
- 19 Wisdom for the missionaries in decision making
- 20 Guidance in budgeting 1991 financial resources
- 21 Missionaries working in Mam, Quiche, K'ekchi
- 22 Joe Bruce, area director for Central America
- 23 Jan Collins, Spanish & Quiche in Quetzaltenango
- 24 Arkansas House volunteer construction teams
- 25 Twenty five new churches in Guatemala city
- 26 The Coban mission's evangelistic ministry
- 27 Juan Conoz, lay pastor in Chicua
- 28 Park Hill (NLR) team in the Palestine church
- 29 New work opportunities in state of El Quiche
- 30 Sue Lindwall, Guatemalan national WMU president
- 31 God's leadership in determining new work areas

The above are summaries of requests received from our missionaries in Guatemala. The full text of the requests is available from the ABSC Brotherhood Department, for the months of July, August and September.



A first of its kind anywhere weekend just for minister/staff kids.

For more information contact Dr. Don Moore, ABSC; telephone 376-4791, ext. 5102.

What? PK '90 is a first ever weekend event just for sons & daughters of ministers and staff

Where? Camp Paron

Who? For those in grades 7-12 (this Fall 1990)

When? September 21-22

Cost? \$30 for one PK in family, \$20 for second PK in same family, \$15 for third or more PK(s) is same family.

A PK '90 T-Shirt is included in the price.

Transportation available from Geyer Springs First Church to Camp Paron.

Here's Hope Revivals

"We had the best preparation, probably the greatest prayer support, and the best evangelistic results we have had in Arkansas in the past 20 years," declared Clarence Shell, director of Evangelism for the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

Shell sent a survey to all ABCS churches, requesting that they report the results, or lack of results, from the "Here's Hope Revivals" which were held by Arkansas Baptist churches earlier this year. Three hundred and forty-four churches responded. Of this number, 18 did not hold a "Here's Hope" simultaneous revival. The average was 5.7 decisions per church, including all 344 which reported. Later, Shell conducted a second survey and the results registered higher. Based on the first survey, Shell believes that there were approximately 4,800 conversions in the revivals.

The goal was to have 1,000 participate in the spring revivals with 5,000 conversions and 10,000 people involved in prayer for the services.

The survey indicated that about 850 churches participated, with more than 20,000 people praying for the revivals. Shell observed that the state convention spent about \$70,000 in media advertising promoting the "Here's Hope" revivals.

There were at least seven churches which registered more than 100 conversions. First Church, Springdale, where Ronnie Floyd is pastor, reported 181 conver-

sions. This is the largest number reported to date.

Shell said that future evangelistic plans included "Witnessing Giving Revivals" in the fall of 1991. The goal will be to enlist a minimum of 500 churches in this stewardship-evangelistic effort. A book entitled *Witnessing Giving* by Cecil Ray will be taught on Sunday and Wednesday evenings for two weeks prior to the revivals.

The next nationwide emphasis will be in 1995.

Logue Receives Hayes Award

Tom Logue was the recipient of the 1990 Brooks Hays Memorial Christian Citizenship Award, presented by Second Baptist Church in Little Rock on June 24. Logue, who retired in 1987, had served as Baptist Student director for Arkansas since 1955.

Logue is a graduate of Baylor University in Waco, Texas, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth. He pioneered one of the first beach ministries in the nation at Daytona Beach, began a migrant mission work, and has been active in race relations. He has also been active in world hunger issues through the years.

Logue is a popular speaker, and author of a book, "God, Could You Talk a Little Louder?" which traces his family's pilgrimage through the lingering illness and death of their eldest son, Tommy, who suffered from muscular dystrophy. He is a long-time member and deacon of Lakeshore Drive Baptist Church in Little Rock.

The Brooks Hays award has been presented annually by Second Church since 1982 in recognition of persons who have applied the Christian faith in the arena of public service in a profound way. The award provides an ongoing memorial to Brooks Hays, Arkansas congressman for 16 years and former member of Second Baptist Church.

Billingsley Selected

Arkansas Baptist Children's Homes and Family Ministries has announced the selection of Barbara Billingsley as director of the Southwest Area Office in Hope.

Earlene Clearman is retiring as director of the office after 15 years of service with the agency.

Ms. Billingsley is a graduate of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

Coming to Arkansas from Buckner Baptist Children's Homes in Texas, Ms. Billingsley has experience as a caseworker in the Children's homes and Emergency Intake Unit in Dallas. She has been director of the Emergency Intake Unit for five years.



Billingsley

Southeast COM Rally

The Rising Star Corps of Engineers Park near Grady was the site of the Southeast Arkansas Campers on Mission Rally June 8-9. Eleven "rigs" and 40 people attended the rally, which was conducted by Raymond Reed, state COM director, and followed by a fish fry and grilled chicken supper.

Tom Darter from Delta Association, L.C. Hoff from Eudora, and Carl Fawcett, director of missions for Arkansas Valley Association, were among those on the program.

A SMILE OR TWO

A man and his wife were riding along together in a car. They had been quarreling and hadn't spoken for a long time. Finally, they passed a mule in a pasture. The man pointed to the mule and asked the woman, "A relative of yours?" "Yes," she answered. "By marriage."



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HOT SPRING

PEOPLE TO DEPEND ON

BTN Terminated

by Linda Lawson
Baptist Sunday School Board

NASHVILLE (BP)—Emphasizing a continuing commitment of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board to video production for churches, the trustee executive committee approved unanimously a recommendation from President Lloyd Elder that the Baptist Telecommunication Network "cease its satellite transmission and terminate subscription agreements and production contracts, effective October 1, 1990."

During the June 21 meeting, Elder called the decision to close down the satellite teaching and training network "one of the hardest I have had to make at the Sunday School Board." He praised the efforts of employees and thanked subscribing churches for their support.

"BTN has been a noble, valuable effort, but it was never intended to become a subsidized ministry to a small number of churches," he said. "It was always intended to be a self-supporting network in service to the churches."

At present, 1,657 churches and other

SBC entities subscribe to BTN, but a minimum of 3,800-4,200 subscriptions are needed for the network to reach a break-even point.

Elder said the board has invested about \$14.3 million in BTN to date and would have to continue investing about \$1 million per year for the foreseeable future if current subscription trends continued.

During 15 minutes of discussion, several trustees spoke, all in favor of the recommendation.

Gene Mims, pastor of First Baptist Church of Cleveland, Tenn., and chairman of the executive committee, said: "This is a good decision. It's just too bad it had to happen. We can't make this decision without realizing 1,600 churches are affected."

The recommendation approved by trustees includes a commitment to continued video production after a time of study and research "to discover, design and deliver market-proven video communication products and services."

A video production unit will be restructured in the office of general publishing "to

be a cost-recovery operation to serve the churches, the denomination and trade markets," the recommendation said.

Johnnie Godwin, vice president for general publishing, said recent research has shown churches "want video tapes, but they do not want them from a satellite transponder with taping equipment that has to be tended day in and day out."

The recommendation also included a pledge to conduct "conversations" with the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission "regarding the cooperative utilization of our resources, channels and convention program assignments to serve most effectively our denomination . . ."

