

Ouachita Baptist University

Scholarly Commons @ Ouachita

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1990-1994

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

8-23-1990

August 23, 1990

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarlycommons.obu.edu/arb_90-94



Part of the [Christian Denominations and Sects Commons](#), and the [Mass Communication Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Arkansas Baptist State Convention, "August 23, 1990" (1990). *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1990-1994*. 16.

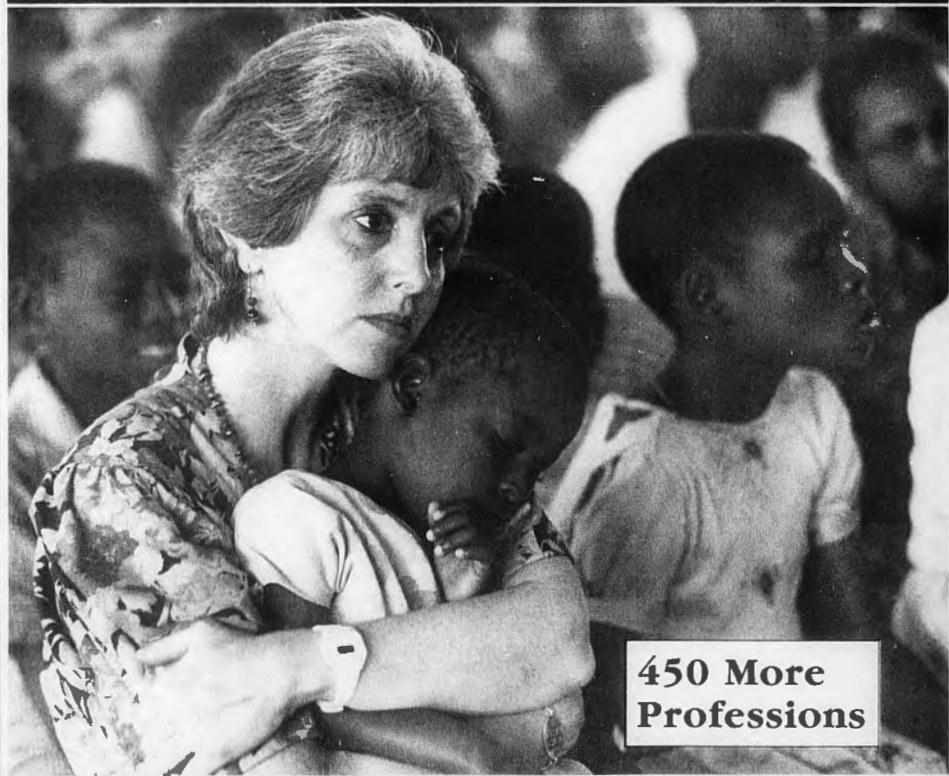
https://scholarlycommons.obu.edu/arb_90-94/16

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine at Scholarly Commons @ Ouachita. It has been accepted for inclusion in Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1990-1994 by an authorized administrator of Scholarly Commons @ Ouachita. For more information, please contact mortensona@obu.edu.

Family Freed

Arkansas Baptist

August 23, 1990



**450 More
Professions**



(BP) photo / Charles Ledford

Southern Baptist volunteers saw more than 450 professions of faith during a 16-day mission trip that was a follow-up to the Kenya Coastal Crusade. The volunteers also built three churches and brought medical care to countless East Africans.

Editor's Page 3

Speak Up

The President's Corner 4
 Letters to the Editor 4
 Method of Baptism 5

Faith At Work

'For Such an Hour' 6

Local & State

Sawyers to Retire 7
 Study Leave Planned 7
 Arkansas All Over 8

Helpline

September Specials 9
 ABSC Updates 10
 Looking Ahead 11

Nation

Across the Country 20
 Virginia Budget Proposal 20
 Honeycutt Recuperating 20

Lessons 21-22

World

Family Freed 23
 Contingency Plans 24

Next Issue: Sept. 6

IT'S UPLIFTING

In the Beginning ... Amen

COLUMBIA, Mo. (BP)—The first reader stepped to the podium at 6 a.m. "In the beginning. . . ." Nearly three days later, the final reader concluded, "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen."

Members of Memorial Baptist Church in Columbia, Mo., recently read the Bible through in observance of the 1990 International Year of the Bible. The project took more than 400 readers, and about 66 hours.

Initially, the reading was expected to take 60 hours, noted pastor Robert Lively. When it became evident that it would take several hours longer, more people volunteered to come back and read than there were time slots to accommodate.

The Bible-reading project first was suggested by Harold Renfrow, a member of the congregation and former Southern Baptist missionary to Brazil. Renfrow had participated in similar readings in Brazilian churches, and observed positive results.

Working through Memorial Church's Sunday school, readers were enlisted for 15-minute time slots.

Elisa Knight, age 10, was the youngest reader; Berta McKay, age 83, was the oldest.

Among those who participated were members of Memorial's international department, who read during a 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. shift. "All of our internationals were really excited about taking part in it," said Susan McFarland, who co-directs the department with her husband.

While some members of the congregation read, others came to listen. Lively noted, "We would average about 10 to 12 persons listening."

Observing that there seemed to be a "different" spirit in the church's worship services the Sunday following the Bible reading, and noting that public professions of faith were made in both services, the Renfrows said they believe the Bible reading has had, and will continue to have, a lasting impact on the congregation.

GOOD NEWS!

Simon Peter Gone Fishing

John 21:1-22

Two men were fishing in the middle of a lake on a Sunday morning. The fish weren't biting, and one man was quiet for a long time. Then he said, "Well, I guess we should have gone to church today." The other replied: "Oh, I couldn't have gone to church today anyway. My wife is at home sick!"

Most of the time nothing is wrong with going fishing, except if you go like Simon Peter did in John 21. Here it seems that he was ready to give up his life of discipleship. Oh, sure, Jesus was alive, but somehow Peter felt like it would never be the same as in the "good old days." The dream may have been fading and the life of discipleship had lost its zest.

A decision—Peter said, "I'm going fishing!" After a long night with the nets, he had not caught a fish. In the midst of his drudgery, futility, and exhaustion, something amazing happened. Over on the shore Peter noticed a campfire and a dim figure standing next to it. A voice said, "Have you caught any fish?" "No!" "Try the right side of your boat!" Though tired from casting the net all night, Peter humored the stranger. Suddenly the net came alive with fish! John caught on quick-

ly to what was happening. "Peter, it's the Lord!"

Immediately, Peter jumped overboard. Some say he was excited to see Jesus. I think he may have felt so guilty about being where he was that he just bailed out! Have you ever been caught where you shouldn't have been? Peter did make it to the shore, dragged in the nets, and probably cleaned the fish. He wanted to do anything but face Jesus, who he had denied and forsaken.

A silence broken—After Peter had chok-ed down some bread and fish, he probably got ready for a good tongue-lashing from Jesus. So far in his resurrection appearances, the Lord hadn't said anything about Peter's denials. Then Jesus broke the silence, "Simon, do you love me?" Surely this was and is the essential question of our lives!

A good lesson—Peter learned that most of all Jesus wanted his love, measured not in words but in service. Love must take expression. Peter learned that he shouldn't worry about someone else's service or sacrifice. What John does is not for Peter to worry about. If no one else follows, loves, serves, or sacrifices for Jesus, Peter still would not be excused.

Adapted from "Proclaim," July-Sept. 1985. Copyright 1985 The Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. All rights reserved. Used by permission. For subscription information, write to Material Services Dept., 127 Ninth Ave. North, Nashville, TN 37234.

Homosexuality

J. EVERETT SNEED

Today some wish to treat homosexuality as normal, wholesome and completely acceptable. Both the Bible and human experience prove homosexuality to be sinful, deviant and unacceptable. Today, many homosexuals are making an open declaration of their immorality. The "gay" movement has succeeded in placing a great deal of pressure on many individuals who oppose homosexuality. Some in government offices have even lost their place of service because of their opposition to this sin.

We commend the Christian Life Commission's executive director, Richard D. Land, for his forthright condemnation of homosexuals. Dr. Land's outrage at the Bush administration inviting representatives of the homosexual lobby to the White House is to be applauded. We also congratulate Land on the pressure he brought to bear on "thirtysomething" which prevented the rerun of the feature supporting homosexuals.

The Bible is clear concerning the practice of homosexuality. One of the most explicit passages in the Old Testament is the account of the events which transpired at Sodom and Gomorrah. Abraham had pleaded with God to save the city for as few as 10 righteous men. God sent two angels, dressed as men, to carry out the investigation. These two men spent the night at Lot's house. The men of the city, hearing that there were strangers present at Lot's house, demanded, "Where are the men which came into thee this night? bring them out to us, that we may know them" (Ge. 19:5b). The term "know" carries with it the idea of sexual habitation. Many scholars believe that they were saying, "bring them out that we may rape them."

The book of Leviticus, which was a priestly handbook intended to provide an interpretation of the law or the "Torah," specifically condemns homosexuality. The clear condemnation is expressed as Moses said, "Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is an abomination" (Lv. 18:22). Leviticus also prescribes severe penalties for individuals involved in homosexuality (Lv. 20:13).

The New Testament condemns homosexuality as clearly as does the Old Testament. There was a good reason for this condemnation, since the courts of the Roman emperors were noted for their homosexual activity. The Apostle Paul



spells out clearly God's condemnation of this activity.

The apostle said, "For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves this recompense of their error which was meet" (Ro. 1:26-27).

Paul also warned his young friend in the ministry against the sin of homosexuality as he said, "For whoremongers, for them that defile themselves with mankind (homosexuality), for menstealers, for liars. . . (1 Ti. 1:10a).

Homosexuals have gone to unbelievable lengths to try to distort the Scripture to fit their lifestyle. For example, they have cited Ruth and Naomi as an example of lesbian activity. Even Paul and Timothy have been cited as example of homosexual relationship. Perhaps the greatest blasphemy is the attempt to characterize Jesus as a homosexual, carrying on ungodly activities with Lazarus and John, the beloved disciple. The Scripture is so clear that these ungodly statements require no response.

Many homosexuals wish everyone to believe that homosexuality is inherited, just

as brown hair or blue eyes are genetic in nature. The evidence, however, is clear that the practice of homosexuality is a learned behavior. Alfred C. Kinsey, in *Sexual Behavior in Human Females* said, in speaking of homosexuality, "There is no sufficient data indicating that specific heredity factors are involved." Every indication is that homosexuality is learned. Homosexuals are individuals who have other personality disorders as well.

The question arises: Is there a way of escape for the homosexual? Both human experience and the Bible indicate that homosexuals can change their ungodly life style. Paul, in dealing with homosexuality in the church at Corinth, said, "And such were some of you; but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God" (1 Co. 6:11).

The hope for all sinners, including homosexuals, is the transforming power of God. Human experience also proves that through the power of Christ former homosexuals can have a normal Christian married life. Two of the leaders in the ministry to homosexuals in California are a husband and wife team who were practicing homosexuals prior to their salvation. Each categorically states that it was God's power that changed them and that they now have a good, normal marriage.

Finally, we ask: What should the Christian's attitude be toward the sin of homosexuality? Christians should abhor this tragic sin and should use their influence to keep children and young people from being influenced by homosexuals. But Christians should have love for the homosexuals as people. Christ always hated sin, but always loved the sinner.

