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October 7, 1982

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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October 7, 1982

Arkansas Baptist

NEWSMAGAZINE

Planning for
a great day —
See page 11

GREAT
DAY
THE
ING

CLASS	THIRD	THIRD
1st	5	6
2nd	14	15
3rd	13	14
4th	12	13
5th	7	8
6th	15	17
7th	17	19
8th	12	15
9th	15	21
10th	25	23
11th	17	19
12th	12	13
13th	11	12
14th	8	9
15th	8	15
16th	5	10
TOTAL	240	265



Aaron Thompson, pastor at First Church of Alexander, discusses with Sunday School workers class goals for Great Day In the Morning, an annual high attendance emphasis set this year for Sunday, October 31. (See related article on page 11.)

In this issue

7 Looking ahead

Executive Secretary-elect Don Moore told Executive Board members, state employees and their guests what he hopes to accomplish after he takes over the state convention's top administrative post Oct. 18 at a banquet following his election Sept. 23.

9 Bylaw change

The SBC Executive Committee has recommended a change in Bylaw 16. The recommendation calls for a requirement that the report of the Committee on Boards, Commissions and Standing Committees be made public at least 45 days prior to the start of the convention's annual meeting. The action stems from a controversy that erupted in 1982 when the committee chose not to release the names until the opening day of the convention.

13 Leaders named

SBC president James T. Draper Jr. released the first of his appointments to key positions at the September meeting of the convention's Executive Committee.

Magnolia Central leads state in hunger relief

Central Church in Magnolia has been awarded the World Hunger Committee citation for leading the state in giving to relieve hunger through the Foreign and Home Mission boards of the Southern Baptist Convention. H. E. Williams, chairman of the World Hunger Committee of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, presented the certificate to Central Pastor Jon Stubblefield on Wednesday, Sept. 22. The church donated \$6,799.40 toward the cause of fighting world hunger in 1981. It was the

second year in a row the church led the state in world hunger giving.

Beech Street Church in Gurdon was cited as the second-most supportive church of world hunger relief.

Sunday, Oct. 10 will be observed as World Hunger Day across the Southern Baptist Convention and will include opportunities to give to the World Hunger Offering to help feed the world's hungry through Southern Baptist missions.

Southern notes enrollment surge

Southern Baptist College, Walnut Ridge, reports an enrollment increase of 15 percent for the fall semester over the fall of 1981. Jerol Swaim, vice president for academic affairs, reports 407 students have registered at SBC. This number compares to 354 a year ago.

This anticipated increase called for changing the designated residence halls because of more women students are attend-

ing SBC. The previously designated men's residence hall has become the women's residence, and the men now reside in the former women's dormitory. This change has provided for adequate housing without any additional new construction.

Dr. Swaim said, the positive response to the expanded night course offerings at SBC has made a significant contribution to this increase in enrollment.

Free medical screening offered to elderly

LITTLE ROCK — A "Pulaski County Health Fair" will be conducted Oct. 16, to provide free medical screenings for older Americans in Pulaski County. The full-day Health Fair is sponsored by the American Red Cross, the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences and KARK-TV Newscenter 4. The Health Fair will be conducted from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. in the Ambulatory Care Center, located at the 5th and Elm Street side of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences campus. While the Fair is open to all, special emphasis will be given to older Americans.

Older Americans in Pulaski County who take advantage of the free medical screenings will be examined in the following areas: height and weight, blood pressure,

glaucoma, foot ailments, anemia, and hearing and dental areas. They will also receive free medication and nutritional counseling.

All medical screenings will be conducted by qualified medical personnel and will be done without charge. Hundreds of volunteers from the Red Cross, UAMS, and from across the city will assist in the operations of the Fair. Health exhibits in many areas related to those involved in the examinations will also be on display.

Free parking for the Health Fair is available at the 5th and Elm Street lot in front of the Ambulatory Care Center. Transportation to and from the fair may be provided if needed, and can be arranged by calling the American Red Cross at 666-0351.

Beaver given new title, added responsibilities

RICHMOND, Va. — Homer Beaver, assistant to the president of the Foreign Mission Board, has been given additional responsibilities and named vice president for administration.

A native of Cushing, Okla., Beaver served in the U.S. Air Force for 33 years and retired as a colonel in 1976. He came to the Foreign Mission Board in 1978.

He holds a bachelor of education degree from the University of Nebraska, Omaha; a personnel administration degree from



Beaver

George Washington University, Washington, D.C., and a master of religious education degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

Beaver and his wife, the former Anna Sue Denton of Danville, Ark., are certified leaders for Baptist Sunday School Board marriage enrichment programs. They conduct marriage enrichment retreats in Virginia and the surrounding states.

Beaver's added responsibilities call for him to act for the president of the board in matters relating to the operation of the board staff, in budget process matters and in matters relating to organization, personnel, space and capital building projects.

The Beavers are the parents of two grown sons.

Pastor and church responsibility

The editor's page

J. Everett Sneed



The growth and development of a church doesn't just happen. There are many factors which affect the life of a church. The most important of these are the pastor and the congregation. Periods of great success always occur when each understands and accepts his responsibility.

Across the years many erroneous ideas have developed concerning the pastor's responsibility to the church. Some feel that a pastor should serve as a janitor, carpenter, repairman, engineer, and if any time is left, as a spiritual leader. Some few preachers, however, have seen themselves as executive managers of a corporation. These men desire to maintain a working schedule from nine to five. They are happy to meet all the needs which occur during this rigid time schedule provided they don't have to leave their office to do so. Both of these concepts are false, so what is the pastor's responsibility to the congregation?

The word "pastor" means shepherd. Hence, the pastor's responsibility is to see after the spiritual well-being of his flock. The shepherd feeds, protects, guides, develops, and encourages the increase of the flock.

By now it must be apparent that the pastor is not to be the church caretaker or carpenter. As spiritual leader, his God-given talent and training will find full-time responsibility.

To provide spiritual food will require preparation on the part of the pastor. Thus, the church members should cooperate so that their pastor will have time to study. Church members should not, unless an emergency arises, disturb the pastor when he is making spiritual preparation.

The pastor should, also, offer guidance to the members of his flock. Some of this may be presented from the pulpit, but, of course, much must be done through private counseling. Occasionally, the pastor is sought to assist an individual in decision making. Sometimes, however, the minister must initiate the discussion. The loving man of God must sometimes correct and restrain his members.

The pastor should encourage the flock to increase. His responsibility in witnessing must be both by example and teaching. While the pastor is "an enabler," he cannot assign his witnessing responsibility to another.

Those who know preachers well are aware that most ministers see themselves as spiritual shepherds. If your church has such a man, you are blessed. You should thank God for him and pray for him daily.

Usually, when the church's responsibility to the pastor is mentioned, we automatically think of finance. It is true that a congregation does have an obligation to provide adequate support for their minister. A minister should not have his load made heavier by having to count his pennies daily to determine whether he can purchase the necessities for his family. But the church has a much broader responsibility than that. The most frequent reason for the pastor's dissatisfaction is lack of responsiveness to his leadership. Often, a minister will say, "It may be that the Lord is ready for me to leave this church. It seems that I have led the people as far as I can."

Even though a Baptist church is a democracy, the pastor should be allowed to provide guidance to the congregation. There are several important reasons. First, he has a God-given call and office. One of the words used in the New Testament to describe a pastor is "bishop." The word, according to *Thayer's Greek Lexicon*, means "an overseer," a man charged with the duty of seeing that things to be done by others are done rightly, a curator, a guardian, or a superintendent" (page 243).

Furthermore, a pastor's whole life is vested in the work of the church. Not only does his employment involve his livelihood, but it includes his worship, as well.

Another way in which the pastor deserves the assistance of the church is prayer. As a pastor is upheld by his members in prayer, he becomes more effective. Almost every day a preacher has heavy responsibilities. Among these life-shaping events are counseling, comforting the bereaved, planning the future activities of the church, and presenting the message of salvation.