Elder said about 25 full-time positions related to BTN will be deleted. He said first consideration will be given to BTN employees in filling other vacant positions at the board and that assistance will be provided for those seeking placement outside the board.

"The transition will be radical and it will be immediate, but it will be as caring and supportive as possible," Elder told BTN-related employees in a meeting June 20 prior to trustee consideration.

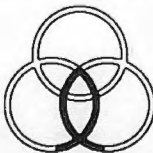
Elder said all BTN subscribers are being notified by registered letter of the termination of the seven-year-old network.

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Lesson
Date:
July 15

LESSONS FOR LIVING

Convention Uniform

Enjoy the Good Life!

by Harrison Johns, retired pastor, Harrisburg

Basic passage: Proverbs 22: 1-16

Focal passage: Proverbs 22: 1

Central truth: God's Word gives wise counsel for a contemporary good life.

Someone has said, "The Bible is more up-to-date than tomorrow morning's newspaper." Others say the Bible is archaic and can make no worthwhile contribution for contemporary living.

Have you heard of people who have "great riches," but have neither "a good name" nor "loving favor" (v. 1)?

When Dr. J. R. Grant was president of Ouachita Baptist College (now University), he once said, "Make friends today and they'll make you tomorrow." He put a premium on "a good name" and "loving favor!" "By humility and the fear of the Lord are riches, and honor, and life" (v. 4). God will take care of the later if we take care of the former. Humility and fear of the Lord lend themselves well to enjoying the good life. The rebellious, self-willed person finds "thorns and snares are in the way" (v. 5).

Poor children! How sad that so very many children are offered no training at all while many others are given ungodly training (v. 6).

"The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender" (v. 7). Indebtedness is a common characteristic of our society. Some cite Romans 13:8 "Owe no man anything" as a biblical injunction against indebtedness. "Let no debt remain outstanding" (NIV), or pay your bills on time, is a more accurate translation. Without doubt, excessive borrowing has caused great woe to many.

Sowing and reaping are related (vv. 8, 9; Ga. 6:8). The Bible speaks often on this. To enjoy the good life we must take care that we sow good seed; sow to the Spirit.

The enticement to immorality by women (v. 14) or men is to be recognized and declined. Immorality is more apt to bring a bad death than a good life.

The stewardship of children is an awesome privilege (v. 15). How strategic is the wisdom and Word of God for all living! "The rich and poor meet together: the Lord is the maker of them all" (vv. 2). We need to be really careful how we treat the poor! (v. 16). Enjoy the good life in righteousness.

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Life and Work

Tongues of Fire

by Joe Jones, Markham Street Church, Little Rock

Basic passage: James 3:1-12

Focal passage: James 3:6

Central truth: The tongue can be both constructive and destructive to our relationship to other.

There really isn't much truth to the saying "Sticks and stones can break my bones, but words can never hurt me." Words can cut deeper than a knife, even to the very soul of a man. Cutting remarks made in the heat of anger has strained and even broken many relationships. Gossip has ruined the reputation of many good people. Cruel words from parents and adults can destroy a child's self-worth. As Christians, we must be constantly on guard as to what we say every day we live.

The power of the spoken words is very awesome indeed. For example, if you continually tell someone they are not looking well, they are eventually going to believe you and take on symptoms of being sick. As a choir director in both churches and schools, I discovered if I encouraged my choirs and complimented them on the things they were doing right, they would become more confident and as a result sing much better than if I spent most of the time telling them what they did wrong! The power of the spoken word can be used to help our children, spouses, friends, employees, employers, and students to be all that God intended them to be.

Whereas the power of the spoken word can be used to build up or tear down, gossip always has evil intent. We should always beware of people who have nothing better to do than go around talking about other people. Their favorite line is: "You know I like so and so but . . ." Then they proceed to tell you all the gossip about that person. Remember this, it takes two to gossip. One to talk and one to listen. Don't be a part of this hellish activity. Simply say that you would rather not hear it and then walk away or change change the subject.

Words are very much like a fire. A fire can be used to keep us warm and cook our food, but it can also destroy and kill when out of control. Much like a fire, words can also be very constructive, but when out of control can destroy and kill. The Bible tells us in Matthew 12:36 that we will give an account of every word we speak. May all of us learn to think before we talk.

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Bible Book

God's Redeemer

by James C. Walker, Archview Church, Little Rock

Basic passage: Ruth 3:1-4:22

Focal passage: Ruth 3:1-4:22

Central truth: God's redemption purpose is to prepare for service in his kingdom.

Sometimes it is difficult to tell who the central character is in the book of Ruth. It is certain that the woman Naomi stands tall in the role of mother, mentor, and coach. It appears that it was from Naomi that Ruth learned much of what she knew about the God she had come to trust. It was Naomi who guided Ruth through the maze of social adjustment. And finally it was Naomi who instructed Ruth in the matter of her challenge to Boaz to accept the responsibility of kinsman/redeemer.

For high drama in human relations, one would be hard pressed to find anything in literature greater than the final chapter of the book of Ruth. Obedient again to the instructions of her mother-in-law, Ruth goes to the threshing floor to offer herself to Boaz as wife.

There is the risk of being seen by the wrong people. There is even the risk that Boaz might prove to be the wrong sort of person. There is the nearer relative, known only by Boaz, and there is a chance that he might elect to act as kinsman/redeemer ahead of Boaz. Yet even here, there is confirmation that God works in all things for good to those who love him and are called according to his purpose.

What has already been considered would be enough to qualify this story as one of the greatest in literature. But the greatest possible blessing for a Hebrew woman was yet to come. Through that union, based on mutual love and respect, to Boaz and Ruth was born a son. One can only imagine the joy that must have flowed through that family. There was the satisfaction of Ruth, the justification of Naomi and the pride of Boaz.

How gracious is our God who would take a young woman from a pagan land and give her the opportunity to stand in the line through which David the King of Israel and Jesus, the King of Kings, were to come into the world.

How much more gracious that he would send Jesus that I might be redeemed from my sins!

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Convention Uniform

Personal Involvement

by Harrison Johns, retired pastor, Harrisburg

Basic passage: Proverbs 30:18-33

Focal passage: Proverbs 30:32

Central truth: Personal involvement may be passive or active.

We may observe many things that are full of amazement to us and we do not understand them (vv. 18,19). On an oil lease in Colorado I asked the pumper, "What kind of bird is that so high in the air?" A quick glance and he replied "an eagle." It was so high! Just soaring! It looked about the size of a gnat.

On a church outing to Petit Jean State Park, near Morrilton, Arkansas, a snake was seen on a rocky ledge in a small cave. I don't understand how it can climb a rock wall.

Viewing a ship almost out of sight from the seashore gives a mysterious feeling. Maybe not to a sailor, but to a land-lover.

Why a certain man and maid are attracted to each other may raise some questions to a passive observer.

How can an adulterous woman or man commit sexual sin and say "I have done no wrong" (v. 20), except they harden themselves against the conviction of the Holy Spirit?

Some personal involvements (vv. 21-23) cause a disturbance compared to an earthquake. Such extreme language certainly attracts the attention of the reader. The situations should surely be viewed as serious. Personal involvement solicits the wisdom of God.