Arkansas Baptist

VOLUME 89

NUMBER 23

J. Everett Sneed, Ph.D. Editor

Mark Kelly Managing Editor

Erwin L. McDonald, Litt. D. Editor Emeritus

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, Inc. Board of Directors: Lane Strother, Mountain Home, president; Jimmy Anderson, Leachville; Joanne Caldwell, Texarkana; Nelson Wilhelm, Waldron; Bert Thomas, Searcy; Lyndon Finney, Little Rock; Phelan Boone, El Dorado; Harold Gateley, Fayetteville; and Don Heuer, Batesville.

Letters to the editor are invited. Letters should be typed double-space and may not contain more than 350 words. Letters must be signed and marked "for publication." A complete policy statement is available on request.

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 accepted in writing only. Rates on request.

Opinions expressed in signed articles are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the editorial position of the *Arkansas Baptist*.

Member of the Southern Baptist Press Association.

The *Arkansas Baptist* (ISSN 1040-6506) is published by the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, Inc., 601-A W. Capitol, Little Rock, AR 72201. Subscription rates are \$7.99 per year (individual), \$5.64 per year (Every Resident Family Plan), \$6.36 per year (Group Plan). Foreign address rates on request.

Address: Send correspondence and address changes to Arkansas Baptist, P. O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203.

Telephone: 501-376-4791.

MIKE HUCKABEE

The President's Corner



Shortly after being elected as president of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, I pledged to try and get people to talk to each other and not about each other. It has been my desire to

visit with anyone within the Arkansas Baptist family who wanted to express concerns about the direction of our denomination during what is obviously a time of turmoil. That has often been accomplished through phone conversations, correspondence and, when possible, face-to-face meetings.

Two themes of concern seem to surface most often in one fashion or another, regardless of the "camp" (if any) of the individual expressing concerns.

One legitimate concern expressed is that we remain faithful to God's Word. You elected a conservative president last year. My belief in the inerrancy and infallibility of God's Word didn't start when it became politically expedient. No one in this state has successfully shown my views to be any less "conservative" than anyone theologically. I remain convinced that, in our state and in our institutions, we need not lose sleep over the confidence Arkansas Baptists have in the veracity of scripture.

The other major concern is one of involvement of a broad variety of Arkansas Baptists in appointments to our committees, board, agencies, and institutions. It continues to be my conviction that if we are willing to accept the financial contributions of a church and seat its messengers, at our convention, then we have a moral obligation to insure that its members are not excluded from consideration and participation in the rest of our processes—including representation on denominational entities. If we really believe that a church or its pastor is not "orthodox" enough for us, then let's have the integrity to challenge their seating as messengers and have the decency to return their gifts to the Cooperative Program. No one should be forced to pay if he isn't going to ever get to "play!"

The Arkansas Baptist State Convention belongs to the Lord first, and then to all its participating churches. I will probably make mistakes, but with God's help and your prayers I will seek to be fair.

Mike Huckabee is president of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

Letters to the Editor

Come to the Light

Our SBC Executive Committee has been taken over by a political machine that hires armed guards to keep out those of us who pay the bills and want to know what they're doing. They're spending Cooperative Program funds to hold closed meetings. The specially-called meeting July 17 in Nashville to fire two of our servants cost enough to keep at least one missionary from a field where souls could be saved.

They are not excluding scoundrels or heathen but Christian laymen and ministers whose only purpose for attending is to acquire information. If these men would read John 3:19-20 ("... for everyone that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved"), they could recognize the divine consequences of their acts. Their activities cannot stand the light of inspection by reasonable Christian men.

The time has come for laymen across Arkansas and our nation to rise up and condemn the activities of this faction, who in the guise of a counterfeited doctrinal struggle are committing ungodly acts against men and women who have served Baptists like us for most of their lives. It is reported that several more servants will be terminated before next June, and activities to achieve control of state conventions will

be stepped up.

Unless this group (you will know them by their fruits) stops these ungodly activities, every layman, minister and church in Arkansas will have to face this issue in the near future. Why not do it now while there is still time to prevent further damage to the convention? Suggest your pastor publicly condemns these ungodly acts. Also, get active in your association and state convention. We have been asleep and it's time to awaken and rise up to this challenge to our sensibility and freedom with a spirit of love and determination. God has already condemned acts like these in the Holy Scripture. We need no further guide to also do the same.—Sheldon Richardson, Camden

Not Right or Left

Some of our Baptist people voice their inability to ascertain if they are conservative or moderate. Words and examples from Scripture will always help us in such matters. Bible-believing Christians are both conservative and moderate. We are conservative when we believe the Bible to be inspired, the Genesis account of creation, the reality of miracles, the virgin birth and bodily resurrection of our Lord.

We are moderate when we believe in the priesthood of the believer, and the right of

HMB

HOME MISSION BOARD, SBC

\$7,000,000 Series F Church Loan Collateralized Bonds

Proceeds from the sale of the Bonds, along with other available funds of Home Mission Board, will be used to make direct loans to Baptist churches affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention for the financing of sites and the construction of buildings in keeping with the Bold Mission Thrust emphasis of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Interest on the Bonds will be payable quarterly. The Bonds will be offered with maturity dates varying from eighteen months to fifteen years and the interest rate will vary from 8.5% to 11% depending upon the maturity date as set forth in the Prospectus. Minimum purchase is \$500.

Copies of the Prospectus may be obtained by calling or writing the Home Mission Board.

Home Mission Board, SBC; Attn: Church Loans Division; 1350 Spring St., NW; Atlanta, GA 30367; 1-800-HMB-BOND (462-2663)

This announcement is neither an offer to sell nor a solicitation of offers to buy any of these securities. The offer is made only by Prospectus.

Please send a copy of the Prospectus for the Series F issue of Home Mission Board Church Loan Collateralized Bonds.

Name

Address

City, State, Zip

each Christian to interpret the Bible for himself, as led by God's Spirit.

God instructed Joshua to "turn not to the right, or the left" in keeping the law given to Moses. The author of Proverbs, admonished, "Look straight ahead, turn not to the right or the left, ponder the path of your feet."

Those who turn too far to the right become fundamentalists who deny others the same rights as themselves. Such were

the hardline, conservative Pharisees who condemned Jesus for healing on the Sabbath and eating with publicans and sinners. Jesus, always moderate in dealing with people, refused to endorse stoning the woman taken in adultery the Pharisees brought to him, forgave her sins and bade her "go and sin no more."

Turning too far to the left, one becomes a liberal, like the Sadducees, who believed in nothing, and would fall for anything

for self-gratification.

Jimmy Draper, former president of the SBC, in a book, *The Church Christ Approves*, wrote, "Fundamentalism is more dangerous than liberalism because everything is done in the name of the Lord. In the name of the Lord, the fundamentalist condemns all who disagree with him—he uses the Bible as a club with which to beat people over the head, rather than as a means of personal strength and revealer of God. The fundamentalist tactic is simple: hatred, bitterness, and condemnation of those they despise."

Loyalty to Scripture prevents our being liberals or fundamentalists.—Walter Watts, Fort Smith

Second in a series of four articles

Method of Baptism

Having made it clear that Jesus saves and that the purpose of baptism is to follow Jesus, symbolize death to the old life and resurrection to a new life in Jesus Christ, we look now at the method of baptism and its relationship to the security of the believer.

The Manner of Baptism—For baptism to be acceptable to Southern Baptist churches, it must be done by immersion. That was the New Testament way. The word "baptism" means "immersion." It was originally used of putting cloth under a solution to dye it. No other form of baptism except immersion can illustrate burial and resurrection. No other form of baptism was practiced in the early church.

Many churches of modern-day denominations sprinkle or pour water on the heads of those being baptized. Methodists, Presbyterians, Episcopalians, and Lutherans sprinkle and Catholics pour. A person may have been "baptized," as they call it, in one of those churches but not baptized by New Testament standards. Southern Baptists accept only the scriptural manner of baptism.

The churches which sprinkle and run water over the heads of the candidates for baptism also "baptize" babies. Obviously, Southern Baptist churches do not accept that as scriptural baptism because the candidate cannot possibly exercise saving faith in Jesus Christ, a prerequisite for baptism, while only a small baby.

Security and Baptism—There is a special relationship between baptism and the eternal security of the believer. Suppose a member of a Free Will Baptist church or a Methodist church or an Assembly of God church presents himself for membership in a Southern Baptist church. Now, if he says he has been saved, his salvation would not be questioned by Southern Baptists who believe that a person, once saved, is saved forever. However, the problem comes when the individual who comes for membership would have no assurance of salvation because of the doctrinal position in the church of his membership. Since the belief of the church he comes from is that a person can be lost if he commits enough sin (the amount and types are not specified), the candidate could come to a Southern Baptist church for membership as a lost person, according to his own evaluation. He may hope that by joining a Baptist church his sin problem will be cared for. Therefore, Southern Baptist churches teach eternal security and, if that truth is accepted by the person desiring membership, then on the basis of his joy and security in Jesus Christ, he is baptized and accepted as a member in full fellowship with that local Southern Baptist church.

But suppose a person comes to a Southern Baptist church and requests membership from another denomination and say that, while the denomination may hold to a position different from that of Southern Baptists, he personally does not hold that view. Then why doesn't the Southern Baptist church accept him on the basis of his own faith? The reason is that, when a Southern Baptist church accepts him by transfer of his membership from a church of a denomination which differs with us, the Southern Baptist church is accepting the faith of the believer and ordinance of a church or a denomination whose doctrinal position and baptism we do not believe is valid. Transferring a person's membership is not only accepting him on the basis of his own faith; it is also accepting the document of transfer and its legality from the other denomination.

In the next article we will look at the question of "being baptized again."

—W. Trueman Moore, pastor, East Side Church, Fort Smith

Why Did He Do It?

Why did he do it? It was crass, unkind, uncouth... uncalled for. Furthermore, morals of another, particularly a civic leader, were none of his business.

Was he a religious zealot, a fanatic, or a lunatic? He did belong to a sect of fundamentalists who believe what they call "the Holy Scriptures" word for word.

He probably fired up future zealots to break laws by spreading their dangerous doctrines. Like him, many more had to be executed. His cousin, who disrupted church business by violently throwing out some money changers, reportedly said there was among men none greater than he. Since the group worshipped this cousin as their leader, of course, he too had to be executed. After all, he did claim to be God. Caesar has been hailed as a god.

Why did he do it? If he had not been so militant, he could have lived a long life and won others to his faith. Oh... he was called the Baptist because he dunked (baptized, he said) people in pools of water—John, the Baptist.—Gwen Carpenter, Magnolia

BRAZIL

Join Dr. Bill Viser, former missionary:

- Manaus and the Amazon
- Rio De Janeiro for New Years
- Iguaçu Falls "Festival of Water"
- Buenos Aires authentic Guicho Fiesta

Limited space

Call for information

Dr. Bill Viser Donna Bost
246-4531 Ext. 524 1-800-327-5335
Ouchilta Baptist University

Sponsored by OBU FSA

'For Such an Hour as This'

by J. Everett Sneed
Editor, Arkansas Baptist

"When I heard about the possibility of a home for unwed mothers during the Arkansas Baptist State Convention held in Fort Smith, I thought of Esther in the Old Testament who said, 'Who knows but I may have come to the kingdom for such an hour as this,'" declared Mrs. Harold Elmore.

The Elmore's started their new service Aug. 13 at the soon to be developed home for unwed mothers in El Dorado. The Elmore's will serve as volunteer houseparents for the new ministry of Arkansas Children's Homes and Family Ministries. Pastor Elmore completed more than 13 years of service July 15 at Lake Village Church.

The Elmore's had discussed the possibility of serving as volunteers for sometime. Elmore said, "I have been paid for all the service I have ever rendered, now I will have the chance to serve as a volunteer like other people do."