A church which is fulfilling its total responsibility to its pastor will reap many benefits. They will know the smile of God. Their work will prosper. In most situations they will grow in numbers. They will always increase in their knowledge of the Master.

Arkansas Baptist

NEWMAGAZINE

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

VOLUME 81

NUMBER 38

J. Everett Sneed, Ph.D. Editor
Betty Kennedy Managing Editor

Erwin L. McDonald, Litt. D. Editor Emeritus

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine Board of Directors: Jon M. Stubblefield, Magnolia, chairman; Charles Chesser, Carlisle; Lyndon Finney, Little Rock; Leroy French, Fort Smith; Mrs. Jimmie Garner, Trumann; Merle Milligan, Harrison; Tommy Robertson, El Dorado; Hon. Etsiane Roy, Little Rock; and Lane Strother, Mountain Home.

Letters to the editor expressing opinions are invited. Letters should be typed double-spaced 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.

Copies by mail 50 cents each.

Deaths of members of Arkansas churches will be reported in brief form when information is received not later than 14 days after the date of death.

Advertising rates on request.

Opinions expressed in signed articles are those of the writer.

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Woman's viewpoint

Evelyn Garner

Darkest before dawn

I have often heard the saying "It is always darkest just before dawn." Sometimes troubles come so unexpectedly that it is difficult to see through the maze right away.

One beautiful fall afternoon as we visited with a dear elderly couple one of them remarked, "You know God sure has been good to your little family." We certainly agreed with his observation. We have been blessed with a lovely daughter and a fine son. Just a few short years after this conversation took place we went through the most traumatic experience our family had ever undergone.

Our daughter, who had finished college the previous fall, had not been feeling well for a year. She was not able to enter school the fall after graduation to work on her masters degree as planned. However, after several trips to the hospital and numerous tests, they could find nothing major. Until she discovered a swollen nodule in her neck and the doctors were concerned enough about it to remove it for biopsy. Afterwards the surgeon came to her hospital room and told us he had seen and examined the tumor, which was malignant and diagnosed as Hodgkins Disease.

My first reaction was a feeling of numbness, then fear, then empathy for our child. I walked to the nearest waiting room, which happened to be empty. Looking out the window, tears flowed uncontrollably. I heard a voice and felt a hand on my shoulder, one of the housekeeping staff with whom we had become acquainted said, "I know it's bad news, but I also know the

Lord is already working it out, and it's going to be all right." No matter what the outcome might be I needed to hear those words of reassurance.

Those words of reassurance by her and literally hundreds of others pledging prayer support were what sustained us. Our daughter's fantastic "effervescent" attitude and her quiet acceptance of the treatment days ahead made the experience bearable. She never lost sight of the fact that God's ways were higher than hers (Isaiah 55:9). Her strength and courage came from God.

Now she is in her fifth year of remission and believes more strongly than ever that in Christ we are more than conquerors (Romans 8:35-39).

Evelyn Garner, a member of Trumann First Church teaches in the Youth Department, sings in the choir and is active in the W.M.U. She is part time secretary for Trinity Baptist Association, where her husband Jimmie Garner serves as Director of Missions. The Garners are the parents of two children, a married daughter and a son. Her daughter will write a sequel to this article Oct. 21.

missionary notes

Rev. and Mrs. Norman L. Coad, missionaries to Upper Volta, have a new address (Mission Baptiste, B.P. 1456, Bobo Dioulassa, Upper Volta, West Africa).

Crucial Questions for Christians

by Glen D. McGriff

Dr. McGriff, there has been increasing expressions of inconsistency in the behavior of my husband. Do you think a Christian can be demon possessed?

There is no question regarding the reality of the supernatural or spirit world. One cannot take seriously the biblical revelation and deny that reality. However, this can be but another crafty deception to evade responsibility or make transference.



McGriff

Perhaps one could conclude that all behavior inconsistent with biblical principles has satanic origin. Yet, to use the term "demon possessed" would not be appropriate. Compulsive behavior that persists in the context of sincere effort and desire to avoid, might indicate super-natural interference.

It should be remembered that behavioral responses create rigid patterns. When one chooses to respond with irresponsible expressions, these patterns are reinforced. Consistent reinforcement can strengthen the pattern until the weakened human will appears powerless. This often is the situational reality rather than a demonic activity. It is but a reinforced structure of negative choices.

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

Letter to the editor

Deaconess not biblical

In the Sept. 16 issue of the Arkansas Baptist concerning your article on the Baptist deacon in the Aug. 19 issue, Mr. William H. Simpson called your article biased because you didn't even hint that a woman could even be thought of as a deaconess. I wish to call to Chaplain Simpson's attention I Timothy, Chapter 3, regarding the qualifications for the ordaining of ministers and deacons.

Also, I would like to clear up the meaning of the Greek word Diakonos for those who may not know its meaning. It is true the new versions do use the word deaconess, which shouldn't be. According to W. E. Vines' Dictionary, the Greek word Diakonos (servant), primarily denotes a servant,

whether doing servile work, or as an attendant rendering free service, without particular reference to its character. The word is probably connected with the verb Dioko, to hasten after, or pursue. It occurs in the New Testament in relation to domestic servants, the civil ruler, Christ — the list is long. In Acts, Chapter 6, seven men were chosen and set apart and did the work of a deacon, although they were not called by that name.

The ordination of women as preachers and deacons isn't biblical, nor was it the doctrine of the Southern Baptist denomination that I grew up in over 40 years ago. It seems to me that in recent years much doctrine from other denominations have crept

into that of the Southern Baptist's, and has caused a lot of strife. This is Satan's tactics and if this trend continues, I would not be surprised if the name 'Southern Baptist' is changed to 'Interdenominational Southern Baptist' before long.

There was a time when one said they were Southern Baptist, and most knew what they stood for and against. Now, it seems one can believe anything they please and still be called a Baptist.

So, if you are biased because you stand on God's Holy Word, then brethren, so am I, and so I will be until God changes, and his Holy Word tells us he changes not. Hallelujah. — Odell Davis, Spring Valley Church, Spring Valley

by Millie Gill/ABN staff writer

Curtis L. Mathis Sr.

will begin serving Oct. 17 as pastor of the Harrison First Church, coming there from the Calvary Church in Beaumont, Texas. Mathis has pastored other Texas churches and served as pastor of the Central Church in Jonesboro, 1958-1966. While in Arkansas he was on the Executive Board of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention and served as president of the state Pastor's Conference, 1964. He and his wife, Anna Louise are both graduates of Baylor University and both attended Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary where he graduated in 1955. They are parents of two children, Curtis L. Mathis Jr. of Waco, Texas, and Cynthia Ann Mathis of Temple, Texas.



Mathis



Perry

Chester P. Roten

was honored Oct. 3 in observance of his 40th anniversary in the gospel ministry. He is interim pastor of the Botkinburg Church at Clinton and is a member of Leslie First Church.

Chris Perry

has joined the staff of the Tuckerman First Church as youth director. He is a student at Southern Baptist College. Perry and his wife, Lisa, came to Tuckerman from the Batesville Calvary Church.

Jay Close

has accepted the call to join the staff of Blytheville First Church as minister of youth, effective Oct. 10. He will go there from the Central Church of Magnolia where he has been serving as an intern, working with youth and senior adults. He and his wife, Darlene, came to Arkansas from

Louisville, Ky.

Gary Akers

is serving as youth director of the Ironton Church in Little Rock. He is a junior at Ouachita Baptist University.

Chuck Hicks

has resigned as minister of education/youth at Augusta First Church to join the staff of the Calvary Church in Chillicothe, Mo.

Jimmy Leach

has resigned as director of music at Immanuel Church in Fayetteville following two years of service there. He is a senior trumpet major at the University of Arkansas.