Most of us may know little about the "things which are little upon the earth" (vv. 24-28) except ants and spiders. Have you thought lately about the ability of God to conceive and create creatures even smaller than these listed? And to know they have a heart, eyes, respiratory and digestive systems is truly amazing! And to remember this Creator-God loves and cares for man and saves those who come to him by faith in Christ!

The strutters (vv. 29-31) display the kind of confidence and security that only God can give. We can experience confidence and security by faith in Christ.

The tide turns (vv. 32,33) and calls for careful calculation and active personal involvement. It is good news to know God offers forgiveness and cleansing (1 Jo. 1:9) by faith in Christ.

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Life and Work

Being Victorious

by Joe Jones, Markham Street Church, Little Rock

Basic passage: 1 Peter 1:13-19, 23; 2 Peter 1:5-8

Focal passage: 1 Peter 1:13

Central truth: Knowing God's Word keeps us steady through life's difficulties.

Approximately one year before Peter wrote this epistle, Nero was accused of burning the city of Rome. In order to dissipate the accusation, he diverted the blame to a group of people who were called Christians. He then began his hellish persecution of Christians at Rome and it soon spread to other cities in the Roman Empire. It was to encourage and strengthen these Christians for whom Peter wrote his epistle.

Today, not many of us are faced with life threatening persecution that would try to destroy our faith. But the encouragement from Peter in his epistle is just as relevant for us today as it was for the Roman Christians in his day.

In 1 Peter 1:13, Peter encourages us to do three things. First, he says to "gird up the loins of our mind." This is a figure of speech referring to the gathering up and fastening of the long, flowing Eastern garments that men wore so that it would not get in the way when in vigorous activities. Today we would say "roll up your sleeves." Peter is telling us to prepare for strenuous mental work. When persecution or difficult times come, do not put your mind in neutral.

The second thing is to be sober. This means more than just to stay away from alcohol or drugs. It means to be sober minded or to be steady in your judgment of any situation. We are not to be carried away with the emotions involved in difficult situations, but to be even-keeled knowing that God is working out his will in our lives. Here again, we must remain in touch with God through the study of his Word and prayer so that we will not falter when hard times come.

Finally, we are to hope to the end. A man can endure most anything as long as he has hope. We, as Christians, have the greatest hope there can be. Jesus is coming back for us and we will be forever with him! Brethren pain and suffering are a part of this life, but the final chapter has already been written and Christ has won for us the victory!

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Bible Book

Birth and Call of Samuel

by James C. Walker, Archview Church, Little Rock

Basic passage: 1 Samuel 1:1-28; 3:1-21

Focal passage: 1 Samuel 1:1-4:1a

Central truth: In the midst of gravest sin, God raises up a spokesman.

I have heard it said that it requires at least three generations to produce a truly educated person. This "trickle down" effect is certainly a factor in the spiritual development of children. Samuel was the product, in part, of the dedication of Elkanah and Hannah. The faithfulness of this family to the service and worship of God in the face of the laxity of Eli's administration of the affairs of the central shrine at Shiloh is an indication of their commitment to God. It is this sort of family that can most easily and naturally serve as a source of great servants of the Lord.

Conceived and born in response to his mother's prayer and dedicated to God's service from before the moment of conception, Samuel was destined for greatness and significance in the Kingdom of God.

No less miraculous than his conception and birth is the fact that the boy Samuel could be associated with the lives of the sons of Eli and not be corrupted by them. It is obvious that the hand of God was with him before he was called to the prophetic ministry.

Let it be said to old Eli's credit that even though he had not prepared Samuel to deal with God's call upon his life before it came, he did know the correct response and shared it at the critical moment.

Samuel was launched into his life work with a heavy responsibility for so young a prophet. The revelation to Samuel of the end of Eli's house as servants of God must have been difficult to share. His faithfulness was tested and he passed the test with flying colors.

It is always a profound thing when God calls a man or woman into his service in some special way. It is somehow especially so when that call is to the prophetic ministry. Southern Baptists desperately need to recover our understanding and appreciation of God's sovereign act of calling some to serve among his people as his spokesman. We may not recognize the office of prophet in our church programs, but we must never forget that the spiritual gift of prophecy is still extant.

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Resignations Forced

Cash Offered for Silence on Termination

NASHVILLE (BP)—Al Shackleford and Dan Martin have been told to resign as director and news editor of Baptist Press, news service of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The six officers of the SBC Executive Committee instructed Harold C. Bennett, president of the Executive Committee, to tell Shackleford and Martin to either resign or they would be "dealt with harshly."

On June 19, Bennett conveyed the message to Shackleford and Martin. They were told if they resigned quietly, they would be continued on the payroll through the end of the fiscal year, Sept. 30, but would neither attend nor report on the Sept. 17-19 meeting of the Executive Committee.

Shackleford and Martin also were offered "up to six months" salary and benefits after September if they were unemployed, but only on the condition they kept silent and no state Baptist editor came to their defense.

By late June, neither Shackleford nor Martin had responded to the request.

The future of Baptist Press is unclear, since Shackleford and Martin are the only professional staff members producing the news service. The third member of the professional staff, Mary Knox, resigned June 1 to become editor of the *Western Recorder*, newsjournal of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

The six officers gave Bennett the instructions during a special called meeting at 3 p.m., Wednesday, June 13, just prior to the annual organizational meeting of the Executive Committee, at 4 p.m. in the Hyatt Regency Hotel in New Orleans, site of the 1990 annual meeting of the SBC.

During the organizational meeting, three of the officers were re-elected to second terms. They are Chairman Sam Pace, director of associational missions in Lawton, Okla.; Vice Chairman Paul Pressler, a state appeals court judge from Houston; and Secretary Fred Wolfe, pastor of Cottage Hill Baptist Church in Mobile, Ala.

The other three officers are appointed to chair the three subcommittees of the Executive Committee by the elected officers. They are Charles Sullivan, pastor of First Baptist Church, Lenoir City, Tenn., administrative and convention arrangements subcommittee; David Hankins, pastor of Trinity Baptist Church, Lake Charles, La., business and finance subcommittee; and William F. Harrell, pastor of Abilene Baptist Church, Martinez, Ga., program and

budget subcommittee.

Under Executive Committee bylaws, the officers as a body have no stated authority to elect or dismiss staff members of the Executive Committee.

Baptist Press, which has received high marks from secular and denominational journalists for its objectivity, balance and fairness in the midst of the theological/political turmoil of the nation's largest non-Catholic denomination, has been under increasing fire from the new "conservative" majority.

The officers' instructions to Bennett came one day after "conservatives" won their 12th victory by electing Morris Chapman, pastor of First Baptist Church of Wichita Falls, Texas, as president. Chapman decisively defeated Daniel Vestal, pastor of Dunwoody Baptist Church in suburban Atlanta, the "moderate" standard bearer.

Baptist Press, which was founded in 1947 at the request of the editors of the state Baptist newspapers, has been housed at the Executive Committee since its inception in an effort to protect it from efforts to muzzle, silence or control the news.

Currently, it carries more than 1,200 news and feature stories about the events, personalities, agencies and work of the SBC. It circulates daily to more than 400 outlets, including 38 state Baptist newspapers with a combined circulation of 1.8-million, as well as to all members of the Religion Newswriters Association, composed of religion specialists on newspapers, magazines and broadcast media.