The couple is uniquely qualified to serve as houseparents for the new ministry for unwed mothers. Mrs. Elmore is a registered nurse; Elmore is an excellent administrator with years of experience. In addition to serving as pastor of the Lake Village Church, he has served as pastor of Park Place Church, Hot Springs; First Church, Mountain Home; and Rison Church.

While the funds for the ministry for unwed mothers are being raised by Arkansas Children's Homes and Family Ministries, the Elmore's will serve as relief parents for emergency receiving homes and coordinate volunteer groups that wish to provide furnishings or decorations for the home. They also will develop future community relations for the home.

—When the home for unwed mothers is started, the Elmore's will coordinate volunteers who will serve in the ministry, as well as coordinate the community medical services. The immediate supervisor for the Elmore's will be Barbara Billingsley, director of the Hope area office.

Much preparation for the home for unwed mothers already has taken place. The facilities were donated by Melvyn Bell.

The trustees for the Children's Homes and Family Ministries determined that a ministry was needed for unwed mothers in Arkansas. To make this determination Children's Homes and Family Ministries surveyed selected pastors and associational directors of missions. They also learned through the Arkansas Bureau of Vital Statistics that Arkansas is high in the number of abortions that take place each year. As a result of these findings, a plan was developed for a Christian alternative

to abortion. According to Executive Director Johnny Biggs, the ministry will be similar to that of the Sellers Home for unwed mothers in New Orleans, La., which functions under the SBC Home Mission Board.

There has been a favorable response to the ministry in El Dorado. Biggs observed that many health care professionals and other volunteers are ready to assist.

Help will be provided for girls whether a girl desires to place her baby for adoption or wishes to keep the child. Biggs said, "We wish to provide redemption and rehabilitation for these young women. It will be our desire to teach them parenting skills, social skills, homemaking skills, and relational skills. Whether a girl keeps her baby or places it for adoption, we want her to have a sense of Christian purpose for her life as she leaves our ministry."

Both of the Elmore's are excited about their new place of service. Elmore said, "We both feel that the Lord has led us to this place of service and feel that we will be able to make major contributions in the lives of numbers of people."

The Lake Village Church gave the Elmore's a VCR and a generous check to furnish one bedroom at the home for unwed mothers. A plaque also was presented to hang in the room, indicating that the room was furnished by the Lake Village Church in honor of the Elmore's.

JOBS AVAILABLE

Human Resources Professionals

Placement, Training, Employee Relations. Business Degree with a minimum of 5 years professional human resources experience required

Send resumé:

Personnel Department
Baptist Sunday School Board
127 Ninth Ave. North
Nashville, TN 37234



EEO
Employer

BAPTIST GOLFERS OF ARKANSAS

Announcing

First Annual

Baptist Men of Arkansas

5 MAN SCRAMBLE GOLF TOURNAMENT



September 27, 1990

8:30 a.m. Shotgun start

Rebsamen Park Golf Course
Little Rock

\$50.00 Entry fee per team
(includes green fees)

Let us know how many
5 man teams
your church or association
would like to enter.

For more information, please contact: Dr. Glendon Grober, Brotherhood Department, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203, Telephone (501)376-4791.

Sawyers to Retire

Conway Sawyers, director of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention Missions Department for the past 11 years, has announced his retirement effective at the end of this year.

Sawyers started work for the state convention on June 1, 1979. Previously, he had served 17 years as director of missions for the Liberty Association and had pastored First Church, Marked Tree, for four years. The Marked Tree pastorate was his first after completion of his seminary training.

Sawyers holds the bachelors degree from Baylor University, Waco, Texas, and the bachelor of divinity (now master of divinity) degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

He is married to the former Marcie DuBose, a native of Houston, Texas. The Sawyers have two children, a son, Larry, and a daughter, Kathy.

Under Sawyers' leadership, the Missions Department has experienced overall growth in mission work in Arkansas. Two additional areas of work have been added during his tenure as director. These include



Sawyers

a ministry to multi-family housing and church and community services known as PACT. Multi-family housing is a ministry designed to reach people in apartments, condominiums, mobile home parks, etc. Church and community services is a project designed to assist churches in transition.

Sawyers said, "It has been my desire to cover the missions opportunities in Arkansas. We have considered each area of work that the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board has. In some instances, it may not be appropriate for a counterpart to be established in Arkansas, but most of the Home Mission Board work has been tried and tested."

During the past 11 years, language work has been expanded to include the various ethnic language groups which have come to Arkansas. Previously, the language work was devoted exclusively to the deaf.

Continuing education also has been enlarged. It now includes Seminary Studies (masters level seminary work), Boyce Bible School (designed for non-college graduate), and the doctor of ministries program.

New churches starts are at an all-time high. Sawyers said, "My previous mission experience had been in South Arkansas where there was not a great deal of need for new church starts. But soon we became

aware that in Arkansas there was a great need to establish new works. I have had excellent staff members that have assisted me in developing this endeavor."

Sawyers is extremely complimentary of his staff. He said, "I have excellent staff members. Although we are all different people, we have great harmony and a fine working relationship. Being the supervisor of the people with whom I have been privileged to work has been a real joy. Because of our rapport with each other, we have had good relationships, almost without exception, with the associational director of missions across the state."

Future plans for Sawyers include working with a 1929 Model A Ford that he has had for 15 years and working with construction groups such as the Nailbenders or the Church in a Day groups. He also may work with Habitat for Humanity. He said, "My plans at the present time are to work within the state. This could change at a later time." He plans to take training which will prepare him to assist in conflict management.

Study Leave Planned

Mark Kelly, managing editor of the *Arkansas Baptist*, will take an eight-week leave of absence in September and October to complete the course work for a master's degree in journalism at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

He will be enrolled in a media management seminar at the Poynter Institute in St. Petersburg, Fla. Only 16 graduate students from journalism schools across the country were accepted into this year's program. Kelly received a full scholarship to the program.

Kelly, 35, joined the ABN staff as an intern in 1983. He became managing editor in 1986. A native of Oklahoma, he is a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University and has attended the University of Chicago and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

He is a deacon in Little Rock's Otter Creek First Church. He and his wife, Cheryl, have two children, Megan, 7, and Graham, 3.

IN HIM . . . OUR HIGHEST HOPE

1990 ANNUITANT CONFERENCE

Windermere Baptist Assembly
October 1 - 5, 1990

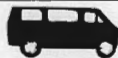
Mail reservations to:

Windermere Baptist Assembly
State Road AA P. O. Box 458
Roach, MO 65787



Total Cost: \$99 each (Based on double occupancy)
\$20 per person registration fee (applies to total cost)

Southern Baptist Annuity Board



Quality
VAN Sales

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

Arkansas All Over

MILLIE GILL

Briefly

Pickles Gap Church at Conway mission team of 19 youth has returned from Kansas City, Mo., where they conducted a mission vacation Bible school, a backyard Bible club, led in worship services, presented a musical, and took a survey. Their efforts resulted in 11 professions of faith.

Zion Mission in Conway recently broke ground for a building that will be constructed Sept. 10 by Arkansas Nailbenders.

Elliott Church at Camden will celebrate 100 years of service Aug. 26. Pastor Ron Burks reported activities will include a 10:50 a.m. worship service, a noon meal provided by the church, and a 1:30 p.m. program. Don Moore, executive director of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention and a former pastor, will be speaker. James Nash of El Dorado will direct music.

Danville First Church Acteons have returned from Hatboro, Penn., where they assisted the Buxmont Church with a mission fair and backyard Bible club.

Kelley Heights Church in Russellville recently completed a \$6,000 parking lot improvement program that was paid for in one month.

Russellville First Church youth and their sponsors have returned from Muncie, Ind., where they assisted Old Town Hill Church with a vacation Bible school.

Mountain Home First Church youth choir recently completed a choir tour through Louisiana and Alabama, presenting the musical "Positive I.D." under the direction of Lamar Puckett.

Brownsville Church at Greers Ferry honored Pastor Shelby Bittle July 29 in recognition of his 35th anniversary in the ministry. A reception was given in his honor, and he was presented with both a plaque and money tree.

Nettleton Church at Jonesboro 22 member mission team returned Aug. 18 from work in Dauphin Island and Mobile, Ala.

Elkins First Church will celebrate 20 years of ministry Sept. 30, when former pastors and members are special guests.

Sang Avenue Church in Fayetteville is sponsoring a backyard Bible club each Tuesday evening at Washington Plaza. Average attendance is 35.

Eimdale Church in Springdale launched a children's church July 29.

Fouke First Church licensed Troy Ballard, minister of youth, to the ministry July 29.

Lakeshore Drive Church in Little Rock youth have completed a week's backyard Bible club.

People

Harold Sadler is serving as pastor of Greenfield Church, Harrisburg.

Bobby Floyd has resigned as pastor of Pleasant Hill Church, Harrisburg, to move to Ada, Okla.

John Herod is serving as pastor of Bluffton Church. He and his wife, Sherri, and their son moved there from Fort Worth, Texas.

William Black has announced his retirement of New Hope Church, Dardanelle,

effective Aug. 30. He and his wife, Martha, will move to Bearden.

Alan Carnahan was licensed to the ministry July 29 by Russellville Second Church, where he has served as summer youth director. He plans to enter the University of Arkansas Medical Sciences this fall.

Harold Davis is serving as pastor of First Church, Scranton. Davis and his wife, Alice, moved there from Hatton.

Richard Wentz has joined the staff of Wynne Church as minister of music and youth. He and his wife, Janet, moved there from Arkadelphia, where he has been serving for six years as admissions counselor at Ouachita Baptist University.

Scott Jackson joined the staff of Calvary Church in Little Rock Aug. 19 as minister of youth, coming there from Carrollton, Texas. He had worked this summer as youth minister at Sand Flat, Texas. His wife, Mona, is a native of Van Buren. Both attended Ouachita Baptist University, and he is a graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. The Jacksons have a son, Joshua, age two.

Chris Hackler has joined the staff of Prairie Grove First Church as youth director. He attended the University of Arkansas. Hackler and his wife, Patty, moved there from Enola.

GEYER SPRINGS FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

REBUILDERS
DIVORCE RECOVERY MINISTRY

Thirteen sessions designed to help you "rebuild" after separation from a spouse due to death or divorce. Sessions meet each Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. and are led by Dr. Glen McGriff (BS, MA, D.Min).

Begins Sept. 12th

To register or ask information contact:
Geyer Springs First Baptist Church - 565-3474
3615 Geyer Springs Rd. - Little Rock, AR 72209
Paul R. Sanders, Pastor



Dr. McGriff

September Specials

by Don Moore
 ABCS Executive Director

National Smaller Membership and Vocational Evangelism Conference— It brings me a great deal of pleasure to write about this special conference for special people. About one-third of our churches are led by men who have to make their living at another job other than their pastoral position. Dividing their time between their employer, their family, and their church adds a third dimension of strain to their lives. I'm glad we can do something to encourage and inspire these men.



Moore

Half of our churches have 53 or less in Sunday School. They have a heavy load to carry. Small numbers often mean discouragement, doubling up on leadership, and a sense of feeling unimportant. Those of us who grew up in very small churches in Arkansas know how important they are. That is why we have joined with the Home Mission Board to sponsor the first ever meeting of this kind.

The head of the Home Mission Board, Dr. Larry Lewis, who is a small church product, and Darrell Robinson, director of evangelism for all of the Southern Baptist Convention, will both be here to be used of God to bless you. Dr. Jack Stanton, widely known evangelist, will also be here to help.