Bill Williamson

has announced his resignation as pastor of the Huntsville First Church, effective Oct. 15.

Loyd Hamilton

has resigned as pastor of the Combs Church.

William T. Flint

is serving as interim pastor of the Rolling Hills Church at Fayetteville.

Roy Conatser

began serving Sept. 26 as pastor of the Dallas Avenue Church in Mena. He came there from a more than three year pastorate at the Wilton First Church. Conatser and his wife, Janice, have three children, Jason, Stephanie and Nikki.

John H. Colbert

will begin serving Oct. 18 as director of missions for Current-Gains Association. He resigned as pastor of the Sherwood First Church to accept this position, following more than 12 years of service there. A native Arkansan, he is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University and attended Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has earned both a masters and doctors degree by correspondence. Colbert has served other Arkansas churches and is serving his fourth term on the Executive Board of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. He and his wife, Vi, will be living in Corning.

College president Oliver dies

James Columbus Oliver, president of Arkansas Baptist College in Little Rock, died Sept. 27 at age 89.

Memorial services were held at the college Sept. 29. Funeral services were held Oct. 2 at Mount Zion Church in Little Rock, where he was a member.

Oliver, since 1946, had been treasurer of the National Baptist Temple Union Congress of Christian Education, an auxiliary of the National Baptist Convention. He was a veteran of World War I, a life member of the NAACP, the Arkansas Education Association and the National Education Association.

During his 20 years as president of the college, a four-year liberal arts institution, enrollment increased, the night school was expanded and the college received candidacy status for accreditation. The college also built, staffed, equipped and paid for six buildings during his tenure.

Survivors are a sister, Bettye Anderson of Little Rock; an adopted daughter, Bettye Washington of Warrenville, Ill., and four grandchildren.

□ Total funds given through Southern Baptist churches for hunger and disaster relief for 1980 reached \$5.6 million.

Wesson Church

recently held a ground-breaking ceremony for a family center building. Participating were P. V. Griffin II, Val Fuller, Gene Homaker, Terry Maynor, Jimmy Langley, Otis Glenn and Pastor Dale Shirey.

Ward First Church

recently honored Sally Jayroe, Ruby Bayles and Molene Cook for their services to the church. Jayroe has served for 37 years as clerk; Bayles for 28 years as pianist and Cook for 17 years as pre-school department director.

Calvary Church

at Texarkana has established a ministry for senior adults. Activities began Oct. 1 for those 55 years and older.

Friendly Hope Church

at Jonesboro celebrated its 50th anniversary Aug. 22 with activities including a potluck dinner, singing and visiting of former pastors and friends. The church, organized in 1932 has a current membership of 475. The church has celebrated its anniversary year with other events, including a senior adult weekend revival; mission efforts in Gas City, Ind., and Mount Ida; a noteburning

service and a dedication service for newly acquired property.

Russellville Second Church

observed Mae Dobbs' Day Sept. 26, recognizing her for 27 years of service to the church as a teacher in both Sunday School and Church Training and as a Woman's Missionary Union officer.

Martindale Church

in Little Rock observed homecoming Oct. 3 with a morning worship service, potluck luncheon, and a 2 p.m. program. Joel Moody, a former pastor, was speaker.

briefly

Look what's coming up

Our annual pre-convention issue gives you a look at what's planned for the annual meeting of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention Nov. 16-18 in North Little Rock.

Don't miss the pages and pages of programs, people data and business information all together in the Oct. 14 ABN. We hope you will save the issue for later reference.

Fort Smith First honors pastor Bennett

First Church of Fort Smith held a convocation featuring a message by Leo Eddleman, noted scholar from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, and an eight-day celebration to observe jointly the 125th anniversary of the church's constitution and the 15th anniversary of William L. Bennett's accepting the pastorate there.

Bennett was honored with a number of banquets during the week, which allowed him to meet with small groups of friends and acquaintances.

Bennett is a Summa Cum Laude graduate of Wake Forest University elected to the membership of Phi Beta Kappa. He earned M.A. and M.Div. degrees at Duke University and the Th.D. from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He has served as visiting professor on seminary campuses at New Orleans and at Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

As pastor of Fort Smith First, Bennett has baptized 2,753 persons and has seen 5,718 people come into the membership of the church. He has led the church to be one of the top 25 in mission giving in the Southern Baptist Convention and led the Sunday School to become the fifth fastest-growing in the SBC during the past 10 years.

He served eight years on the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, was president of the Arkansas Baptist Pastors' Conference and has been a member of the board of trustees at Ouachita Baptist University.

He and his wife, Doris, are the parents of three sons.

Fort Smith First constituted Dec. 1, 1857, with six charter members, has the largest membership, Sunday School and budget of any church in the state of Arkansas, with more than 7,300 resident and non-resident members currently on the roll.

□ *The Federal Accounting Office has recorded that one-fifth of all the food we purchase is wasted through poor storage and overbuying.*

North Little Rock seminar site

Park Hill Church in North Little Rock will be the location of a tape-delayed showing of a Sunday School growth seminar to be broadcast nationwide by the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The one-hour program and seminar, introducing the Adult Sunday School Growth Emphasis, will be Monday, Nov. 1 at Park Hill, according to Jim Williams, one of the local coordinators.

The program will be a tape of a video program to be broadcast live to 90 locations in 24 states on Tuesday, Oct. 26 via the Holiday Inn Satellite Network (Hi-Net). The live broadcast will be blacked out in Arkansas to avoid a conflict with the state's Church Training Convention, which will be held in Little Rock on Oct. 26.

The Sunday School Board did announce two sites where Arkansas Sunday School leaders may attend the live telecast, though. Sessions will be held at the Holiday Inn in Texarkana and Airport Holiday Inn in Memphis, Tenn. Host directors will be Steve Stegal, minister of education at Beech Street Church in Texarkana, and Durwood Howard, minister of education at

Broadmoor Church in Memphis.

Host directors for the Nov. 1 showing are Williams, minister of education at Geyer Springs First Church, and Bob Pruitt, minister of adult education at Park Hill Church.

The seminars at all locations begin at 11 a.m. Included will be the video program introducing the Adult Growth Emphasis and the "Powerpacket for an Adult Class," a question-and-answer session with the host director and lunch. Tickets are available for purchase from the host directors.

"The purpose of the seminar is to make churches aware of the tremendous need for giving priority to adult growth in the 8.5 by '85 emphasis (an effort to increase SBC Sunday School enrollment to 8.5 million by Sept. 30, 1985)," Larry Showtell, supervisor of the adult program section of the Sunday School Board's Sunday School department, said.

"The use of satellite technology for this seminar also will serve as a pilot test for some of the kinds of programs we plan to make available through Baptist TelNet (a satellite network to churches to be launched by the board in 1984)," Ralph McIntyre, director of the Bible teaching division, added.

Ouachita shows increase in enrollment

ARKADELPHIA — Fall semester enrollment at Ouachita Baptist University is 1,691, five students more than in the same period last year, according to Mike Kolb, registrar.

Upperclass and graduate enrollment increased over 1981 enrollment significantly, said Kolb, but underclass enrollment decreased, with the full-time equivalent enrollment decreasing by 3.9 percent.

OBU President Daniel R. Grant said, "We are pleased that the enrollment is as strong as it is, in view of the national trends for decreased enrollment, particularly in the private colleges and universities. Both economic factors and the smaller number of high school graduates appear to be causing a downward trend in enrollment."

Ouachita's enrollment comes from 69 of Arkansas' 75 counties, from 27 states in the

nation, and from 20 different foreign countries.

The undergraduate enrollment includes 476 freshmen, 299 sophomores, 314 juniors, and 322 seniors. Freshman men outnumber freshman women by 244 to 232, and the total enrollment ratio of male to female is almost exactly 50-50.