Shackleford and Martin each has more than 30 years of journalism experience.

Shackleford, 58, was elected vice president of public relations and director of Baptist Press in February 1987 on a 32-26 vote.

Previously, he was editor of the *Baptist and Reflector*, newsjournal of the Tennessee Baptist Convention; the *Indiana Baptist*, newsjournal of the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana; and on the staffs of the Baptist General Convention of Texas and the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission.

He is a native of Carrollton, Ga., and a graduate of Mercer University, Macon, Ga.; the University of Georgia in Athens; and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

Martin, 51, came to Baptist Press as news editor Aug. 1, 1980. Previously, he was on the staff of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board and the Texas convention.

He is a native of Wichita Falls, Texas, and a graduate of Midwestern University in Wichita Falls, Texas. He also attended Southwestern Seminary.

Classifieds

Part-time Youth—Second Baptist Church of Russellville, Arkansas, is seeking a part-time Minister of Youth. Please apply by sending resume to P.O. Box 782; Russellville 72801 or call 967-4085. 7/15

Position Available—Crow Mountain Baptist Church (Mission of Second Baptist Church of Russellville) is in need of a pastor/bi-vocational. Anyone interested in a New Church Start please send resume to P.O. Box 782, Russellville 72801 or call 967-4085. 7/15

Position Available—Pulaski Association receiving applications for secretary/receptionist position. Excellent typing, dictation, computer skills necessary. Church-related experience helpful. Call 374-0319. 7/19

Position Open—Calvary Baptist, Little Rock, seeks full-time Childhood Education Minister to coordinate educational programs for preschoolers, children, and Mother's Day Out program two days a week and supervise a part-time Assistant Preschool Coordinator. Direct resumes to Douglas Smith, c/o Calvary Baptist Church, 1901 N. Pierce, Little Rock, AR 72207. 7/19

Evangelist—Available for revival or Bible study. Shelby Bittle, P.O. Box 255, Wynne, AR 72936; phone 501-238-4529. 9/27

Needed—Part-time Music Director in NLR area. Call Bob Inmon, 851-1493, or Donna Matthews, 851-2097. 7/26

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.

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A **Group Plan** (formerly called the Club Plan) allows church members to get a better than individual rate when 10 or more of them send their subscriptions together through their church.

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WORLD

Three Couples Appointed

Three couples with Arkansas ties were among the 34 people named missionaries by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board June 13 in the Superdome in New Orleans, La.

Lloyd D. and Betty Farmer will live in Malawi, where he will start and develop churches. Since 1988 he has been pastor of Amboy Church in North Little Rock.

Born and reared in Crossett, he is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Farmer of that city. Farmer is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University and Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary in Memphis, Tenn.

Born in Texas, Mrs. Farmer, the former Betty Christilles, is the daughter of Louise Christilles of Texarkana and the late Denis A. Christilles. She lived in Texarkana while growing up, and is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University.

The Farmers have four children: Rachel Allison, Lydia Marie, Hannah Michelle, and Julia Anne.

James R. and Margaret Hunt will live in Nigeria as missionary associates. Dr. Hunt, a pedodontist, will operate and manage a dental center.

Since 1959, he has been in private practice in Springdale. Born in Oklahoma, Hunt is the son of Ruth Lea Hunt of Fayetteville

and the late Willie J. Hunt. He is a graduate of University of Missouri at Kansas City School of Dentistry.

Born and reared in Fayetteville, Mrs. Hunt, the former Margaret Hudgens, is the daughter of Howard H. Hudgens of that city and the late Madge Hudgens. She is a graduate of St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing in Kansas City, Mo.

The Hunts have four grown children. Thomas W. and Sharon Nowlin will live in Japan, where he will start and develop churches.

Since 1988 he has been pastor of First Church in Marvell.

Born in Brinkley, Nowlin is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas R. Nowlin of Marion. He is a graduate of Baptist College in Charleston, S.C., and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky.

Born in Stuttgart, Mrs. Nowlin, the former Sharon Kinsey, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tommie Kinsey of West Memphis. She is a graduate of Phillips County Community College in Helena.

The Nowlins have three children: Justin Wayne, Kristen Leigh, and Aaron Thomas.

All three missionary families will go to Rockville, Va., in August for a seven-week orientation before leaving for the field.



The Farmers



The Hunts



The Nowlins

MK Birthday Prayer Calendar: July

Missionary Kids Attending College in Arkansas

- 13 Jonathan Gary
(Sophomore at OBU)
- 22 Amy Bryant Davis
(Sophomore at SAU)

101 Belcourt
97122 Baie-Mahault
Gaudeloupe, French West Indies

10827 108th Ave. S.W., Apt. D-1
Tacoma, WA 98498

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ABN photo / Mark Kelly

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Next Issue

The next edition of the ABN will be published July 19. Sunday School lesson commentaries for July 15 and July 22 appear in this issue.

IT'S UPLIFTING

KAL Bomber Now Christian

SEOUL, South Korea (BP)—Tears streamed down the face of convicted terrorist Kim Hyun Hee as she told the congregation at Yoido Baptist Church in Seoul, South Korea, that God had forgiven her crimes and maybe the Korean people could, too.

Kim, a confessed North Korean agent, was convicted of blowing up a Korean Air Lines flight with 115 people aboard in November 1987. She was pardoned by the South Korean government in mid-April. The special amnesty came days after the South Korean Supreme Court upheld her death sentence, ending trials that lasted more than two years.

During her detention, the 28-year-old Kim became a Christian through the witness of a Baptist layman who is official with the Agency for National Security Planning, formerly the Korean Central Intelligence Agency. Han Kee Man, pastor of Yoido Church, went to the prison every week to conduct a Bible study for Kim and baptized her April 12, shortly after she was released.

In the first public appearance since her release, Kim told listeners at the special church service: "If God loved me and gave his Son for me so that my terrible sins are forgiven, then he can do that for anyone. If he forgave me, then maybe the Korean people can, also.

"I want to commit what I have of the rest of my life to telling the unbelieving peo-

ple of Korea of the great love of God through Jesus Christ."

A government spokesman said South Korean President Roh Tae Woo decided to pardon Kim so she could be a living witness to North Korean terrorism. North Korea continues to deny involvement in the KAL bombing, calling it a South Korean propaganda ploy. South Korean officials believe the air attack was designed to prevent Third World and socialist countries from participating in the 1988 Seoul Olympics.

During her trials, Kim confessed that she and 70-year-old Kim Seung II—posing as father and daughter—planted a bomb on a Boeing 707 operated by Korean Air Lines. The plane disappeared off the coast of Burma Nov. 29, 1987, while enroute from Baghdad, Iraq, to Bangkok, Thailand. No one survived the crash.

The North Korean pair boarded the plane in Baghdad and got off during a scheduled stop in Abu Dhabi. Arrested for possessing false Japanese passports, they attempted to commit suicide by taking cyanide. Her male companion died instantly, but Kim survived and was extradited to Seoul.

When she entered the heavily guarded Seoul church, Kim was accompanied by more than 30 security agents. She took a front-row seat and sang hymns with other worshippers, then came to the podium.

"I tried to take my life. . . but God brought me to Korea to give me life," she told the congregation. "God saved my life to have me repent for my heinous crime."