The place is Life Line Church, Little Rock. The dates are Sept. 6-8. Bring your wife! Bring your lay people! This could spark exciting new life in most of our hearts and in our churches, particularly if you bring some of the lay people to the conference.

PK '90—It sounds like some type of do-it-yourself cleanser. It isn't! It is the first ever gathering of teenagers in Arkansas who have this one thing in common—they are children of pastors or church staff. They catch a lot of flak because they are not perfect. They have to live by a standard and with expectations unlike other teenagers. They have to share their parents with more people than nearly any other teenager. They have to sit quietly by and say nothing when their parents are misunderstood, taken for granted and mistreated. If they are strict in their living, they are left out of circles of friendship. If they live recklessly, they are criticized and condemned.

Have I told you enough to tell you that these young people need some special time to be with each other?

Here is the plan. Mom and dad should come to the Sunday School Conference, Sept. 21-22, which will be at Geyer Springs First Church, Little Rock. The "PK shuttle" will take the teenagers to Camp Paron for this most special weekend. It will be led by preachers' kids. It's really different! You have to register by Sept. 7.

Large Church Evangelism Conference—You and your church may qualify to attend this rare meeting. If you have over 1,000 resident members, you qualify. This practical but inspirational conference on church growth and evangelism will be held Sept. 27-28 at DeGray Lodge, Arkadelphia. Two men mightily blessed in growing large churches will be here to encourage and inspire. They are James Merritt, Snelville, Ga., and Harold O'Chester, Austin, Texas. You need to make reservations through the Evangelism Department.

Baptist Youth Day—Magic Springs in Hot Springs comes alive Saturday, Sept. 8. Besides all of the amusement park fun, the big Discipleship Rally will be complemented by two new features—Discipleship Fair for the youth and special in-depth training institute for youth leaders. So much happens on this day with guest speakers and singers in addition to special music groups from over the state. Every church that is coming needs to make sure they have their tickets, reservations for performances, etc. Call Bill Falkner, 376-4791, ext. 5160, if you need information.

Season of Prayer for State Missions—The week of Sept. 16-23, has been set aside for the purpose of praying and giving for state missions. Someone needs to pray besides those who are working on the field. You are needed to join in prayer with our state missions work and with our missionaries. We are trying to develop new strategies. We are trying to expand our ministries, both with new churches and especially with those who speak other languages. Much of the work is discouraging. Some work almost in isolation. All have dedicated their lives to their fields of service. They may make the difference in someone's destiny. Some will be saved from a life of crime. Others will be spared loneliness and despair. Our missionaries need the entire church to pray for them! Then, let the church give to the **Dixie Jackson State Mission Offering**. No Baptist is likely to deplete his own resources by being given an opportunity to

give to this offering. We need to remember that missions is missions in Arkansas as well as Africa. If your materials, or envelopes have been misplaced, call for more today.

State Sunday School Conference—This annual boost to Sunday School work promises to be a dandy this year, as it is every year. Listen to this—70 special conferences from which to choose. Those who have worked for years in Sunday school, and those who are just starting, will have a place to go to get help to do greater Sunday School work.

I'm excited that you will get to hear Harry Piland. What a spiritual force he is for inspiring Sunday School workers. He heads Sunday School work throughout the Southern Baptist Convention.

The date is Sept. 21-22 and the place is Geyer Springs First Church, Little Rock. It is scheduled on Friday night and Saturday so that employed people can attend, particularly vocational pastors.

IMPACT '90—Ladies, we are coming to you. Six meetings are being held in different regions of the state to train local church WMU officers. There will be day sessions and evening sessions. Surely, you can make one or the other. There will be child care provided for preschoolers. With some training, information and inspiration, a new day of exciting missionary education and support could dawn. It will happen one by one—church by church. Why don't you let God use you to spark that fire in your church? See the times and locations elsewhere in Helpline.

Last call for Siloam Celebration—Sept. 1, 12 noon-3 p.m.

**BUILDING . . .
 BUILDING . . .
 BUILDING . . .**

**Church Pews & Pulpit
 Furniture, Cushions,
 Refinishing
 and
 Fiberglass Specialties**

Stocking Distributor



BAPTISTRIES
& BATHSTUBS
HEATERS



STEEPLES

**CENTRAL
 Manufacturing Co.**

P.O. Box 695 - Fifth and Vine
 North Little Rock, Arkansas 72115
 (501) 374-6008

Discipleship Training State Training Conference

Dr. T. W. Hunt, LIFE consultant for Prayer in the Discipleship Training Department, BSSB, will speak and lead conferences at the State Discipleship Training Conference on Tuesday, Oct. 23. The conference, at Park Hill Church, North Little Rock, will offer three sessions beginning at 9:50 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 6:50 p.m.

Hunt is the author of *PrayerLife* and serves on the Bold Mission Thrust Coordinating Committee for our denomination. He will lead conference of *PrayerLife* and how to develop a personal and church prayer ministry.

DiscipleALL, the 1991-95 Bold Mission Thrust emphasis on discipleship will be introduced along with approaches and resources for strengthening Discipleship Training for every age-group. Conferences will be offered for pastors, staff members, and Discipleship Training leaders from churches and associations.

Other conference leaders include Luell Smith, Wert Campbell, David Carter, Dane Blankenship and Margaret McArthur, consultants in the Discipleship Training Department, Nashville, Tenn.

DiscipleALL: A Discipleship Training Manual will be introduced in each of the conferences and Church Study Course credit will be offered to each participant.

Plan now to attend the State Discipleship Training Conference and make a . . . Bold new commitment to Discipleship Training.—Robert Holley, director



Hunt

will interpret the theme through drama; missionaries Dottie Williamson and Rosanne Smith (Mississippi and Guatemala respectively); and worship leaders, Monica Keathley, Jackson, Miss., and Dawne Carroll, North Little Rock.

These retreats provide women with a time of coming aside from a fast-paced lifestyle to hear the Father speak words of encouragement, instruction and challenge.

Reservations are taken on a first-come, first-served basis and can be taken through Oct. 11 if space allows. The second retreat is a repeat of the first.

A Baptist Book Store display will provide opportunity for women to purchase needed Baptist Women materials and some inspirational materials. Baptist Women sweat-shirts will also be on sale.

Any woman who desires to know her Lord better and follow him in obedient service is invited to participate. For more information contact Arkansas WMU, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203.—Carolyn Porterfield, Baptist Women/BYW director

Sunday School 'Best Kept Secret'

For many years, I have marvelled at the stability and solidarity of Arkansas Baptists as they quietly, efficiently, and in love build on the success of the past to accomplish new goals, reach more people, and continue to minister to each other's needs. What is the secret of this accomplishment? Is it the talented and dedicated people who work at the Baptist Building, or could it be the pastors of the large churches with media ministries? These two factors are important, but they do for the depth—the stability and solidarity—of Arkansas Baptists.

It is in the setting of Siloam Springs Assembly that our "best kept secret" is revealed to be the pastors of our smaller churches. Living among these men for five days a year at Siloam makes me realize what a treasure they are. I've seen them performing as teachers, coaches, night-watchmen, bus drivers, clean-up crews, and substitute fathers. Their efficiency, enthusiasm, humility, spiritual aura are always evident. They never fret when someone else gets the credit or the glory; and they seem to prefer it that way. They readily stop their busy schedules to make a friend, counsel with others, and show that they care. Usually, it is the small church pastors who accompany their people to Siloam. Their "steadfastness" amazes me, as I

remember that many of them minister alone and every day in our smaller towns. Their life is a book that is read daily, without escape, and with the knowledge that one slip may destroy someone's faith. They are concerned about denominational issues, but they are more concerned about the spiritual state of their congregation.

My hat is off to the small church pastors who provide the grass roots stability, solidarity, and depth of Arkansas Baptists. I am grateful for the opportunities I've had at Siloam Springs Assembly to discover, meet, and study these dedicated and consecrated men.—Rel Gray, Ruston, La.

Church Music Smackover Workshop

Volunteer/Part-time music leaders and accompanists have the opportunity to select from two one-day workshops this fall besides the overnight retreat at Williams Baptist College. First Church, Smackover will host the Oct. 6 workshop and First Church, Marshall will be the host for the workshop on Oct. 27. The time is 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Lunch is provided and pre-registration is required.

New music for choir and accompanists will be read as well as selections from *The Baptist Hymnal* to be released as "Praising," March of 1991. Leaders and accompanist will devote time in improving their skills and exploring resources available to assist them in their ministry as well as sharing ideas that are working in their churches.

State convention and associational personnel will lead the workshops.

The deadline to register for First Church, Smackover is Sept. 24 and for First Church, Marshall, Oct. 15.

You may phone the Church Music Department at 376-4791, ext. 5121 to register.—Glen E. Ennes, associate

Woman's Missionary Union Baptist Women Retreats

It is time to begin promoting the 1990 Baptist Women Retreats to be held Oct. 18-19 and Oct. 19-20 at Camp Paron. This year's theme is "Empowered Therefore. . ." Women will acknowledge and surrender to God's power in every part of their lives.

Retreat leaders are Jane Fray, Fort Worth, Texas, who will be the Bible study leader; Sheryl Churchill Lewis, WMU, SBC, who

for current expenses.

The package may mean decreased income for the minister. Medical insurance, for example, can cost more than the increase in his salary.

Budget committees help answer these problems when they recommend salary and housing, benefits and church related reimbursements as three items under personnel ministries.

The Annuity Board has distributed a video, "Facing the Facts," to help committees study financial support for ministers and church staff members.

Loan copies of "Facing the Facts" are available through directors of missions. The Annuity office also has copies for use by individuals, committees or churches.—

James A. Walker, director

Church Music

SummerSing A Success

SummerSing III... some people say a week is too long for senior adults to stay in a dorm, attend classes, eat in school cafeteria, perform a musical, workshop together, go on a picnic, tour a peanut brittle factory, perform in a talent show, attend the Music Arkansas band and choir performance, do crafts, play the hand chimes, play the ukulele, learn to use camcorder and several other interesting activities, so, we asked the ones who did and the overwhelming response was they can do it!

The "Opsimathy" award went to Retha Snider, First Church, Warren. She claims to be 82 and certainly exemplified the meaning of the award, "the ability to learn in latter years."

If you are a senior adult we'll look for you next year at "SummerSing IV" on the OBU campus.—**Glen Ennes, associate**

Nailbenders Needed

Nailbenders for Jesus have constructed seven new church buildings in the first seven months of 1990. Nailbenders are needed to assist with the following construction projects.

—Sept. 10, Zion Church, Conway

—Oct. 8, Paragould Life Church

—Nov. 5, Trumann Eastside Church

For more information, contact the Brotherhood office at 376-4791 or Nailbenders Coordinator Frank Allen at 966-4982.