The counties producing the largest number of students at Ouachita are: Pulaski (186), Clark (156), Jefferson (80), Union (51), Lonoke (46), Saline (44), Hempstead (42), Garland (41), Sebastian (36), White (30), Hot Spring (29), and Ouachita (21).

Korean fellowship begins at Blytheville

A group of 22 Korean residents of Mississippi County met together to form a Korean Baptist Fellowship near Blytheville Sept. 11. The group plans to meet each Saturday at Bethany Church, located near the Blytheville Air Force Base, according to Henry G. West, director of missions for Mississippi County Association.

A Korean medical doctor stationed at Moody Air Force Base in Valdosta, Ga. flew at his own expense to help get the work started. The whole service, including the sermon, was in Korean, West said. The group plans to receive a tape each week from Dr. Parks, the speaker, to help them conduct their service.

MK Prayer Calendar

Home and foreign Missionary Kids
who attend college on the Margaret Fund

October

- 21 Janean Shaw (South Africa) Box 1447, OBU, Arkadelphia, AR 71923
- 22 W. Stewart Pickle (Ecuador) Box 2348, JBU, Siloam Springs, AR 72761
- 23 Laura L. Hampton (East Africa) Box 109, OBU, Arkadelphia, AR 71923
- 24 Rusty Gately (Korea) 16 North Locust, Fayetteville, AR 72701

Executive secretary-elect outlines goals, objectives

by Bob Allen

Two hours after electing unanimously an executive secretary/treasurer for the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, members of the state Executive Board had an opportunity to hear the new head administrator share his goals and objectives for the job.

Don Moore, the 49-year-old pastor of Fort Smith Grand Avenue Church, spoke at a banquet celebrating his election immediately following a called Executive Board meeting Sept. 23.

Moore told Executive Board members, state convention employees and spouses that he was honored and excited about assuming the executive secretary role. "I have a deeper conviction about this decision than any decision I have ever made in my ministry," he said. He described a dramatic calling over the previous three weeks, where numerous people affirmed his own conviction to take the job by offering unsolicited advice for him to do so. The experiences, Moore said, brought him to a point of surrender "in my office, on my face."

Moore outlined six goals as executive secretary:

"First and foremost," he said, "I desire to be among you as a man sent from God." Moore urged board members not to dismiss the statement as "a trite, clerical cliché," but to believe that the executive secretary-elect brings a profound sense of calling into the position.

Second, in order of priority, Moore said, "My desire is to help every church grow. I believe God wants every church to grow."

Moore also said he aims to "develop a

beautiful, spiritual fellowship with mutual love, trust and outstanding fellowship in the Lord" among Arkansas Baptists. "I have never (gone to) a church that wasn't split right about down the middle — right about 50-50 — and I have never ministered in a church that did not come together wholeheartedly," he said. "Every one of you is hoping for a better day in Arkansas, when we love one another, trust one another and enjoy one another. We must, and we can, have a fellowship that is second to none."

Fourth, Moore said, he would like to see associational directors of missions become "tremendous growth agents" in the churches they oversee. He vowed to "reinforce, encourage and assist the associations."

Fifth, Moore said he hopes "to be a pastor with our people in the Baptist Building." "God has given me a heart to love people closely, intimately," Moore said. He said he does not intend to put that aside when he leaves the pastorate. "I really hope God is going to give some good times together."

Finally, Moore said he would make it a priority to see that "churches get maximum efficiency for your Cooperative Program dollars."

Moore listed a number of "strategies" to meet his goals including personal ministry with individuals, preaching across the state, arranging study opportunities for Baptist Building staff, providing pastors with opportunities for growth and fellowship and to visit other state conventions with successful programs.

"I beg of you to be faithful in your pray-

ers," Moore pleaded. "I beg of you to treat me as you want your church members to treat you."

"I don't know how to relate to anyone but one way — to love you, to be open, to be honest and to be firm."

"I hate politics," Moore continued. "I don't enjoy trying to manipulate people and I don't enjoy being manipulated. You must believe I am capable in discerning what God wants."

"I don't want to be caught in the jaws of political action," he concluded. "I want to be free to be God's man where God has spoken."

Executive Board elects member, committee reps

The Executive Board of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention elected one new member and made two committee appointments at a special meeting, called primarily to vote on executive secretary nominee Don Moore, Sept. 23.

Milton James of Greenwood was elected to fill an unexpired term in Concord Association created by the resignation of Bill Kreis, who recently began serving as director of missions for Faulkner Association. The term expires in 1984.

The board also appointed Bill Milam, of Concord Association, to replace Kreis on the Operating Committee and named Tommy Hinson, of Tri-County Association, chairman of the Finance Committee.



ABN photo/Mike Gill

Don Moore, who is scheduled to assume the role of Executive Secretary/Treasurer for the Arkansas Baptist State Convention Oct. 18, addresses Executive Board members and others Sept. 23.



Moore, his wife Shirley, son Jeff and guest greet Dr. and Mrs. Daniel Grant at a reception celebrating Moore's election to the top administrative post of the state convention. Grant is president of Ouachita Baptist University, the elder Moore's alma mater. Jeff is currently a student at OBU.

The Sunday School's pace setter

by John B. Wright

In my article last week I attempted to convey to my colleagues what they could do to become the pace setter for their Sunday School. In this concluding article I offer other suggestions which have been helpful to me in an effort to assume this role in our Sunday School organization. I hope these thoughts will be beneficial to you.

The pastor as a pace setter should set the tone for good Biblical studies. The term "teaching the lesson" should be eliminated. When this expression is used one has a mental picture of the teacher standing before the class teaching out of the quarterly, which is what too many do. Good, solid Bible study should be given priority when the class comes together. Various methods of outreach are employed today and rightly so. However, the best way to attract people to Sunday School is to give them something when they come. The pastor should be cognizant of the quality of teaching being done and set about to improve it when necessary.

The pastor should not neglect to offer accolades and plaudits to those in leadership positions. Teachers, especially in the children's division, sometimes wonder if their efforts are futile simply because the results are not immediately manifested. In reality there is no one in the church, except the pastor perhaps, who exerts a greater influence on youth than the Sunday School teacher. To this day I recall the contribution Mrs. Claude Mustain made to my life as a Junior High student. She had only a few boys in her class. One of them now is president of Southwest Baptist University

in Bolivar, Mo. Our faithful teachers must know they are occupying a high position and the pastor is the one to communicate this fact.

The pastor should be a pace setter in conveying the advantages of the Sunday School organization to his pastoral ministry. It is virtually impossible for the pastor to meet the spiritual, material and emotional needs of every member of his congregation. The genius of the Sunday School is the cell group concept which allows for people to be ministered to on a personal basis. In a small group the needs of individuals can be readily detected and a caring class can respond to those needs. Many times these problems would never come to the attention of the pastor and if they did it would be physically impossible to meet them all. Our members are suffering from assaults of every description and need a true and trusted friend in whom to confide. Fortunate is the man or woman who has a godly Sunday School teacher with a caring and understanding heart.

In a day when we think we must have staff people to work with youth, we need to get back to the old practice of another day of teachers building relationships with their class members, thus winning their confidence as a counselor. In the 20th Century church some think we must have a paid staff member to take care of every problem. If a Sunday School organization was not in existence and someone suddenly came up with the idea as a means of ministering to one another, we would shout for joy and exclaim, "Man, this is a great concept, let's do it." Pastor, the idea has already been

conceived and the structure developed. All we need to do is use it.

Lastly, the pastor should be a pace setter in using the Sunday School as an evangelistic tool. The vast majority of converts are reached through the Sunday School. One of the main objectives of the Sunday School is to enlist people in Bible study for the purpose of introducing them to Jesus. Very few unsaved people are drawn to the formal worship service on Sunday morning or night. Most of them find their way into a worship experience through the Sunday School having been invited by a caring class member. Of all the methods of soul winning used by Southern Baptists, none are more successful week after week than the Sunday School. After many of these "flash in the pan" methods fade away, the Sunday School is still there using tried and proven methods as it has through the years drawing people to Jesus.