GOOD NEWS!

Priceless Liberty

This week we have celebrated our nation's declaration of independence. Many of our churches have observed the occasion with "God and Country" festivities. Certainly all of us are thankful we live in a country where we have religious, as well as social and political liberty.

Many references to liberty can be found in the Bible. Liberty means freedom from slavery and oppression and refers to the relationship between the believer and Christ.

Preserve liberty—Base true liberty in Christ. "Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty" (2 Co. 3:17).

Maintain true liberty with steadfast faith. "Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free"

Gal. 5:1).

Protect liberty—Avoid misuse of freedom. "As free, and not using your liberty for a cloak of maliciousness, but as the servants of God" (1 P. 2:16).

Avoid using liberty at someone else's expense. "But take heed lest by any means this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to them that are weak" (1 Co. 8:9).

Proclaim liberty—It is a universal need. "All ye shall. . . proclaim liberty throughout the land unto all the inhabitants thereof" (Lv. 25:10).

It is a personal commitment. "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me. . . to proclaim liberty to the captives" (Is. 61:1).

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A Successful Pastor

J. EVERETT SNEED

There is considerable diversity regarding what constitutes a successful pastor. More often than not, when a pulpit committee is seeking a pastor it restricts its inquiry to numerical information. Certainly the number of persons baptized in the past year, the size of the Sunday School, and the size of the budget gives some insights into the success of a church's leadership. Unfortunately, restricting the criteria for success in ministry to these standards alone have led both pastors and churches to wrong conclusions regarding success.

Much can be learned about success by observing the lives of our Lord and the apostles. Perhaps the most obvious characteristic of Christ's life was his desire to minister to others. Likewise, a successful pastor must be one who has the keen awareness of both spiritual and physical needs of people. He will then, through example and teaching, lead his congregation to minister. In this atmosphere, people will come to know Christ as Savior and the fellowship of the church will be strengthened.

A successful pastor is one who desires to learn. The individual who is no longer learning is intellectually dead. This is particularly tragic for the pastor, since his intellectual dullness will effect the entire church he serves. The Bible even describes the young Christ by saying, "and Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man" (Lk. 2:52).

Paul admonished, "Study to show thyself approved unto God... (2 Ti. 2:15). So the successful pastor is one who continually learns in order to properly lead and equip his congregation. First, and foremost, a pastor should be involved in regular Bible study, as well as in learning new leadership techniques. A pastor must challenge his congregation both intellectually and spiritually.

There are many ways for a preacher to continue his study. There are many formal opportunities for study, even after an individual has completed his formal education. Such opportunities include seminars and studies led by renowned seminary professors or pastors. Informal study should be continually carried on by the reading of good and challenging books.

A successful pastor must have the courage to deal with sin and injustice. Jesus found himself in conflict with religious



leaders in his day. He likened the Pharisees and scribes to "whited sepulchres which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones..." (Mt. 23:27). Today, we live in a sinful age. The successful pastor will deal with pornography, drug addiction, abortion, and gambling. Often, forcefully dealing with these sins will bring the minister of the gospel in conflict with leaders who are involved in spiritual wickedness.

The successful pastor will be one who has a cooperative attitude. The growth of the early church was usually characterized by cooperation. Early Christians recognized that they needed each other. Sometimes financial aid was needed. Always they needed the spiritual strength which came from sharing in the service of the Master.

One of the greatest strengths of Southern Baptists is the ability to cooperate without infringing on the autonomy of the local church. A successful pastor will lead his church to be involved in the work of the association, the state convention, and the Southern Baptist Convention.

A successful pastor knows how to work. Paul recognized the importance of work as he said, "... we are laborers together with God..." (1 Co. 3:9). Again he declared, "... we are laborers, that whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him" (2 Co. 5:9). Jesus became weary at times and so will any obedient Christian. Witnessing, visiting and ministering is hard work.

A successful pastor also will know how to rest and relax. Even Jesus found it necessary to rest at times. Sometimes a congregation may aid Satan in nullifying the effectiveness of a pastor by not allowing him time to relax. A pastor is most apt to err when he is tired or exhausted. Moses disobeyed God by striking the rock when he was exhausted.

The work of our Lord was balanced. Perhaps the greatest task of any pastor is to be balanced in his activities. Preparation of sermons, administration of the church, counseling, visiting the sick, and all of the other things which consume a pastor's time must be balanced. If a pastor allows his work to be unbalanced, ultimately it will adversely impact his congregation.

Certainly this is not a complete list of characteristics of a successful pastor. However, it shows success is not merely measured by the size of the church or other superficial standards. Ultimately the success of a pastor or lay person is determined by the service one renders to the Master.

Arkansas Baptist

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DON MOORE

You'll Be Glad To Know



You who read these words provide funds for ministry in all kinds of situations. In most instances you will have to wait for heaven before you can know the full significance and joy of what you do. The Cooperative Program, Annie Armstrong offering and Disle Jackson offering make the following story possible. I want to copy it for you just as it was given to the chaplain. It is a thank you to the chaplain. It is really a thank you to all who have given.

"I wanted to say thank you for coming into places like these and preach about Christ for us because you have hope in us and you care because some don't they would just laugh and say they should not have done what they did let them rot (rot) in Hell. I think you are a nice person and you are a great artist I wish that we could get together and draw together here are some of my new drawing I made these up by myself. I mean I know its your job to preach (preach) but you didn't have to do it here but I glad and happy that you care about us criminals."

Poor spelling and poor punctuation does not conceal the fact that this 15-year-old boy who calls himself a "criminal" has found help and hope through one of our chaplains. It was insightful on the part of the young man that he recognized that "he didn't have to do it there", that is, preach in a correctional institution.

I know you are glad you have had a part in providing a Christian witness and ministry in that place. Such experiences could be multiplied throughout the state, nation and world. That is what working together as a denomination is all about.

It is just tragic that there is not more knowledge of what we are accomplishing together. What our people do not know is hurting us. The Newsmagazine, mission magazines, mission studies, etc., are important means of informing the people of the good work we do together. Unfortunately the secular press and most independent papers only emphasize the negative side of our denomination. Most churches only hear the negative side of our denomination. There is another side. I think we ought to learn it and tell it.

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

Letters to the Editor

Not 'A Few'

Once and for all we need to lay the matter to rest concerning past editorials and letters stating that the so-called "takeover" was vested power in the hands of a few (quote from J. Lowell Ponder in Letters to the Editor, June 14, 1990).

With 57.68 percent of the more than 38,000 messengers attending the Southern Baptist Convention in New Orleans who returned a staunch conservative back to the presidency, pray tell me how a "few people" are trying to take over what has year after year been determined by the majority to have always been a conservative, inerrant movement?

They voted to get back to the basics of what Southern Baptists have always believed, and that being that the Word of God is without mixture of error, that Adam and Eve were literal people, that some parts of God's Word should not be taught or preached as myths or fables, etc.

I am not so naive to believe that this issue is going to die, but I pray that by this past convention and by the track record of the past 12 years, that Letters to the Editor and

others will quit referring to all that has been done as "the takeover of a few" but instead begin to acknowledge it as continual "contending for the faith" which God has admonished each of us do (Ju. 1:3).—Charles L. Mays, Hot Springs

Stumbling Block

As a lay person, I would like to express my feelings with regards to the unChristlike behavior of some of our leaders in the most recent years. Their attitude and actions have caused our denomination to become a stumbling block to a lost world.