Looking Ahead

September

6-8 National Smaller Membership and Bivocational Evangelism Conference, *Little Rock Life Line Church (Ev)*

7-8 Baptist Men's National Softball Tournament, *North Little Rock Vestal Park (Bbd)*

8 Baptist Youth Day, *Magic Springs (DT)*

10 Impact 90, *Fort Smith Grand Avenue Church (WMU)*

11 Impact 90, *Prarie Grove First Church (WMU)*

13 Impact 90, *Mountain Home East Side Church (WMU)*

14-15 Adult Choir Members' Retreat, *Baptist Medical Center, Little Rock (M)*

16-23 Season of Prayer for State Missions and the Dixie Jackson Offering (*Ms/WMU*)

21-22 State Sunday School Conference, *Little Rock Geyer Springs First Church (SS)*

24 Impact 90, *Arkadelphia First Church (WMU)*

25 Impact 90, *Magnolia Central Church (WMU)*

27 Baptist Men's Golf Tournament, *Rebsamen Golf Course (Bbd)*

27 Impact 90, *Monticello First Church (WMU)*

27-28 Large Church Evangelism Conference, *DeGray Lodge (Ev)*

29 Northeast Arkansas Sunday School Conference/Smaller Membership, *Southern Baptist College, Walnut Ridge (SS)*

29 Northwest Arkansas Sunday School Conference/Smaller Membership, *Farmington First Church (SS)*

October

1-4 National CWT Seminar, *Little Rock Markham Street Church (Ev)*

5-6 Bivocational/Single Staff Pastor's Conference, *Little Rock Olivet Church (CL)*

5-6 Recreator's Retreat, *DeGray Lodge (DT)*

5-7 BSU Convention, *Little Rock Second Church (BSU)*

6 Volunteer/Part-time Music Leader and Accompanist Workshop, *Smackover First Church (M)*

6-13 Senior Adult Chautauqua, *Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly, N.C. (DT)*

8-10 Youth Sunday School/Evangelism Workshop, *DeGray Lodge (SS/Ev)*

18 State January Bible Study Clinic, *Baptist Building (SS)*

18-19 Baptist Women Retreat, *Camp Paron (WMU)*

19-20 Baptist Women Retreat, *Camp Paron (WMU)*

19-20 Tri-State Camp-O-Rec, *Camp Cordova, Memphis (Bbd)*

23 State Conference on Discipleship, *North Little Rock Park Hill Church (DT)*

18-19 Arkansas Baptist Music Men/Singing Women Retreat, *Ouachita Baptist University (M)*

27 Volunteer/Part-time Music Leader and Accompanists Workshop, *Marshall First Church (M)*

30-31 Arkansas Baptist State Convention, *Little Rock Immanuel Church*

November

2-3 Baptist Men's Prayer Retreat, *Camp Paron (Bbd)*

3 Mission Friends Leaders Super Saturday, *Little Rock Calvary Church (WMU)*

13 Worship Seminar, *Little Rock Markham Street Church (M)*

15-16 Minister/Mate Retreat, *Little Rock Markham Street Church (DT/BSSB)*

17 GA Mission Spectacular, *North Little Rock Park Hill Church (WMU)*

18-21 Foreign Mission Study, *(WMU/Bbd)*

26-30 Church Building Tour (SS)

Arkansas Baptist Sunday School Conference



Speaker

Dr. Harry Piland

Director, Sunday School Division
Baptist Sunday School Board,
Nashville, TN

SCHEDULE

Friday evening September 21

- 6:50 General Session
All Groups
**Dr. Harry Piland,
Speaker**
- 8:00 Special Interest
Conferences #1
- 9:15 Adjourn

Saturday morning September 22

- 8:30 Special Interest
Conferences #2
- 9:45 Break
- 10:00 Special Interest
Conferences #3
- 11:15 Break
- 11:30 Special Interest
Conferences #4
- 12:45 Adjourn

Special Interest Conferences

ADULT

Basic Adult Sunday School Work
The Adult Department Director
Ben Pritchett, Jonesboro, GA

Learning Styles of Adults,
How to Develop a Caring Class
Snookie Dixon, Arkadelphia, AR

The Class Member, Conducting
Monthly Class Meetings
Sandy Hinkson, Little Rock, AR

Leading Collegiates
Weaver McCracken, Jackson, MS

Teaching the Lesson,
Single Adults
Betty Jo Lacy, No. Little Rock, AR

Working with Adults in the Small
Membership Church,
Working with Senior Adults
Troy Prince, Jonesboro, AR

Homebound Adults,
Helping Persons In Grief
James Berthelot, Nashville, TN

How to Keep Good Records,
How to Begin/Improve
Weekly Workers' Meetings
Irene Prince, Jonesboro, AR

Adults

YOUTH

Help! I'm a New Youth
Sunday School Worker!
Ministry to Youth in Crises
Kent Holt, Fayetteville, AR

Help! I'm the Only
Youth Worker
Creative Teaching Methods
Betty Willong, Little Rock, AR

Sunday School Partners
with Parents
Planning is Important
Steve Stubblefield, Jackson, MS

A Look at the New Age Movement
(Youth)
Understanding the Youth I Teach
Leslie Tisdale, Memphis, TN

Youth Outreach
Youth Trends in the 90's
Keith Wilkinson, Jackson, MS

Youth

CHILD CARE FOR PRESCHOOLERS

Child care will be provided for preschoolers birth through three from *outside* the Little Rock-North Little Rock area. Churches in Pulaski and North Pulaski Associations should provide care for their preschoolers.

A \$5.00 fee will be charged for each child, and reservations for child care should be made through the Sunday School Department office by **September 17**. Reservations can be made by writing or calling the Sunday School Department, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203, phone (501) 376-4791, ext. 5128. The name and birth date of each child should be given when reservations are made.

September 21-22, 1990

Geyer Springs First Baptist Church

5615 Geyer Springs Road, Little Rock

NEW!!!!

70 special interest conferences are scheduled!

Choose a different one each of the four conference sessions!



CHILDREN

This is My First Year –
What Do I Do?

Using Creative Dramatics
to Teach the Bible

Carrie Beth Tonks, Abilene, TX

Children and Self-Esteem
Using Bible Verses

with Children
Liz Lee, Brentwood, TN

Helping Children Learn
About Prayer

Creating a Good
Learning Environment
Rob Sauls, Nashville, TN

Guiding Children's
Behavior Positively
Using Bible-Learning
Projects Effectively
Karen Smith, Sherwood, AR

Using Music to Teach
Bible Truths
Becky Thomason, Berryville, AR

Ministering to Blended Families
Using Games to
Teach Bible Truths
Yvette Atkison, Bryant, AR

Creative Storytelling for Children,
Learning Stations
Jackie Edwards, Little Rock, AR

SPECIAL EDUCATION

The Basics of Special Education
Gene Nabi, Nashville, TN

Teaching Methods in
Special Education
*Helen Vanlandingham
Little Rock, AR*

PRESCHOOL

How to Use the Bible
with Preschoolers

Answering Questions
Preschoolers Ask
Dixie Ruth Crase, Memphis, TN

Beyond Feeding and Changing:
Babies and Toddlers Learn, Too
Discipline/Positive Guidance
Zedabeth Uland, Plano, TX

Teaching Through Bible
Learning Activities
Planning is Important
Evelyn Waldon, Fort Smith, AR

Teacher-Made Resources
Frances Hamilton No. Little Rock, AR

Help! I'm a New Teacher
A Diet for Preschool Teachers:
Helping Teachers Grow Spiritually
Jane Plummer, Fort Smith, AR

Arranging and Furnishing
Preschool Rooms
Extended Session
Linda Pike, North Little Rock, AR

Using Music to
Teach Preschoolers
Marsue Keathley, Little Rock, AR

Preschool

**BREAK
THROUGH
REACH TO WIN**

General Interest Conferences

The Key to a Growing
Sunday School
Sending the Sunday School
Into the Harvest

Cliff Jenkins, Springdale, AR
Introduction to the Growth Spiral
Fredde Pike, Little Rock

Training the Trainer
Wayne Poling, Nashville, TN

Prayer: Appropriating God's Power
Carolyn Porterfeld, Little Rock, AR

Discovering and Enlisting Workers
Finding and Communicating
with Prospects
Ken Marler, Nashville, TN

Getting the Most from Weekly
Workers' Meetings
Harry Piland, Nashville, TN

Organizing the Sunday School
to Do Its Work
Developing Planning Skills
Michael Johnson, Pine Bluff, AR

Reaching Those You Already Have
Motivating Volunteer Leaders
Ron Cassaday, Springfield, MO

Organizing the Smaller Sunday
School for Growth
Effective Outreach in the Smaller
Sunday School
Lynwood Henderson

What Does Space Have to Do with
Growth? Growth Principles
Ed Hinkson, Little Rock, AR

Developing Visitation Skills
How to Set Up a Prospect File
Gary Glasgow, Magnolia, AR

Cradle Roll
What Every Pastor Needs to
Know about Preschool Work
Pat Ratton, Little Rock, AR