Pastor, become a pace setter for your Sunday School. Get out there on the cutting edge, set the example, lead the way, reorganize your priorities, reschedule your time, do not squander precious hours with non-essentials. Give first class loyalty to first class matters. The Sunday School is a first class endeavor that deserves your time, attention and input. It, like all other ministries in the church, will go no further than the leadership you provide.

If the theme 8.5 by 85 becomes a reality, it will be because of pastors like you have moved from the periphery in Sunday School work to its very center.

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

Give us this day our daily bread

Domestic hunger — a mission challenge

by Nathan Porter

Poverty and hunger in the U.S. are not common knowledge for most people. Many of us never get off our expressway of life to view the struggle of the poor and hungry: 31.8 million Americans live under the poverty level and another 35 million fight for survival as they barely miss the official poverty line.

Poverty and hunger are an ugly reality in the U.S. It is not a racial problem; two thirds of all poor are white. It is a problem of economics. Hungry people in the U.S. do not have enough money to buy the food they need.

Included among the poor and hungry in the U.S. are native Americans whose per capita income is \$1,450 and who experience an unemployment rate of 50 to 60 percent. Ninety percent of all migrants live below the poverty level; only one of every

5,000 migrant children ever graduate from high school.

Two of every three poor adults are women. Half of all the families living in poverty have a woman as head of the household. Yet women experience the highest rate of unemployment, do the most menial tasks, and earn 59 cents for every dollar earned by men. Fourteen percent of the elderly are poor and 17.5 million children live in poverty homes. The poor and hungry in the U.S. are not lazy men living off welfare. They are the helplessness who need our love, ministry and witness.

The need is critical and urgent! Problems facing the poor include rising living costs, unemployment, underemployment, poor skills and education, decrease in supportive programs, little political power, and a negative bias on the part of the rich and

middle class.

Southern Baptists' awareness of our mission among the needy is increasing; home missionaries are involved in services and a witness to the poor; many churches are developing ministries to aid the poor; many of us are political advocates for social justice for the poor in our land. The gospel is good news to the poor even today!

Nathan Porter, of Arkadelphia, is national consultant for domestic hunger to the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

□ A growing number of Americans are finding it financially necessary to alter their eating habits. As a nation, we now eat 17 percent less beef per capita than in 1976, enabling increase in meat consumption elsewhere.

Committee report release recommended

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — A bylaw change recommending release of the Southern Baptist Convention Committee on Boards report prior to the annual convention has been recommended by the SBC Executive Committee.

The change in Bylaw 16 requires action by messengers at the 1983 annual meeting in Pittsburgh. While constitutional changes require action by two subsequent conventions, the bylaws can be amended by affirmative vote at a single convention.

The recommendation requires that the report of the Committee on Boards, Commissions and Standing Committees be released to Baptist Press, the denominational news service, "no later than 45 days prior to the annual meeting of the convention."

Currently, the bylaw requires that the report of the committee on boards be published in the first day's convention bulletin, but does not preclude early release.

A decision by the 1982 committee on boards to withhold early publication of the report set off a storm of controversy, and resulted in a motion at the annual meeting requiring release of the body's report at least 30 days in advance of the annual meeting.

In presenting the recommendation, Welton Gaddy, chairman of the Executive Committee's bylaws workgroup and pastor of Broadway Church of Fort Worth, Texas, said the committee revised the suggestion to the 45 day release date which he said would give the news service and denominational publications 15 days in which to prepare it for publication.

"We believe we are staying within the spirit of the motion by adding 15 days in order to get it to the people," Gaddy said.

The committee turned down an effort by Tommy Hinson, a member from West Memphis, Ark., which would have referred the recommendation back to the bylaws workgroup, instructing them to make an addition which would require that "substitute nominees offered in challenge to the report ... be provided to Baptist Press at least 30 days in advance (of the meeting) and published in the first day's bulletin."

In the past two conventions, successful challenges have been mounted to the com-

mittee report. In Los Angeles, five nominees were replaced, and in New Orleans, substitutes were elected for three persons named by the committee on boards. The bylaw provides that the committee report "may be amended on the floor by a majority vote of those voting."

Attorney Ed Drake, a member of Dallas' First Church, supported Hinson's effort, calling the substitution of nominees from the convention floor "a problem." He noted such substitution does not give messengers "ample time to evaluate the person."

"There is something inherently bad about that situation," he said, adding that he does not "know what the solution is, but we have to have some safeguard . . ."

In response, Gaddy said he believes the convention "can instruct committees on the process they should follow," but does not believe "we can instruct messengers and bind them to 30 days notice" if they wish to challenge a nominee.

Only four persons voted in favor of Hinson's effort to refer the bylaw back to the bylaws workgroup for further study and addition of the challenge rules. They were Hinson, Drake, John Christian of Hopkinsville, Ky., and SBC president James T. Draper Jr. of Eufless, Texas.

The Executive Committee also recommended that Bylaw 16 be revised to require that persons who serve on the committee on boards "shall have resided within the state from which they are elected at least one year prior to election."

Gaddy commented the revision also was in response to a motion from the New Orleans convention, and that it applied only to the committee on boards and not to persons it nominates. "It was felt the people who do the nominating need to know the people from the state they will be nominating," he said.

A similar change will be recommended to the Pittsburgh convention concerning Bylaw 21 on the Committee on Committees, which nominates the Committee on Boards.

The change in Bylaw 21 also specifies names of persons nominated to serve on that committee by the SBC president "shall

be released to Baptist Press no later than 45 days prior to the annual meeting . . ."

Gaddy said the bylaws workgroup rejected a suggestion from Russell Bennett, director of missions of the Long Run Baptist Association, Louisville, Ky., that would strip the president of appointive powers, and give it to state conventions.

Draper recently rejected a proposal by a group of "moderates" that he depoliticize the convention by supporting a similar plan, under which he would receive nominations from state conventions and would be bound by them in making his appointments.

In another action on the bylaws, the Executive Committee declined to change the responsibilities of the first vice president, to include that he or she be responsible for prayer support at the annual convention.

Gaddy noted former president Bailey E. Smith of Del City, Okla., started the practice by asking 1980 first vice president Jack Taylor of Fort Worth, Texas, to set up prayer rooms at the convention.

He said the bylaws workgroup was "reticent to institutionalize such responsibilities for the first vice president," and recommended that the Executive Committee "encourage the convention officers to call the convention to prayer rather than amend" the constitution.

Gaddy told the committee the bylaws workgroup is continuing to study possible revisions on bylaws regarding the resolutions committee and the rules which govern recognition and representation of new states and territories.

Draper announced to the Executive Committee extensive new procedures in handling the resolutions, which in recent years have grown to such proportions that it required 25 hours of work by the 10-person resolutions committee in New Orleans to prepare its report.

The Executive Committee adopted a revision of its own bylaws, most of which were "cosmetic changes" in language, but which do eliminate the "annual call" of Executive Secretary-Treasurer Harold C. Bennett.

Helms loses school prayer battle on senate floor

A month-long Senate floor battle waged by New Right conservatives to take away the Supreme Court's authority to decide school prayer cases failed after four unsuccessful efforts to end a filibuster against the measure.

Facing an early October adjournment as well as a Sept. 30 expiration of the current debt ceiling extension, the Senate voted to remove all amendments from the debt ceiling bill — including the school prayer rider sponsored by Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C. —

and then passed the bill.

The action apparently ended prospects for passage of school prayer legislation in this Congress but Helms vowed to press his case in the next session of Congress which begins in January. In addition, President Reagan's proposed constitutional amendment on school prayer is pending in the Senate Judiciary Committee, but chances of floor action appear to be increasingly unlikely as Congress nears adjournment.