As I visit door to door with prospects and new contacts, their remarks and comments amaze me as they wonder why we Baptists, of all people, are fussing and fighting about whether the Word of God is true or not.

I pray that God will use whatever action necessary to remind those leaders that they are pastors, ministers and caretakers, not corporate executives or politicians seeking a higher office or position. I also pray that

Woman's Viewpoint

Love Beyond Words

LYNDA MOORE

It's four in the morning as I pad softly into the baby's room in answer to his demand for attention. He looks so sweet and vulnerable as he lays looking up at me with complete trust and acceptance. I am reminded once again of the privilege of caring for this child with whom God has blessed us.

In the quiet of these early morning feedings, when the world isn't at such a frantic pace, I spend time looking at Austin in sheer wonderment. The warmth of his skin, the gentle sound of his breathing, the way he curls his toes to me. It is amazing how much my love for him grows daily.



From all of this, I am learning more and more of the depth of love our heavenly Father has for us. He desires us to look to him with the same complete trust and acceptance as a child looks to a parent. "I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven" (Mt. 18:3, NIV).

In the midst of our busy schedules, God asks us to

be still and acknowledge who he is. He desires us to look to him in awe and learn fresh, new insights, just as a baby discovering the world around him. How great is his love for us. We cannot begin to know its depth. As a mother, my love for Austin goes beyond words, and yet this love does not compare to God's love for us. That is unfathomable.

Lynda Moore attends the University of Arkansas in Little Rock, works as a freelance computer graphic designer, and is the mother of a son. She is the wife of Alan Moore, music and youth minister at South Highland Church in Little Rock.

they will search their hearts and see that pride, arrogance and the desire for power, along with deceit, has caused our denomination to become this stumbling block.

Reconciliation and restoration are greatly needed if we as Southern Baptist Christians are to carry out the commission that Christ has given us.

If those leaders that are responsible do not believe that they have given the media and Satan a field day in causing this stumbling block to occur, then I would challenge them to go back once again to knocking on doors and introduce themselves to the people. Also tell them what Baptist church you attend and what you believe about the Word of God and then ask the people there if you can share Christ with them. I believe they will be shocked and amazed as to how they are perceived by the lost person and also by the Christian.

I believe that I'm expressing the thoughts and feelings of the majority of our lay people. We cannot and should not have to explain the actions and attitudes of some of our leaders in order to get someone to the point to where they will allow us to share Christ with them. I'm wondering how God feels about all of this self-edification that has and is continuing to take place.—Gary L. Wallace, Glencoe

Consolidate Effort

Balancing in our recent convention at New Orleans left conservatives exulting over a hollow victory and those of humbler, more moderate disposition, mourning over departed glory. Moderates believe in the Genesis account of creation, the inspiration of the Scriptures, the validity of Jesus' miracles, his virgin birth, and believer's baptism.

We do not believe, however, that God

permits any of us to be the self-appointed guardians of orthodoxy, with the authority to go through the denomination rooting out college and seminary professors, and members of denominational organizations who hold a different view of Scripture to our own.

We do not believe an out-going president should, as the secular news media reported, "deliver a stinging rebuke" to moderates, label them heretics, roosting in the trees of modernism. We do not believe that our convention sessions should be characterized by political activism, arm-twisting, deal-making, or low methods practiced by politicians who scramble for office. Nearly every issue voted on in the sessions was decided by a 60-40 margin, showing politics had settled the issue, before the voting.

Such conformity to the world may get hand-clapping from those who love controversy and fighting, but certainly will not meet the approval of our Father in Heaven, our Savior and the Holy Spirit.

It seems inappropriate and catering to the crowd for an incoming president to announce that the major emphasis of his tenure in office is to be "inerrancy," a term not found in Scripture. What ever happened to the old doctrines of Grace, God, his sovereignty in salvation, Christ, his deity and atoning work, the Holy Spirit, his office work, etc., that used to be the overriding themes of our annual sessions? Back then, we had good fellowship, praying, preaching, and singing, with no infighting and political string-pulling to get some favorite brother into office.

All human governments, movements, organizations, etc., eventually serve their usefulness and decline through either greed or selfish ambition. Our denomination, formed to consolidate our fellowship and missions endeavor, must not follow them to the graveyard of history.—Walter H. Watts, Fort Smith

WILLIAM J. REYNOLDS

Hymns Baptists Sing



The Holy Spirit

"Spirit of the Living God"

Early in 1926, the George T. Stephans

Evangelistic Party conducted a citywide revival in Orlando, Fla. Daniel Iverson, a Presbyterian minister from Lumberton, N. C., spent several days in Orlando visiting with the team members of Stephans' group.

Greatly impressed by a sermon he heard on the Holy Spirit, Iverson wrote this chorus that same day. E. Powell Lee, the music director for the Stephans' team was impressed with the song and introduced it that evening in the tabernacle service. In later years Lee worked in music and education in several Southern Baptist churches, and his later years were at the Home Mission Board.

Throughout his ministry, Iverson pastored Presbyterian churches in Georgia, North and South Carolina, and Florida. During the 24 years he was pastor of the Shenandoah Presbyterian Church, Miami, he led in the organization of seven other churches in the Miami area.

Iverson retired from the active pastorate in 1951, and, in 1962, moved to Asheville, N. C., where he lived until his death in 1977, at age 87.

The song he wrote in Orlando, Fla., is sung frequently in our churches as congregations pray that the Spirit of our Lord will "fall fresh on us."

William J. Reynolds is professor of church music at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

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'No More Shacks'

Freeing People from the Scourge of Poverty Housing

by Mark Kelly
Managing Editor, Arkansas Baptist

Homelessness is a staggering problem. As many as 100 million people worldwide have no place to sleep at night. As many as 900 million cope with inadequate or poverty housing.

The numbers boggle the mind. The need is so overwhelming that solitary Christians often protect themselves by looking the other way. What, after all, can one person do in the face of such need?

One person discovered he could make a difference — a real difference — and the result this year will be 4,300 new homes in 29 nations around the world.

The man is Millard Fuller, and the organization is Habitat for Humanity, a worldwide network of volunteers who build decent, affordable housing for deserving families.

Habitat's most visible volunteer is Former President Jimmy Carter. Carter, a Southern Baptist, recently led a taskforce of 1,200 volunteers from five countries into Tijuana, Mexico. The team built 100 new homes in a squalid slum area of that city of 500,000.

The Tijuana project gained national media attention, but it is only the most visible part of a growing movement to rid the world of inadequate housing in the name of Jesus Christ.

Habitat for Humanity was founded in 1976 by Millard Fuller, a lanky Georgia farm boy whose remarkable vision and infectious enthusiasm has built an international coalition of volunteers raising an average of 12 new houses every day.

The plan is deceptively simple. Money, materials, and labor are donated to build small, no-frills houses at a fraction of the usual cost. The homes are sold to deserving families at no profit on zero-interest notes. Often mortgage payments are less

than the rent paid for indecent housing. The families invest "sweet equity" in their own home, and their payments go toward the construction of other houses.