Ministering to Blended Families
Yvette Atkison, Bryant, AR

Current-Gaine

8,479.42	80,891.82	East Side-Paragould,	2,540.48	17,894.01	Caledonia-E Dorado,	0.00	250.00
		Fairview-Paragould,	89.00	890.00	Callon-Call-Ferry,	487.00	2,812.00
		Frings-Paragould,	177.84	1,151.24	Camden-First-Camden,	276,890.00	
		Fortalne-Bono,	0.00	60.00	Camden-Second-Camden,	90.73	375.41
	4,348.02	Harmony-Paragould,	0.00	0.00	Chidester-Chidester,	201.06	1,371.48
	2,174.13	Immarrual-Paragould,	680.08	4,330.71	Cross Roads-Locust,	0.00	
	8,856.26	Lake-Lake,	1,061.00	2,299.00	Cutherland-Camden,	4,006.00	25,106.54
	0.00	Lake-Trail-Paragould,	180.08	955.81	East Main-E Dorado,	2,445.28	17,403.97
	280.97	Light,	324.40	1,067.75	Ebenazer-E Dorado,	2,057.18	7,233.14
	869.00	Marmaduke-First-Marmaduke,	703.59	4,688.73	El Dorado-First-El Dorado,	5,263.42	43,897.56
	100.00	New Friendship-Marmaduke,	232.00	655.00	El Dorado Second-El Dorado	8,563.07	30,888.12
	5,559.04	North Valley-Marmaduke,	76.35	1,634.50	El Dorado-E Dorado,	5.63	98.63
	13,389.00	Nutta-Chapel-Marmaduke,	47.25	275.10	Fairview-Second-Camden,	40.00	138.00
	39.26	Oak Grove-Paragould,	137.84	1,069.42	Felsenthal-Huffig,	181.00	1,088.00
	759.87	Paragould-First-Paragould	3,198.51	19,340.04	Galle-E Dorado,	67.92	456.78
	181.76	Peace Valley-Paragould	150.58	408.18	Grace-Camden,	0.00	4,728.84
	2,689.00	Robbs Chapel-Paragould	200.00	200.00	Harmony-E Dorado,	589.04	2,500.00
	85.26	Rosewood-Paragould,	225.43	1,457.73	Hillside-Camden,	1,500.00	11,292.00
	123.85	Stanford-Beech Grove,	126.77	918.82	Huffig-First-Huffig,	485.15	3,243.54
	1,651.76	Third Avenue-Paragould,	0.00	0.00	Immarrual-E Dorado,	7,543.89	47,989.10
	252.01	Unity-Paragould,	197.23	300.00	Joyce City-Stratford,	4.00	3,230.48
	1,875.00	Vines Chapel-Beech Grove,	43.25	279.92	Juncton City-First-Juncton	1,272.23	3,882.12
	0.00	Waloot-Waloot,	300.00	1,800.00	Knowles-Strong,	146.96	782.42
	26.00	West View-Paragould,	1,502.82	9,385.99	Laple-Strong,	85.00	400.00
	158.40	Greene County,	13,499.83	84,958.33	Larson-Larson,	200.81	1,952.72
	1,060.00	Harmony	27.00	27.00	Liberty-Liberty,	143.58	770.88
	2,063.30	Albemarle-First-Albemarle	27.00	2,262.54	Louann-Louann,	238.79	1,117.41
	106.03	Anderson Chapel-Dumas,	331.00	1,159.86	Louanna-Emm-Smackover,	1,896.29	10,838.64
	137.00	Bethel-Gold,	0.00	0.00	Marmale Hill-E Dorado,	418.90	3,094.80
	1,651.13	Central-Pine Bluff,	0.00	0.00	Midway-E Dorado,	330.00	1,143.00
	16.40	Claud-Rose-Bluff,	1,068.88	7,100.74	New London-Strong,	11	1,287.47
	223.55	Dolanway-Pine Bluff,	308.54	477.16	Norphet First-Norphet,	1,379.43	6,517.72
	897.17	Douglas-Gold,	79.44	477.01	Parish Chapel-First-E Dorado,	0.00	2,271.29
	252.10	East Side-Paragould,	2,620.00	18,241.00	Parkview-E Dorado,	2,083.13	9,239.63
	1,875.00	Evergreen-Paragould,	482.00	3,877.57	Phadela-E Dorado,	280.00	1,552.00
	225.10	Fornel Park-Pine Bluff,	1,047.75	6,619.19	Reader-Chidester,	0.00	150.00
	1,875.00	Gould First-Gould,	0.00	1,588.55	Salem-Stephens,	229.00	1,725.00
	106.03	Grady First-Grady,	74.29	314.13	Smackover-First-Smackover	3,641.62	23,131.91
	2,833.28	Green Valley-Pine Bluff,	1,209.23	6,110.73	South Side-E Dorado,	313.59	1,836.40
	82.24	Greenlee-Pine Bluff,	1,855.01	4,889.20	Stephens-Stephens,	2.00	8,000.00
	268.43	Hard-Pine Bluff,	1,234.70	6,250.97	Strong-First-Strong,	2,132.92	9,468.76
	359.40	Hickory Grove-Star City,	98.96	471.96	Sylvan Hills-Camden,	100.00	600.00
	1,673.00	Humphry-Humphry,	285.45	1,870.90	Temple-Camden,	32.87	166.21
	2,833.28	Immarrual-Paragould,	4,655.31	25,285.25	Temple-Liberty,	1,948.20	9,554.02
	87.00	Kingland-First-Kingland	352.00	1,629.83	Three Creeks-Junctor Ct	680.07	4,650.74
	1,673.00	Linwood-Moscow,	362.00	1,338.15	Trinity North-E Dorado,	0.00	0.00
	2,833.28	Matthews Memorial-Pine Bluff	2,179.21	16,066.38	Trinity-E Dorado,	77.34	3,426.93
	78.00	Northside-Star City,	117.00	243.00	Union-E Dorado,	0.00	4,309.03
	1,673.00	Oak Grove-Pine Bluff,	907.43	6,402.00	Urban-Union,	55.75	323.75
	1,673.00	Pine Bluff First-Pine Bluff	5,008.20	40,985.88	Victory-E Dorado,	332.58	2,230.97
	1,673.00	Pine Bluff Second-Pine Bluff	545.00	4,010.73	Village-Village,	289.60	2,253.50
	1,673.00	Pleasant Valley-Pine Bluff	220.08	925.96	Wesson-Junctor City,	180.14	903.57
	1,673.00	Pum Bayou-White,	209.00	1,110.00	White Oak-Paragould,	2,729.00	19,522.15
	1,673.00	Rarkin Chapel-Dumas,	0.00	0.00	White City-Camden,	180.11	857.79
	1,673.00	Redfield First-Southem-R	293.92	1,466.75	Liberty	61,091.47	362,110.80
	1,673.00	Rison-Rison,	847.25	4,238.25	Little Red River	Month	Year
	1,673.00	Shannon Road-Pine Bluff,	0.00	2,123.05	Brownsville-Green Ferry,	0.00	271.77
	1,673.00	Shepherd-HB-Pine Bluff,	811.98	5,311.57	Concord-First-Concord,	148.08	997.84
	1,673.00	South Side-Pine Bluff,	3,863.18	20,915.83	Harris Chapel-Pangburn,	79.34	275.77
	1,673.00	Star City-First-Star City,	4,822.10	16,090.19	Heber Sp-Paragould,	5,277.94	33,125.00
	1,673.00	Suphr Springs-Pine Bluff	428.00	2,514.00	Life Line-Pleasant Plains	0.00	0.00
	1,673.00	Victory-Dumas,	1,713.59	8,137.59	Lone Star-Geers Ferry,	96.78	841.24
	1,673.00	Walton Chapel-Pine Bluff,	4,801.11	20,871.46	Mount Zion-Concord,	12.60	75.00
	1,673.00	White Hall-First-White Ha	3,875.56	23,759.33	New Bethel-First,	30.84	83.14
	1,673.00	Yorkdon First-Star City	448.00	2,089.00	Patent-Culman,	335.82	2,078.84
	1,673.00	Harmony	44,988.55	289,909.00	Pines-Culman,	148.26	975.89
	1,673.00	Independence	Month	Year	Pleasant Ridge-Geers Ferry	10.00	60.00
	1,673.00	Arkansas-Mountain View,	62.50	530.42	Pleasant Valley-Huber Sp	250.27	1,658.62
	1,673.00	Batesville First-Batesville	12,818.91	46,289.41	Post Oak-Culman-Ferry,	10.00	93.94
	1,673.00	Calvary-Batesville,	1,942.00	12,898.25	Outlan-Outlan,	400.00	2,400.00
	1,673.00	Calvary-Timbo,	219.87	1,423.72	South Side-Heber Springs,	189.22	2,584.85
	1,673.00	Con-Cord,	500.00	3,827.00	Sugar Loaf-Heber Springs,	718.05	2,105.95
	1,673.00	Cushman-Batesville,	36.00	60.00	Turnbush Sheba-Heber Sp	195.15	1,098.76
	1,673.00	DeSha First-DeSha,	327.82	2,069.00	West Side-Hebers Ferry	1.00	1,254.78
	1,673.00	Eastdale-Cave City,	394.84	2,286.03	Woodrow-Pine,	100.00	600.00
	1,673.00	Emmarrual-Batesville,	156.41	854.17	Little River	8,626.67	52,183.99
	1,673.00	Faith-Batesville,	82.44	352.44	Little River	Month	Year
	1,673.00	Fellowship-Batesville,	285.87	1,719.53	Ashdown-First-Ashdown,	2,034.69	17,328.58
	1,673.00	Floral-Floral,	296.57	2,023.00	Ben Lomond First-Ben Lomo	0.00	75.00
	1,673.00	Football-Mountain View,	0.00	1,313.97	Binger-First-Binger,	0.00	2,500.00
	1,673.00	Marcia-Marcia,	56.89	390.61	Brownstown-Lockburg,	0.00	0.00
	1,673.00	Mount Zion-Batesville,	272.25	1,573.00	Central-Mineral Springs,	929.44	3,026.21
	1,673.00	Mountain View-First-Mount	1,041.04	5,107.46	Columbus-Columbus,	78.18	291.35
	1,673.00	Newark Southern-Newark,	378.00	2,509.00	Cross Roads-First-Fonman	387.15	1,992.21
	1,673.00	Northside-Batesville,	99.95	772.13	DeSha First-DeSha,	200.00	1,468.25
	1,673.00	Pilgrims Rest-Batesville,	80.35	526.78	Foreman First-Foreman,	56.58	320.40
	1,673.00	Pleasant Plains-Pleasant	285.39	1,540.06	Hicks First-Ashdown,	0.00	0.00
	1,673.00	Rehobeth-Batesville,	287.10	1,942.28	Hondo First-Hondo,	391.14	3,611.04
	1,673.00	Rose-Rose,	2,547.83	6,822.32	Korn First-Ashdown,	162.00	1,015.00
	1,673.00	Ruddell Hill-Batesville,	257.00	692.00	Lakeada-King,	358.87	1,884.71
	1,673.00	Saland-Saland,	48.52	692.00	Lakeada-King,	184.00	984.71
	1,673.00	Strawbery Southern-Straw	0.00	1,842.99	Liberty-Mineral Springs,	0.00	3,900.23
	1,673.00	Suphr Rock-Suphr Rock	274.84	2,004.89	Lone Oak-First-Loneoak	0.00	3,500.23
	1,673.00	West-Batesville,	3,259.23	20,004.89	Lone Oak-DeQueen,	30.00	180.00
	1,673.00	White River-City Trough,	180.89	1,127.17	Milwood-Ashdown,	42.00	329.63
	1,673.00	Independence	28,642.27	119,899.11	Mount Moriath-Murfreesboro	593.28	4,531.84
	1,673.00	Liberty	Month	Year	Nashville First-Nashville,	3,804.02	24,787.62
	1,673.00				Oak Grove-Ashdown,	239.82	1,813.26
	1,673.00				Ogden First-Texasville,	184.04	1,978.64
	1,673.00				Ridgeway-Nashville,	898.00	5,491.97

The Arkansas Baptist's

CHURCH SERVICES DIRECTORY

Accounting & Tax Service

General Ledger Company, Inc.
1501 N. University Ave., Suite 330
Little Rock, AR 72207
501-664-5344

Air Conditioning

Grisham Air Conditioning
505 Sixth Street
Hot Springs, AR 71913
Dale Kemp, Owner;
501-623-1202

Book Stores

Baptist Book Store (SBC)
9101 W. Markham
Little Rock, AR 72205
501-225-6009

Glover Bible Book Store
5229 West 65th
Little Rock, AR 72209
Mon.-Sat. 9-5:30, Ph: 562-1195

Glover Bible Book Store
113 Buena Vista Road
Hot Springs, AR 71913
501-525-4884

Cemeteries

Roselawn Cemetery
2801 Asher Avenue, Little Rock
Phone 501-663-0248
Ark. Largest Perpetual Care Fund

Computer Software

C C S, Inc.
Complete Church Systems
Box 665, Benton, AR 72015
1-800-441-7786; 372-0323

Diamond Computer Company
429 Alcorn, Hot Springs,
AR 71901; 501-321-4329
Church Management Software

Construction

WBC Construction Co.
P.O. Box 21862
Little Rock, AR 72221
501-868-4838

Copiers/Fax

Ralph Croy & Associates, Inc.
Konica Copiers & Fax
Little Rock & Pine Bluff
501-378-0109

Elderly Housing

NLR Housing Authority
Leasing Office
P.O. Box 516, 2501 Willow
NLR 72115; 501-758-1512

Reach Baptist churches and families by advertising in the Arkansas Baptist!

Listings in the monthly Church Services Directory are available on one-year contracts for \$4.75 per line. Listings must be submitted in writing to the ABN office, along with a check or money order in the proper amount for the first insertion. Subsequent insertions will be billed to the customer. Listings are accepted on a space-available basis, and the ABN reserves the right to reject any listing because of unsuitable subject matter. For more information, contact Nick Nichols at 376-4791.

Electrical Contractors

Concord Electric Co.
6114 Alma Highway
Van Buren, AR 72956
Hm: 501-474-9232; Off: 474-3792

Harvill-Byrd Electric Co., Inc.
1619 Rebsamen Park Road
Little Rock, AR 72202
501-663-8345

Energy Management

Marks Air Conditioning, Inc.
Heat & Air Installation & Service
Residential & Commercial
Energy Mgmt; NLR; 753-1186

Fire & Water Damage

ServiceMaster of Hot Springs
Carpets & Draperies Cleaned
"On Location"
Hot Springs, Ark.; 501-525-3602

Flowers

Frances Flower Shop
1222 West Capitol
Little Rock, AR 72201
501-372-2203

Heating & Air Conditioning

Cox Heating & Air Conditioning
1612 Park Avenue
Stuttgart, AR 72160
673-2081

Insurance

Bob Stender - State Farm Ins.
Auto-Life-Home-Health-Boat-Aviation
800 N. James, Jacksonville, Ark.
982-9456 or 835-8150

Insurance (cont.)