Helms' school prayer and abortion amendments to the debt ceiling bill had tied up the Senate since mid-August. The floor situation had become what majority leader Howard H. Baker Jr., R-Tenn., described as a "legislative deadlock" with Helms never coming close to the 60 votes necessary to cut off debate and his opponents falling short on a vote to kill the prayer language as they had done earlier when the Senate voted to table Helms' abortion rider.

Your state convention at work

Christian Life Council

'Strengthening Families' videotape series available

This five-tape series of videotapes features presentations on marriage and the family with world-renowned Christian marriage and family counselor David Mace. These are used where television cassette monitors are available.

These videotapes prepared by the Christian Life Commission are a part of the Southern Baptist Video Network and are available from the Christian Life Council, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock 72203, for a service fee of \$10 each. The fee covers postage both ways, handling, and maintenance of the tapes. Churches should request the tapes at least three weeks in advance of the intended viewing date. The tapes are available in one-half inch VHS. (Three quarter inch VHS tapes are available from the Christian Life Commission, 460 James Robertson Parkway, Nashville, Tenn. 37219). Tapes should be returned immediately to either source upon completion of viewing.

Church Training

Media library expert on Church Training Convention program

Keith Mee will lead a conference for media library staff members at the Church Training Convention Oct. 26, 1982.

The conference title is "How to Administer and Promote a Church Media Center." It will provide specific help in organizing, planning and promoting the work of the church media center.

Mee is supervisor for the Media Library Department of the Sunday School Board. He is an experienced conference leader and has led conferences at Glorieta and Ridgecrest. He is the author of *How to Use Audiovisuals*



Mee

Three Essentials for Marriage — This 54-minute tape gives essentials for a successful marriage and marriage growth.

Marriage from the Critical First Year — This 40-minute tape provides help for newlyweds as well as older married couples and explores ways to avoid failure in the early years of marriage.

Dealing With Marital Conflicts — This 43-minute tape gives valuable assistance in dealing with conflict in both marriage and the family.

Love, Anger, and Intimacy — This 41-minute tape is a masterpiece which is particularly valuable for couples in learning how to balance emotions in family life and in marriage situations.

Clergy Marriages in Crisis — This 37-minute tape is a must for both pastors and wives and is also helpful for deacons and congregations. — Bob Parker, director

and *The Learning Team: the Learner, the Leader, and the Library*.

Sessions of the conference are scheduled from 10 a.m. to noon, 2-4:15 p.m. and 7-9:15 p.m. Participants should plan to attend all three sessions in order to qualify for credit in the Church Study Course.

Immanuel Church in Little Rock is the host church for the Church Training Convention. The Baptist Book Store will provide a display of resources for media library workers. Robert Magee, pastor of the Temple Church in Ruston, La., will be the featured speaker for the general sessions of the convention.

Additional information may be received by contacting the Church Training Department, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, Ark. 72203. — Gerald Jackson, associate

Brotherhood

Baptist Men's Retreat planned at Camp Paron

Camp Paron is the site where the Annual Baptist Men's Retreat will be held Oct. 29-30. A variety of activities, workshops and recreation has been worked into this retreat to provide something for everyone.

The guest speakers will be Dean Dickens, missionary to the Philippines. Don Gephardt will share his ministry with amateur radio and special missionary communications. Frank Black of the Brotherhood Commission will tell how Arkansas fits into the disaster relief ministry of the Southern Baptist Convention. The disaster relief mobil unit will be on display. There will also be special music

by a quartet.

The retreat is a special time to get to know other men of Arkansas and get better acquainted with the work of Baptist Men in Arkansas. It begins at 5 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 29 and concludes at noon on Saturday, Oct. 30.

Information about the agenda, costs and registration is included in a brochure mailed to pastors, Brotherhood directors, presidents of Baptist Men, directors of missions. You can also contact the Brotherhood Department, Box 552, Little Rock, Ark., 72203, for more information. — Neal Guthrie, director

Evangelism

TELL evangelism

TELL stands for Training for Evangelistic Lifestyle and Leadership. Our department and many association offices have TELL sets that may be reserved.

TELL is a small group study that deals with why we do not share our faith and encourages lifestyle witnessing. It starts with a film titled *A Disturbing Silence*. This film tells the story of people who are giving their personal witness as they live their daily lives. The film can be used in a variety of ways in a local church. It is available from the Home Mission Board, Evangelism Section for a cost



Kent

of \$15 to any church.

The TELL cartridges deal with the situations "I Can't Do That", "It's the Pastor's Job", and "Isn't it Enough Just to Invite Them to Church?"

Very helpful resources are given during the TELL training. The resources are *How to Give Your Personal Testimony*, *How to Use a Witnessing Booklet*, *How to Use a Marked New Testament*, *The Biblical Basis for Prayer in Witnessing*, *Practical Application for Prayer in Witnessing*, *Bible Study Leaflets* and *A Witnessing Booklet*.

An overview of the TELL materials is available by writing the Evangelism Department, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203. Our department is happy to arrange for TELL teacher certification. — Wes Kent, pre-college associate

Your state convention at work

Stewardship

Per capita gifts through Cooperative Program

The general Southern Baptist resident member gave \$23.16 through Cooperative Program ministries in 1981. Arkansas Baptists were above average with resident members giving \$26.22 through the Cooperative Program.

What made Arkansas above average? We have many outstanding churches who share large percentages for mission support. These churches gave more than \$60 per resident member for Cooperative Program ministries in 1981.

Sparkman, First, \$143.71; Maple Avenue, Smackover, \$124.49; Almyra, First, \$114.56; Crossett, First, \$103.01; Dermott, \$94.04; Hazen, First, \$87.99; Smackover, First, \$85.39; Grand Avenue, Ft. Smith, \$84.52; West Memphis, First, \$83.03; Camden, First, \$81.93. Immanuel, Little Rock, \$81.43; Blytheville, First, \$78.86;

Strong, First, \$77.50; Pulaski Heights, Little Rock, \$76.98; Elaine, \$76.73; Clear Creek, Alma, \$76.26; Brinkley, First, \$72.73; Bella Vista, First, \$70.22; Immanuel, El Dorado, \$68.27; Heber Springs, First, \$66.44.

Stuttgart, First, \$66.44; El Dorado, Second, \$65.18; Osceola, First, \$64.62; East Side, Fort Smith, \$64.59; Carlisle, First, \$64.14; Immanuel, Danville, \$63.74; Hope, First, \$63.68; Salem, Stephens, \$63.60; Gentry, First, \$63.17; Earle, \$62.35.

Barcelona Road, Hot Springs, \$62.09; Hartford, First, \$61.32; Beech Street, Gurdon, \$61.21; England, First, \$60.82; Star City, First, \$60.40; Batesville, First, \$60.35; Newport, First, \$60.25. — James A. Walker, director

Sunday School

Great Day in the Morning!

The annual nationwide high attendance day in Sunday School is set for Oct. 31, 1982. In Arkansas, and in many other states, this day has been designated as Great Day In the Morning. This day is the last week of October or Outreach Month in the Sunday School Program.

Some churches set upward spiraling goals for each October Sunday with the highest goal on Oct. 31. Many churches plan to make a picture of the attending group and provide free prints to the members present on the first Sunday of November.



Hatfield

There is no statewide Great Day In the Morning picture contest this year, but many churches see the high value of making and sharing pictures.

Other intrinsic values of Great Day In the Morning include the opportunity to encourage all churches to give maximum attention to a worthy attendance goal on the same day; to demonstrate that high attendance is possible; to inspire workers and members.

High attendance supports the biblical purposes of a church to reach the people, to teach the Bible, to evangelize, and to practice stewardship.