Under the slogan, No More Shacks, Fuller's interdenominational organization has grown in 10 years from just 11 local groups to 472. Habitat for Humanity expects to build more homes this year than in the 13 years since its founding — 4,300 low-cost, affordable homes to free people from the scourge of poverty housing.

Fuller has achieved this remarkable growth in part because of the clarity and brilliance of his vision. But Habitat's success also is due to what Fuller calls "the theology of the hammer." It brings together Christians of all persuasions in a cooperative ministry.

Christians "may disagree on all sorts of things: baptism, communion, what night to have prayer meeting, and how the preacher should dress," he says. "But, thank God, we can all agree on a nail and the use of a hammer as an instrument to manifest God's love."

(BP) photo / Paul Obregon



Former President Jimmy Carter recently led a taskforce of 1,200 volunteers into Tijuana, Mexico, to build 100 new homes in squalid slum area of the city.

Weekday Early Education Workshop

August 2-3

Conference fee: \$15 per person
Registration and fee deadline: July 25

First Baptist Church
62 Pleasant Valley Drive
Little Rock

Thursday, August 2
8:30 Registration
9:30 General session
10:00 Conferences begin
5:15 Adjourn

Schedule:



Friday, August 3
8:00 Registration
9:00 General session
9:30 Conferences begin
12:00 Adjourn

Seven special interest conference sessions scheduled

Special Interest Conferences: bulletin boards; science/nature; music; infants/toddlers; cooking; art; school-age ministry; MDO; reading readiness; learning/attention disabilities; discipline; new teachers; planning meals and snacks; physical movement; using the Bible; day care directors; licensing; parent/teacher partnerships; finger plays/poetry.

Workshop will apply to the 10 hours of training required by the Arkansas Department of Human Services. Attendance will be certified.

For more information, contact Pat Ratton (ext. 6128) or June Chandler (ext. 5249), P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203; telephone 378-4791. Sponsored by the ABCS Sunday School and Missions Departments. A ministry of the Cooperative Program.

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Miracle in El Dorado

by Mark Kelly

Managing Editor, Arkansas Baptist

EL DORADO — Janice Meeks didn't like having to raise a family in El Dorado's "Thunder Zone." Street gangs roamed the neighborhood. Drugs were sold openly. Her husband, Eddie, a truck driver, was gone much of the time. She worried about her son, an impressionable young teen.

Anyone in her place would dream of leaving, maybe even owning a little house on a quiet street. But that would be more than just a dream come true. That would take a miracle.

As it turns out, a miracle is just what the Lord had in mind.

A Methodist couple, Wendell and Joy Barbaree, had come across an organization called Habitat for Humanity, a non-profit, interdenominational project dedicated to wiping out poverty housing from the face of the earth. Intrigued by the idea, the Bar-

barees traveled to Habitat headquarters in Americus, Ga. There Barbaree, a retired carpenter, and his wife heard God's call to do something about deplorable housing conditions back home.

"We came back and started telling anyone who would listen about Habitat for Humanity," said Mrs. Barbaree. "But we couldn't find anyone who understood about our sense of calling."

No one understood, that is, until they told their story to a Sunday School class at Nophlet Baptist Church. Their vision touched Betty Perry, whose husband Gerald pastored the congregation. The pieces began to fall in place.

"For the next three weeks, I woke up every day knowing just exactly who God wanted me to see that day," recalls Mrs. Barbaree. "In no time, we had recruited two lawyers and a banker and put together a board of directors for an El Dorado chapter

of Habitat for Humanity."

The vision grew as the Barbarees and 10 friends traveled to Atlanta for training as Habitat volunteers. Janice Meeks was drawn in when her mother, Pearlle Candley, asked Meeks to go along.

The miracle came when the group set out to build their first home.

"We had prayed for \$25,000, but we had only been able to raise \$9,000," Mrs. Barbaree recalled. "We were really frustrated. Then, in one day, God sent us three gifts. One was \$4,000. The second was \$5,000. The third was \$7,500. Suddenly we had almost \$26,000 in our treasury."

Events moved swiftly. An El Dorado man donated a lot. A local contractor loaned a bulldozer to clear the land; another came up with a backhoe to dig the footings. Several suppliers donated material at or near cost. A local builder organized the volunteer construction team. A nearby Baptist Student Union sent a team to help during spring break. A modest 1,200 square foot home began to take shape.

Meanwhile, a committee was screening applicants to buy the house. They looked at each family's need for better housing and ability to repay the loan. They took into account family size and character. They considered willingness to contribute "sweat equity" to the construction of the house.

When the process was complete, the Meeks family had been chosen. As it happened, their miracle home was not only on a quiet street, it was in the very neighborhood Janice had lived in as a child.

The Meeks invested 250 hours of volunteer labor in the construction of their new home and promised to help build the next Habitat home in town. When construction was complete, they took on a \$26,000, 20-year note. At zero interest, their monthly payments were \$112, a far cry from the rent for their dilapidated shack in the "Thunder Zone." The mortgage payments will help build another house for a deserving family.

When the house was dedicated in March, 1990, six months after construction began, El Dorado Habitat President Tim Fetterly presided over an emotional gathering.

Pearlle Candley read the Bible promise God had given her about her family: "I will appoint a place for my people. . . and will plant them, that they may dwell in a place of their own, and move no more; neither shall the children of wickedness afflict them any more. . ." (2 Sa. 7:10). "Something like this can only happen because of God's love in people's hearts," she said.

Janice Meeks agrees. "I learned a lot about Christianity from working with these people. It's a good feeling to be helped, but it feels better to know we are going to be able to help someone else."



(Left to right) Wendell Barbaree, Betty Perry, Janice Meeks, Joy Barbaree, and (background) Pearlle Candley

For More Information . . .

Persons interested in more information about the work of Habitat for Humanity in Arkansas or around the world may contact the following individuals:

El Dorado: Wendell Barbaree, Habitat for Humanity, P.O. Box 1447, El Dorado, AR 71730; phone 501-546-2400

Fort Smith: Rena Westbrook-Johnson, Arkansas Valley Habitat for Humanity, P.O. Box 754, Fort Smith, AR 72902; phone 501-782-8255

Little Rock: Greg Adams, Habitat for Humanity of Pulaski County, 1010 W. Third St., Little Rock, AR 72201; phone 501-374-5752

ABN photo / Mark Kelly

Arkansas All Over

MILLIE GILL

People

Ronnie W. Floyd, pastor of First Church in Springdale, was elected pastor/advisor June 14 for the 1991 Southern Baptist Evangelists Conference, which will precede the 1991 Southern Baptist Convention in Atlanta, Ga., June 4-6.



Maynard Whipple, a former pastor of Mandeville Church at Texarkana, is now serving as pastor of Old Union Church in Simms, Texas.

Ray Carneal has joined the staff of Trinity Church in El Dorado as youth director. He is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University and a former youth director for Parkview Church in El Dorado.

Max Briley has joined the staff of Gosnell Church as associate pastor.

Barry McManus has joined the staff of Geyer Springs First Church in Little Rock to assist in ministry to students. He currently is enrolled at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and will continue his

studies through the Little Rock Seminary Studies program.