Dyson Insurance Agency
5307 JFK Blvd.; P.O. Box 6251
NLR 72116; 501-758-8340
Specialist in Church Property Ins.

Janitorial Supplies

Arkansas Bag & Equipment Co.
8001 Assembly Court
Little Rock, AR 72209
501-568-0200

Mailing and Addressing Equipment

Crockett Business Machines
1900 West Third
Little Rock, AR 72205
501-372-7455

Music & Sound

Sigler Music Co.
Fort Smith, Ark.; 501-783-1131
Yamaha, Baldwin Pianos & Organs
Church Sound Equipment Installed

Plumbing

Russell & LeMay Plumbing & Heating, Inc.
8600 Cunningham Lake Road
Little Rock, Ark.; 501-225-3200

Sound Systems

American Audio, Inc.
Ruston, La.; 318-251-0290
Specialists in Audio Systems
and Acoustics Applications

Stained Glass

Soos Stained Glass
3407 Pike Avenue
North Little Rock, AR 72118
501-758-8641

Across the Country

Board Stays Policy, Sells Headquarters

Rather than rescinding a policy prohibiting financial assistance to churches with women pastors, trustees of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board voted to affirm the role of women in missions support.

Also in the meeting, trustees heard that 1990 receipts for the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering are up 6.74 percent over 1989, changed the approval process for mission pastors and appointed 25 missions personnel.

In other actions, the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board has sold its 6.3-acre headquarters site in midtown Atlanta for \$14.5 million and plans to relocate to a new facility in the metropolitan Atlanta area in five years, President Larry Lewis announced.

The buyer is AmProp Georgia I Limited Partnership of Chicago.

Arizona Elects Stringer, Cuts Staff

Dan C. Stringer was unanimously elected executive director-treasurer of the Arizona Southern Baptist Convention by the state's executive board Aug. 7 in Phoenix.

Stringer, 62, has been living in Scottsdale, Ariz., since shortly after his retirement as executive director-treasurer of the Florida Baptist Convention in 1989.

Stringer's employment is subject to approval "by a two-thirds favorable vote of the messengers in an annual or special convention session," according to the Arizona convention's constitution.

In other actions, the board adopted a pared-down budget for 1991 that cuts seven positions from the staff and trims \$315,000 from the 1990 budget.

Three of the seven positions are currently filled by missionaries jointly employed by the Arizona Convention and the SBC Home Mission Board. The positions will be funded until the end of 1990.

Annuity Board Assets \$2.9 Billion

Total assets of the Southern Baptist Annuity Board are nearing \$3 billion, trustees were told in Nashville during their July 30-31 meeting.

Treasurer Harold D. Richardson reported a sharp recovery in earnings during the second quarter after a lack-luster performance in equity and bond markets during the first three months of the year. Total earnings for the first six months exceeded \$100 million.

Virginia Budget Proposal

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—A proposed 1991 Baptist General Association of Virginia budget that would channel \$3 million less to Southern Baptist causes through the Cooperative Program unified budget does not reduce those contributions adequately, said most speakers at a called meeting of the Virginia Baptist general board.

However, the majority of the speakers said they were prepared to support the proposal for the time being.

An estimated 750 people attended the session, called by BGAV President Ray Spence to give general board members and other Virginia Baptists an opportunity to discuss a draft budget proposed by the BGAV budget committee.

Although the general board does not approve the budget, the board unanimously adopted a motion "affirming" the work of the budget committee. The committee will present a final budget proposal at the BGAV annual meeting Nov. 13-14 in Richmond.

The \$16,300,000 draft budget would allocate \$2,776,100 in undesignated gifts to the SBC Cooperative Program (CP), while designating an additional \$2,776,100 to Southern Baptist and other causes. The remaining amount would fund Virginia ministries.

Honeycutt Recuperating

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)—Southern Baptist Theological Seminary President Roy L. Honeycutt said doctors have told him his recuperation following recent open heart surgery is "right on schedule."

Honeycutt, 63, underwent successful five-bypass heart surgery July 24 after tests ordered as a part of his routine annual physical exam indicated blockage in several arteries. He said doctors found no damage to the heart and told him he could expect a complete recovery following 10 to 12 weeks of recuperation.

Speaking one day after being released from the hospital, Honeycutt said the surgery had left him "humbled and amazed by the power of prayer, the marvels of modern medicine and the recuperative abilities given by God to the human body."

He and his wife, June, emphasized their gratitude for the outpouring of prayer support from Southern Baptists across the country.

G. Willis Bennett, provost of the Louisville, Ky., seminary, is serving as acting president during Honeycutt's absence.

Here's A Number Every Choir Should Know

Dial 758-1424 for help in planning your choir trips, youth activities and get-togethers this summer. We've got fast facts on North Little Rock accommodations, restaurants and attractions.

- Major hotel chain properties
- Restaurants and cafeterias for all tastes
- Wild River County Theme Park
- Mall shopping and antiques
- The Old Mill, a riverboat and huge Burns Park

Free Mall Discounts Earned Overnight... McCain Mall coupons for stays at North Little Rock motels.





North Little Rock Advertising and Promotion Commission
Box 5511 • North Little Rock, AR 72119 • (501) 758-1424

Convention Uniform*Settling for Second Best*

by S. D. Hacker, Harrison

Basic passage: 1 Samuel 10:17-25

Focal passage: 1 Samuel 10:20-24

Central truth: God allows freedom of choice, but retains his leadership role.

From a broad and general process of selecting a king to lead Israel, at the nation's desire to be like other kingdoms, Samuel narrows the selection—from a whole nation to a tribe, from a tribe to a family, and from a family to one man.

In Exodus, there was a clear declaration that God was Israel's king. Samuel must now satisfy the people's demand for an earthly king, a "second best" choice. He is dependent on God to supply such a king. "Saul could not be found" (1 S. 10:21) is an interesting reflection. While the lots were being cast, Saul hid himself. Did he foresee the result? Did he feel unworthy of such a position? His conduct certainly showed some unwillingness or dread on his part.

God honored Israel's desire to have a king, but retained his right to select that king and to continue giving his providential care and leadership for the nation. Saul, who failed and was rejected in the latter years of his reign, did show that he was a man of extraordinary genius and power. He did not hastily undertake the serious duties of being Israel's first king. Presumption was not the cause of his fall.

God always has and always will remain faithful to his purposes and promises, even though man's stubborn will circumvents his divine plan for him. The gravity of holding high positions calls for one to remain true to God, to know himself, and to possess a loving and gracious heart.

This passage shows clearly that every person can pursue a course of action he chooses, but at the same time, God never surrenders his place of leadership. Whatever the form of government, God is the ultimate ruler. All too frequently, government officials take upon themselves decisions to launch programs and campaigns and to enact laws contrary to God's righteous law.

Wise is the leader who weighs carefully the pressing situation with biblical checks and balances. It is there that he will find wisdom to lead as he follows the whole counsel of God.

This lesson treatment is based on the International Bible Lesson for Southern Baptist Churches, Uniform Series. Copyright International Council of Education. Used by permission.

Life and Work*Bible Study and Prayer*

by Joseph W. Jones, Markham Street Church, Little Rock

Basic passage: 2 Timothy 2:15; 3:14-17; Matthew 6:3-8; Luke 22:40

Focal passage: 2 Timothy 3:14-17; Matthew 6:6-7

Central truth: Bible study and prayer helps us to mature in our spiritual life.

The two most important activities for Christian growth are prayer and personal Bible study. I'm not talking about those short before meal prayers nor about quickly read Bible verses, but I'm talking about fervent praying and thoughtful Bible study whereby we begin to mature in our spiritual lives.

Reread 2 Timothy 3:14-17. Paul is making references to Timothy's training. Scriptural knowledge is not something that we are given upon conversion. It is something that we learn as we study the Scriptures and allow the Holy Spirit to confirm the truth in our hearts. This is a very exciting process in the life of a Christian. First, we study the Scriptures and the Holy Spirit reveals to us a specific truth. Then in some point in our life, we apply that truth in a life situation. Our faith then begins to grow and new and deeper truths are revealed.

Paul tells us in 2 Timothy 3:16 that the Scripture help us in four ways. First, it helps us in understanding doctrine. Doctrine teaches us what is right. Second is reproof, which teaches us that things are wrong. Third is correction which teaches us how to correct that which is wrong. Fourth is instruction which teaches us how to stay right.

Whereas Scripture helps us to understand what God wants to communicate to us, prayer is the way in which we communicate with God. We should spend time each day in prayer. Praising and thanking our Lord, confession of personal sin, interceding for others and asking are all a part of what prayer is about. However, there is one other aspect of prayer that needs to be mentioned. This is the awareness of the presence of God in our lives each moment that we live. Paul tells us to pray without ceasing (1 Th. 5:17). This is having a God consciousness and speaking to him through our hearts all day long. Don't leave him at your prayer altar, but recognize his presence at your job, in school, in your recreation, and all your daily activities. This too is praying.

This lesson is based on the Life and Work Curriculum for Southern Baptist Churches, copyright by the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Bible Book*A Man Filled With Malice*

by William P. Oakley, Gosnell Church

Basic passage: 1 Samuel 18:6-12; 27:6-29; 20:14-17

Focal passage: 1 Samuel 18:6-12

Central truth: Unconfessed sin can lead one to horrible behavior.

Because of Saul's disobedience to God and his unwillingness to repent, the Scripture passages we are studying today reveal the dangers of his persistent sin. David, behaving wisely in his public position, wins favor with the people, and in the welcome to him on his return from the battle the women ascribe to him, in their song, higher praise than to Saul. This fact greatly excites Saul's envy and malice. In a fit of envious rage, Saul seeks to take David's life. The basic passage lends itself to the following divisions.

(1) The circumstance that stirs Saul's malice (1 S. 18:6-7). The mass of the people were quick in recognizing the fact that David was the hero of the day. They only expressed the real truth in ascribing to him "ten thousands" and to Saul his "thousands." Their instincts led them to honor above the king the man who was proved to be better than the king.

The tendency to misinterpret facts is common to sinful man. The very riches of goodness are perverted into an occasion for persistence in sin.

(2) The conclusion that strengthens Saul's malice (1 S. 18:8-9). Though many years had passed since Samuel pronounced Saul's deposition, and the choice of another in his place, it was not a thing that the king could ever forget. This stripping had shown such great qualities that the people had reckoned him at 10 times Saul's worth. Saul's mind became cankered with discontent, jealousy and envy.

(3) The consequence that shows Saul's malice (1 S. 18:10-12). Saul had brooded over his disappointment and cherished feelings of discontent at his own lot and envy at the good of others to such an extent that his mind gave way before the diseased workings of his imagination. He lost all control of himself.

In the mind-set of his malice, Saul attempted to take the life of David by tossing a javelin into his body. David was able to escape the attempt on his life. To Saul's jealousy succeeded a sense of powerlessness, knowing that the hand of the Lord was upon David.

This lesson treatment is based on the Bible Book Study for Southern Baptist Churches, copyright by the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Lesson
Date: Sept. 9

Convention Uniform

God Makes a Covenant

by S. D. Hacker, Harrison

Basic passage: 2 Samuel 7:4-16

Focal passage: 2 Samuel 7:8b-10, 12, 14-16

Central truth: God's divine will is revealed through the covenants he makes with man.