Have a great day! — Lawson Hatfield, director

Church Music

Children's Leadership Conference

Ron Jackson (pictured), the new Pre-school and Younger Children's Choir specialist from the Sunday School Board, led in the Pre-school portion of the State Children's Choir Leadership Conference at Second Church in Little Rock. Martha Ruth Moore and Peggy Williams of FBC, Paris, Tenn. led the Older and Younger Children's Choir leaders conferences. Two hundred fifty leaders from across the state were in attendance for this biennial leadership conference. The Adult Choir Festivals are scheduled as the alternating event with the Children's Leadership Conference. — Glen E. Ennes, associate



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Look who's joined you

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New budget: Calvary, Dardanelle	Mark Brookhart	Dard-Russellville

For more information on how your church can join the family of subscribers to your state Baptist paper, write to Subscriptions, Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, Ark. 72203 or call Ann Taylor at (501) 376-4791, ext. 156.

International Remembering the Passover

by Jerry Hogan, Baring Cross Church, North Little Rock

Basic passage: Exodus 11-12

Focal passages: Exodus 12:5, 6-11, 14

Central truth: Judgment will pass over the blood of the Lamb.

This passage overflows with positive applications to our lives because of the parallels it draws to Jesus Christ and the deliverance that he brought to the world.

Verse 5 indicates that the sacrificial lamb is very special. It is to be without blemish. It is to be male in gender and separated out or set apart from others. Every word in this verse points to our Savior.

Verses 6-11 gives us the instructions by God concerning the lamb and the people of Israel. God's instructions for redemption are very specific. The children of Israel surely did not understand the purpose for all of this, but they understood the command. God's instructions for redemption may seem too simple or foolish to the unbeliever, but what is important to God is what counts on the day of accountability.

Verse 11 shares the mental attitude with which this command is to be carried out. The attitude of expectancy is anticipated. The New Testament tells us to pray believing that God is going to act. It tells us that when we commit our lives to Christ, we should be ready for things to happen. We can expect action from God when we are obedient to his directions. Israel was to observe the Passover in a state of readiness to receive deliverance. Obeying while anticipating is an exciting and great way to live.

Verses 14 and 26 indicate that our Lord expects us to remember deliverance, and that when the children ask, we are to be ready with a definite witness of how God has provided deliverance to those who trust in his plan.

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Life and Work Living in Christ

by Tommy J. Carney, First Church, Mountaintop

Basic passage: I John 2:1-6, 9-10, 15-17

Focal passage: I John 2:3-5, 15-17

Central truth: We can know that we are in Christ

A person will be in one of two places — in Christ or outside of Christ. It is possible to live in the Lord or to live outside of the Lord! A person trusting Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior, is living in the Lord and will someday die in the Lord. You can be outside of the Lord in life and in death!

A person in Christ will obey Christ by:

1. Keeping his word (verses 3-5). "But whoever keeps his word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in him" (verse 5). The word keep in verses 3-5 means to habitual practice! In fact verse four declares that a profession of faith is insufficient within itself. For a person can claim to know him and keep not his commandments the result is that the person is lying... If we are in Christ, then we will make it a habit of keeping his word...

2. Loving His Father (verses 15-16). "Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him" (verse 15). Worldliness affects your love for God. Worldliness has to do with attitude as well as your actions. It is possible for a Christian to stay away from questionable amusements and doubtful places and still love the world, for worldliness is a matter of the heart. To the extent that a Christian loves the world system and the things in it, he does not love the Father.

3. Doing his will (verse 17). "... but he who does the will of God abides forever." Obedience to God is proof that we are in Christ. There are three motives for obedience. We can obey because we have to, because we need to, or because we want to. A slave obeys because he has to. If he doesn't obey he will be punished. An employee obeys because he needs to. He may not enjoy his work, but he does enjoy getting his paycheck. But a Christian is to obey and do the will of the Father because he wants to — for the relationship between him and God is one of love. If you are in Christ you will do the will of the Father.

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In adults and children alike, undernourishment brings listlessness, muscle wastage and a reduced capacity for learning or activity.

Bible Book Paul's concern for the Corinthians

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

Basic passage: II Corinthians 1:12-2:17

Focal passage: II Corinthians 1:23-2:11

Central truth: Paul's love for the Corinthians is expressed through his decision not to visit Corinth and in his desire to preserve the church's fellowship.

Paul had to make many difficult decisions in his ministry, and the decision not to visit his friends in Corinth was certainly one of the most difficult. Yet, he believed it best in light of divisions in the church and a stern letter of rebuke he had to write. At the present time, a visit could have increased the tension. And further, they could handle the situation adequately.

Paul's firm but fair manner in ministering to the Corinthians is a good example of his sensitivity. He cared about the welfare of the church as well as the well-being of an unnamed individual. So he felt it necessary to rebuke but to do so in a spirit of love. He had no intention or desire to hurt anyone.

Have you ever been part of a church where there were no differences of any kind at any time? Probably not. It was no different in New Testament days. Someone had been guilty of an offense that threatened the church's fellowship.

Whenever this kind of thing happens the Christian gift of forgiveness is essential. To treat a person in any other way may drive him away from the church and its fellowship. On the other hand, loving forgiveness will make it possible for such a person to have once again a constructive part in the life of the church.

Great sensitivity, love, maturity, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit are always needed when dealing with situations like that which Paul faced. Forgiveness always has as its objective restoration of the fellowship, fellowship with God and fellowship with one another.

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Draper names key committee leaders

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — A Texas pastor and an Ohio denominational executive have been named to chair two key committees for the 1983 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Pittsburgh.

SBC President James T. Draper Jr. announced the appointments during the September meeting of the Executive Committee, following through on a post-election pledge for "openness" and that he will be a peacemaker in the strife-ridden denomination.

Draper, pastor of First Church of Euless, Tex., also named seven other denominational leaders to committee posts and promised that he will name the other members of the key committees by Jan. 1, far in advance of the June meeting of the 13.8 million member denomination.

The president also said he has requested that the committee on boards report be released 60 days in advance of the June annual session, and has received an affirmative answer from committee chairman, Charles Stanley of Atlanta.

Ralph Smith, pastor of Hyde Park Church of Austin, Texas, was named to chair the committee on committees, and Tal Bonham, executive secretary of the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio, was named as chairman of the resolutions committee.

Draper also named three members of the Executive Committee to serve on the resolutions committee, as required by the constitution and bylaws. They are LeRay Fowler, pastor of West University Church of Houston; Thurmond George, pastor of First Church of Gilroy, Calif.; and Lois Wenger, a

member of First Church of Orlando, Fla. Jere Mitchell, pastor of First Church of Fayetteville, Ark., was named to chair the credentials committee, and James H. Landes, retiring executive secretary of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, Dallas, will be chairman of the tellers committee.

Draper named two parliamentarians for the 1983 annual meeting in Pittsburgh: James Semple, pastor of First Church of Paris, Texas, and Jack Johnson, executive secretary of the Arizona Baptist Convention.

Draper said all of the appointees "represent a very strong commitment to the Southern Baptist Convention," and included background information containing the level of giving to the denomination's unified giving plan, the Cooperative Program in his announcement of the appointments.

He said Smith is a former president of the Baptist General Convention of Texas and has led the Austin church to give more than \$275,000 to Cooperative Program causes this year. Bonham, he noted, is a former secretary of evangelism for the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, former president of the Arkansas Baptist Convention, and led his last pastorate, First Church of Pine Bluff, to be in the top 25 churches of the Arkansas convention in Cooperative Program giving.

He said the remainder of his appointments — including 51 persons to the committee on committees and six to the resolutions committee — will be "made by Jan. 1. I am doing this because I believe there is no

reason not to do it. I do not expect you to applaud all of them but you will know who they are and I am doing it as quickly as I can."

"The reason it will take until then (Jan. 1) is that I am calling all of them myself. I am also checking with associational missionaries and state executive directors because I do not want to appoint any ringers . . . people who do not qualify as cooperating Southern Baptists," he said.