Kyle Blanton is serving as summer youth minister for Sugar Loaf Church at Heber Springs.

Kellee Lemons began serving June 17 as summer youth intern at Immanuel Church in Little Rock. She is a student at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Assisting Lemons as an intern will be **Vicki Beard**, a student at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. **Mark Groves**, a senior at Oklahoma Baptist University, will be serving as a summer intern in the music ministry.

Roy Buckelew has completed his service as interim pastor of Memorial Church in Hot Springs. He resides at 410 Oakwood Avenue, Apt. 33, Hot Springs, AR 71913; telephone 501-624-5338.

Gary W. Wade has resigned as youth minister at Little Rock Second Church, following 14 months service.

Tracy Archibald joined the staff of Belview Church in Melbourne June 1 as minister of youth and music.

William Wallace is serving as pastor of Turner Church. A native Arkansan, he has served churches in Arkansas, as well as on the staff of Arkansas Baptist Home for Children in Monticello. He currently is a student at Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

Bryan Webb is serving as pastor of Broadmoor Church in Brinkley, coming there from Shady Grove Church in New Albany, Miss. He is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University and Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Mary Lynne, have four children, Alison, Steven, David, and Sarah.

Charles Jones is retiring as pastor of Moro Church, following 14 years of service there and 40 years of service in the pastorate. He and his wife, Peggy, are moving to their home in Crowley's Ridge.

Mike Love has resigned as pastor of Lexa Church to serve as pastor of First Church in Charleston.

Lynsol B. Richmond has accepted a call to serve as pastor of First Church in Altheimer. He will move there from Emmanuel Church in Blytheville.

Guiola Spraggins recently was honored by First Church in Hope in recognition of her retirement as church organist.

Russ Tyler, Michelle Bedford and **Rick Parker** have joined the youth ministry staff of First Church in Springdale as summer interns. Tyler is a sophomore at the University of Arkansas, Bedford has enrolled for the fall term at Ouachita Baptist University, and Parker is a student at Baylor University.

John D. Noland resigned June 17 as pastor of Friendship Church of Marianna, follow



Fayetteville First Church recently held a "Regal Radiance" recognition service for Ateen, Girls in Action, Royal Ambassadors, and Mission friends. Ateen Queens were Amber Harris, Sharon Lee and Melissa McKay. Queen with Scepter was Carl Tanneberger. Queen Regents in Service were Laura Moore and Cindy Tanneberger. The church also has organized Pioneers for junior high age boys.



The J.O.Y. Club, a senior adult organization of Ebenezer Church in El Dorado, recently purchased a van which they presented to the church. The club obtained permission from the church to engage in fundraising projects, such as quilting each Tuesday, sponsoring suppers, saving aluminum, and receiving donations, from which they were able to collect the \$19,000 they needed to buy the van.

ing more than two years of service.

Ben Seamans will join the staff of Mena First Church Aug. 5 as minister of music and youth, going there from First Church in Gentry.

Randy Jones of Jacksonville is serving as interim minister of music and youth at Brookwood Church in Little Rock.

Frank Pfenenger has resigned as pastor of Barton Church to serve as pastor of St. Charles Church.

Garland Hobbs has resigned as pastor of Cedarville Church to serve as pastor of Hanson Church in Oklahoma.

Billy Kimbrough has resigned as pastor of First Church of Alma to serve as pastor of Wear Church in Moulton, Ala.

Bruce William Venable has been named as one of the Outstanding Young Men of America for 1989. A member of Jonesboro First Church, he serves as associate director for Baptist Student Union at Arkansas State University.

Jerry Elkin Miller Jr. of Batesville has been named as one of the Outstanding Young Men of America for 1989. He is a member of Ruddell Hill Church in Batesville, where he serves as Brotherhood director.

Bill Conline is serving Cedar Grove Church at Arkadelphia as minister of music.

Fran Bailey, director of music for youth

and children, is serving as summer youth director for First Church in Malvern.

Joe Hacker recently was ordained to the deacon ministry of Bear Creek Springs Church, Harrison.

Wendy Phillips, state Bible drill winner and a member of Bear Creek Springs Church in Harrison, represented Arkansas at Gloriaeta Baptist Conference Center for Discipleship Training Week June 30-July 6. She was accompanied to Gloriaeta by O.D. Chaney, minister to youth, Pastor Jack Barnes, Nelda Barnes, Wendy's instructor, and three youth members, Justin Phillips, Allen Lott and Rita Herron. Pastor Barnes serves as North Arkansas Association discipleship director.

Briefly

El Dorado Trinity Church recently ordained Guy B. Bates and Patrick L. Johnson to the deacon ministry.

Central Church in North Little Rock mission team was in Gallup, N.M., June 15-26 to conduct a revival, lead two vacation Bible schools and assist with construction.

Watson Chapel Church in Pine Bluff held

a one day Bible prophecy conference June 17. Jimmy Milliken, professor at Mid America Baptist Theological Seminary, was leader.

Garfield First and Pea Ridge First churches' choirs presented the musical "Liberty" June 27 at the Garfield church and July 1 at the Pea Ridge church.

Markham Street First Church youth have launched a ministry the second Sunday of each month at Riley Oak Hill Manor, where they will be providing a worship service. Joe Jones is youth minister.

Hardy First Church recently honored pastor Wes Fruit with a surprise fellowship in recognition of his birthday and two years of service as pastor.

Belview Church in Melbourne held a revival June 3-6 that resulted in 18 baptisms. John Bramlett of Memphis was evangelist. Tim Porter is pastor.

Humnoke Church recently ordained Gary Synco to the deacon ministry.

Bethabara Church at Lake City observed homecoming June 10 with activities that included a potluck lunch and an afternoon musical program, featuring the Southern Harmony. Don Strait is pastor.

South Side Church in Pine Bluff has launched its first women's ministry that will include Bible study, arts, crafts, Mother's Day Out, gardening, community projects, friendship evangelism, health beats, interest seminars, and general fellowship. Elected to office were Pene Hines, coordinator, Iliff Dalby, secretary/treasurer, and Dodie Dolan, publicity chairman.

Mount Olive Church in North Crossett youth have returned from a mission trip to Toledo Bend Camp, where they worked with the children each day and sang for Beulah Church on Wednesday evening.

Cornerstone Church in Texarkana mission team will leave July 6 for Wyoming, where they will minister at University Church in Laramie and First Southern Church in Cheyenne.

Rogers First Church ordained Von Johnston to the deacon ministry July 1.

Beech Street Church in Gurdon recently ordained Ricky Griffin, Jack Robertson, Stan Escalante and Jerel White to the deacon ministry.

Bear Creek Springs Church of Harrison conducted a vacation Bible school June 10-14 Director O.D. Chaney Jr. reported an enrollment of 76, 10 professions of faith, six baptisms, and two additions by letter. Jack Barnes is pastor.

To improve your church's ministry to couples, parents, and children, attend

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July 23-24

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For: * Pastors
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* Church & associational family ministry leaders
* Other interested church and associational leaders

Cost: \$13

Schedule: Monday, 1:30 - 4:50 p.m.; 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
Tuesday, 8:00-11:30 a.m.; 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Sponsored by: Discipleship Training Department, Arkansas Baptist State Convention
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