Draper's early release of the nominations is in contrast to the practice followed last year by Bailey E. Smith, pastor of First Southern Church of Del City, Okla., who declined to make his nominations known until the opening day of the New Orleans convention.

SBC bylaws specify only that a president must announce the appointments on the opening day, but do not preclude early release of the information.

Draper said in making the selections, he received recommendations from state convention executive secretaries and presidents, individual Baptists and from the two vice presidents who serve with him, but specified that the "decision is ultimately mine. I will not be bound by any of these procedures, but all of these steps have been made prayerfully and each suggestion has received and will continue to receive careful consideration."

He noted the two vice presidents — John Sullivan, pastor of Broadmoor Church of Shreveport, La., and Gene Garrison pastor of First Church of Oklahoma City — have "given up to this point approval of the appointments . . ."

Sullivan, also a member of the Executive Committee, told Baptist Press he had "been in on" the selection process "since the beginning."

"The ones he appointed, I gave him suggestions, along with others. I did not make any specific recommendation but they all came out of suggestions we came up with together," Sullivan said, adding he has called both Smith and Bonham to "tell them I am pleased (with the selections)."

Draper said he has requested that Stanley, pastor of First Church of Atlanta, released the report of the committee on boards 60 days in advance of the 1983 annual meeting.

He said he is requesting that the report be released early so any "concerns and unhappiness about any nominee be brought back to committee so the committee can reconsider it before bringing it to the convention floor. This could save us the embarrassment we have suffered the past several years."

He referred to the past two conventions in which nominees suggested by the committee have been challenged from the floor and replaced. Draper noted Stanley "has given me an affirmative response."

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Dunn denounces Senate vote on tuition tax credit bill

WASHINGTON (BP) — The Senate Finance Committee's decision to clear a tuition tax credit measure for floor action has drawn a sharp denunciation from a Baptist church-state specialist.

James M. Dunn, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, said the committee's approval of a modified version of President Ronald Reagan's tuition tax credit proposal is "beyond com-

prehension in the face of soaring budget deficits and financially struggling public schools."

Citing a 1982 Southern Baptist Convention resolution, Dunn underscored the threat to church-state separation posed by tuition tax credits.

"With tuition tax credits all Americans will be compelled to pay taxes to support parochial schools whose teachings many of us disavow," Dunn said, adding, "Thomas Jefferson called such tax-supported religious teaching 'sinful and tyrannical.'"

Beyond the threat to religious liberty, Dunn charged that the proposal "seriously threatens public education."

"We don't need government encouragement for a system of private and pauper schools," he said. "Pauper schools is what the public schools would become with decreasing tax support for public education and increasing aid for private and parochial

schools."

In the resolution cited by Dunn, messengers to the 1982 Southern Baptist Convention in New Orleans registered their "opposition to all tuition tax credit legislation pending in Congress." The statement urged President Reagan to "reconsider his support of tax credit legislation" and expressed concern over "such legislation's threat to the First Amendment guarantees of non-establishment of religion and the free exercise of religion."

The Senate Finance Committee action came after renewed pressure from the President to pass his tuition tax credit proposal.

The measure's chances of passage during the closing days of the 97th Congress remain uncertain with Sen. Ernest F. Hollings (D-S.C.) pledging to "strongly and vigorously" oppose it. Hollings led Senate opposition during the last major congressional battle over tuition tax credits in 1978.

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President should keep powers, Draper says

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — The president of the Southern Baptist Convention should retain "all of the discretion and initiative of the office," current SBC president James T. Draper Jr. says.

Draper, pastor of First Church of Euless, Texas, expressed his views of the use of presidential power at the September meeting of the SBC Executive Committee.

After saying he believes "God wanted me to be president of the Southern Baptist Convention," Draper commented on a plan to "depoliticize" the convention, which was presented to him in August. The plan, devised by a group of convention "moderates" would have required the president to exercise only real power a convention

life," he said.

He added the "very cornerstone of Baptist heritage" is voluntary cooperation, which he believes "is good for everyone. I am going to do many things that have been suggested. . . I'm going to do them because I choose to do them because I think they are best to do rather than because I have to do them. This is the approach I am going to take."

The proposal was presented by a group headed by Cecil Sherman, pastor of First Church of Asheville, N.C., and including Bill Sherman, pastor of Woodmont Church of Nashville, and Ed Perry, pastor emeritus of Broadway Church of Louisville, Ky.

Draper said: "We did not agree, but I am glad we met. I respect them. They are men of conviction. We happen to disagree. Because we disagree doesn't mean I'm right and they're wrong. It just means that I am president and they are not."

He said, however, that he does not care if he is re-elected at the 1983 annual meeting. "Nothing I do is going to be geared to getting me votes in Pittsburgh; nothing I do is going to be geared to keep someone from running against me in Pittsburgh. That is not an issue."

One of the reasons he says he feels the president should retain his power is that "more people elect the president than elect executive secretaries. The people do get involved in that process. Executives of most state conventions and boards and agencies are elected by trustees rather than by direct election.

The appearance at the 67-member Executive Committee marked Draper's 100th day in office, a post to which he was elected at the June meeting of the 13.8 million member denomination, an election marked by bitter factionalism between groups within the denomination.

"These are very crucial times for Southern Baptists," Draper said. "There have

been lots of presidents who have been elected with no more margin than I was elected by, but there have been perhaps none that have been elected with that margin that had such hostility. . . ."

The factionalism, he added, is deep, and noted "everyone thinks they are mainstream Southern Baptists."

Draper told committee members he is concerned about the division, noting: "There is a growing spirit of concern across our convention and if we are not careful those of us who are in positions of leadership are going to kill the goose that laid the golden egg. There is a growing concern about unity; there is a growing concern about missions, about evangelism.

"The laymen of the SBC are sick of the controversy. They view it as a preacher fight, as a power struggle and two groups who have polarized in this matter.

He referred to the controversy as a "vicious cycle," and noted: "Only a fool loves to fight and I don't believe any of us are that foolish"

Draper told of his efforts to be a peacemaker in the strife-riddled denomination, and said he is "trying to establish communications." He said he is attempting to set up a meeting with "some key people in the academic community," and is planning a trip to Israel with a "diverse group" of leaders.

"I am trying to establish some communications and build some relations between some Southern Baptists," he added.

In his maiden address to the committee, Draper said Southern Baptists are going to have to deal with some issues "we have not been willing to face. I think we are going to have to deal with world peace. I think somehow Southern Baptists are going to have to be a bigger part of the push toward peace in the world."

He added he believes the denomination also should deal with issues of poverty and hunger.

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WMU selects site, sets groundbreaking

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP) — Woman's Missionary Union will dedicate a new site and break ground for its future headquarters building at 1:30 p.m. Sept. 23.

The new national offices for the Southern Baptist auxiliary will stand on a mountain approximately 12 miles south of its current location in downtown Birmingham. The 25-acre site is in one of the newest and fastest growing business and residential areas in the state.

WMU officials say site development will begin immediately with construction of a road to be known as Missionary Ridge. Land and site development costs will exceed \$1 million.

The property was acquired from Dantract Inc. and Pirata Enterprises. The first phase of building construction will consist of at least 100,000 square feet. A two or three story circular limestone office and meeting center will overlook the highway. Two wings of an operations center will adjoin to the rear. The building will be expandable to accommodate future growth.

WMU hopes to occupy the new facility in 1984 with 130 employees. The building will house programming, publishing, consulting, conferences and distribution. An earth station for satellite receiving and transmitting will be part of the project.

president possesses: the power to appoint key denominational committees.

The Texas pastor noted the proposal — which included a bylaw change — "would reduce and virtually eliminate the appointive and discretionary powers of the presidency. I felt I had to reject that proposal.

"I believe the discretionary power of the president is a safeguard for the SBC and it keeps us from becoming purely bureaucratic and parochial in attitude. It is a very vital and baptistic part of our Southern Baptist