The time of chaos and anarchy when judges ruled over Israel was one step toward formation of an everlasting kingdom. Nathan, the prophet, is inspired to unveil the Messianic message (2 S. 14-16).

A voice was needed to convey the truth and merit of the covenant to Israel. A spiritual advisor cannot speak "Thus saith the Lord" until he has been with God. He cannot lead others to follow God's leadership until he, himself, has waited for God to reveal his divine will. Nathan met these requirements. He became David's close confidant and friend, in a position to spiritually advise the king. During periods of great and solemn occasions, God's spokesman revealed God's purpose.

Nathan relayed the message, recalling God's drawing David from an humble beginning as a nomadic shepherd boy and installing him as Israel's favorite king (2 S. 7:8). David was reminded that God was there all the time, past and present, and had fixed the future with a kingdom that would last forever (2 S. 7:9).

The Messianic message in verses 14-16 is still firmly fixed before us today, and God's promises are still true. God chooses and directs his chosen spokesmen today. He selects those submissive to his leadership and faithful to conveying his will and direction without "watering down" or compromising his message.

Both message conveyer and message receiver have grave responsibilities. God's covenant requires full obedience and respect. Followers who choose to "do it my way" may use God's covenant and promises just as clay from which they form and manipulate its intent to fit a mold of their own making, calling the finished product or action "inspired and holy." God's promises of blessings do not extend to such false treatment of his Word and covenant.

David listened to a God-inspired advisor. We would do well today to listen to spiritual leaders, advisors, whom God has set aside and ordained to convey and interpret his covenant message.

Life and Work

Day-By-Day Worship

by Joe Jones, Markham Street Church, Little Rock

Basic passage: Deuteronomy 6:13-15; Psalms 95:1-7a; John 4:23-24

Focal passage: John 4:23-24

Central truth: Sunday worship is more meaningful if we worship Monday through Saturday too!

It's Sunday morning. Once again we go through the routine of the day. We get up, get some coffee and the Sunday paper, get dressed and go to church. At church, we shake hands with the same people, half listen to the Sunday School lesson, and endure the worship hour. Certainly this is not the attitude most of us have, but I fear that for many, Sunday has become just another part of the routine of the week. Worship is the subject for this week and I hope that we can begin to put a spark back into our Sunday worship as we briefly study this important area of our life.

What is worship? Simply stated, it's an admiration or devotion to an object or person whom we consider to be of great worth. We can worship our possessions, an important person in our life, money, but ultimately, we want to reserve worship to God. The Psalmist in our text tells us that we should worship God because of his greatness. Can you think of anything or person who deserves more worship than the one who created the heavens and earth, who loves us and know us personally, who watches over us like a shepherd does his sheep, and who gave totally of himself so that we could have salvation.

Jesus tells us that we must worship God in spirit and in truth. In the context of John 4:20-24, Jesus is telling the Samaritan woman that the emphasis is not on the place of worship, but rather on worship. Let's apply this in our life. If we center our worship of God to one day a week (Sunday) and to one location (the church building) our worship will indeed become stale and routine. But, if we praise God continually through hymns, Scripture, and prayers all the day long, our worship will begin to be much more meaningful on Sunday morning. Think on that Scripture you read in your morning devotional, hum or whistle a hymn as you work, and thank God throughout the day for all those things he had done for you. Try doing that this coming week and when Sunday comes, you will know what I mean.

Bible Book

The Ravages of Revenge

by William P. Oakley, Gosnell Church

Basic passage: 1 Samuel 21:1-3.6a; 22:11-13, 15-18

Focal passage: 1 Samuel 21:1-3.6a; 22:11-13, 15-18

Central truth: Revenge always leads to devastation and heartache.

Arriving at Nob, David quiets the suspicions of Ahimelech by stating that he was on the king's secret business. On this ground, he asks for and obtains hallowed bread, to appease his hunger, and the sword of Goliath. Doeg, the Edomite, being detained there that day, is observant of David's proceedings. Even though David held a position as an officer in Saul's household, because of Saul's jealousy, loyalty to Saul meant death to David. The focal passage divides itself into the following points of discussion:

(1) The circumstances (1 S. 21:1-3.6a). David desired the shewbread to appease his hunger, and the priest in charge at first objected to the request on the plea that it was contrary to the ceremonial law to give it to him. The fact that David, a devout and reasonable man, ventured to ask for it, combined with his argument on the priest's own ceremonial principles (v. 5) precipitated the priest giving him the holy bread.

(2) The confrontation (1 S. 22:11-13). Doeg's suggestion that the priests were David's allies at once aroused all Saul's worst passions. As if he had determined from the first upon the massacre of the whole body, he sent not only for Ahimelech, but for every priest of Nob. Saul himself arraigns them before the court of treason and recapitulates three points mentioned by Doeg as conclusive proof of their guilt.

(3) The conclusion (1 S. 22:15-18). Ahimelech's answers are those of an innocent man who had supposed that what he did was a matter of course. But his enumeration of David's privileges of rank probably only embittered the king.

Saul ordered Doeg to slay Ahimelech and all the priests. That day, because of ungodly revenge in Saul's heart, 85 priests were slain. As we look upon the dead bodies of the slain priests through the pages of the Scripture, it is obvious to see the ravages of revenge. It is necessary for us to ask God to help us keep our hearts free from the attitude and spirit of revenge.

This lesson treatment is based on the International Bible Lesson for Southern Christian Teaching, Uniform Series. Copyright International Council of Education. Used by permission.

This lesson is based on the Life and Work Curriculum for Southern Baptist Churches, copyright by the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

This lesson treatment is based on the Bible Book Study for Southern Baptist churches, copyright by the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Family Freed

Elects to Stay in Liberia

by Donald D. Martin
SBC Foreign Mission Board

MANO RIVER, Liberia (BP)—A regional rebel commander in Liberia told Southern Baptist missionaries Ed and Fran Laughridge Aug. 10 that they were free to leave their mission station in Mano River and depart from Liberia.

But the Laughridges and their son Edward, 20, have decided to stay on in Mano River because of the need for relief work in the area. Mrs. Laughridge told missionaries in neighboring Ivory Coast via radio.

"We feel for now we have a needed ministry here," Mrs. Laughridge, of Great Falls, S.C., said. "Our situation has improved considerably. The regional (rebel) commander said we are free to come and go across the border as we please. There are no restrictions. At this point we are not planning to leave immediately."

Mrs. Laughridge said tension in the area, about 80 miles from Liberia on the Sierra Leone border, has decreased and the number of rebel troops has dropped.

The Laughridges met with the rebel commander Aug. 10. The commander said the family had been free to leave all along. Their six-day detention was the result of a misunderstanding with a lower-level rebel commander, he said.

Rebel troops of the National Patriotic

Front had earlier refused to let the Laughridges leave the area or, for several days, to communicate by radio with mission officials in Ivory Coast.

But tension between the missionaries and local rebels in the Mano River area began to ease several days before the meeting with the regional commander.

In fact, Laughridge, of Rock Hill, S.C., and a group of rebel soldiers drove Aug. 8 to the Sierra Leone border and received a supply of rice from Southern Baptist missionary Dean Ekberg, of Rockford, Ill. Ekberg, a geological engineer working to develop water projects in Liberia, evacuated from the country earlier and now is helping with relief work for Liberian refugees in Sierra Leone.

Ekberg sent 25 100-pound bags of rice in a canoe across the river that divides Liberia and Sierra Leone. Laughridge planned to pick up the rice and return the same day, but the process took longer than expected and forced Laughridge and the rebel soldiers to spend the night at the river before returning Aug. 9 to Mano River.

The desperately needed rice, distributed to rebels and civilians in Mano River, lasted only a short while, Mrs. Laughridge said. Finding food apparently is becoming the main concern of both civilians and rebels in the area, she said.

Southern Baptist missionaries working

with Liberian refugees in Ivory Coast reported similar hunger needs.

"I watched rice being unloaded in a village (in Ivory Coast) of more than 2,000 refugees," said missionary David Brown, of Marietta, Ga. "Eight or nine children rushed in with pans to scoop up rice that had spilled onto the ground." Stray grains of rice were even swept up from the truck beds to make sure none was wasted, he said.

The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board has spent \$98,000 through the Ivory Coast mission organization for the Liberian Refugee Project. Brown and other mission workers have distributed food to more than 16,000 Liberian refugees in the last few months, he said. Recently the Foreign Mission Board released an additional \$150,000 for the relief project.

Classifieds

Wanted—Organist wanted. Paid Position. Bingham Road Baptist Church, Little Rock. Call 888-2140. 813

Needed—Full-time custodian needed at Life Line Church. Call 565-3469. 823

For Sale—1985 GMC 1 ton pass. van, full int. pkg., frt. & rear air, cruise control, tinted glass \$6750. Call 753-3146 days or 664-7158 eve. 823

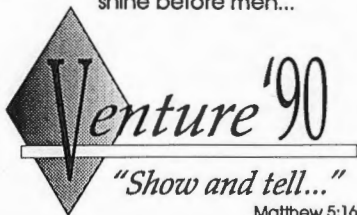
Part-Time—First Baptist Church of Dover is seeking a part-time Youth Director. Please apply by sending resume to P.O. Box 397, Dover, AR 72837. 823

Needed—Minister of Education and Music needed by Eastside Baptist Church, Sallisaw, Okla. Please send resume to: Attention Personnel Committee, P.O. Box 369, Sallisaw, Okla. 74955. Chairman Bill Land. 823

Seeking—A qualified part-time individual to lead music and a part-time person(s) to direct youth of church. Applicants send resume to Immanuel Baptist Church, 201 South Duncan, Fayetteville, AR 72701. Phone: 501-442-7053. 823

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.

Let your light so
shine before men...



Matthew 5:16

• Rick Caldwell • Billy Crockett • The Praise Singers

September 29, 1990
Ouachita Baptist University

Deadline for registration is September 17—Call (501) 246-4531, Ext 539

The *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine* offers subscription plans at three rates:

Every Resident Family Plan gives churches a premium rate when they send the *Newsmagazine* to all their resident households. Resident families are calculated to be at least one-fourth of the church's Sunday School enrollment. Churches who send only to members who request a subscription do not qualify for this lower rate of \$5.64 per year for each subscription.

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.

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, Inc.
P.O. Box 552
Little Rock, AR 72203
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Little Rock, AR
Permit No. 2006

Subscribers through the group plan pay \$6.36 per year.

Individual subscriptions may be purchased by anyone at the rate of \$7.99 per year. These subscriptions are more costly because they require individual attention for address changes and renewal notices.

Changes of address by individuals may be made with the above form.

When inquiring about your subscription by mail, please include the address label. Or call us at (501) 376-4791, ext. 5156. Be prepared to give us your code line information.

MIDDLE EAST

Contingency Plans

by Art Toalston
SBC Foreign Mission Board

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Southern Baptist representatives in the Middle East have made contingency plans to evacuate should hostilities erupt with Iraq.

News of the contingency plans reached the SBC Foreign Mission Board at the same time the U.S. State Department reconfirmed that a Southern Baptist family in Iraqi-controlled Kuwait has taken refuge in the U.S. Embassy compound.

State Department Kuwait task force member Judy Dunbar reconfirmed Aug. 10 that the Southern Baptist family in Kuwait, Maurice and Laurie Graham and their 13- and 10-year-old sons, were reported safe in the embassy compound, according to a cable from U.S. officials there. Graham is from Shelbyville, Tenn., and his wife is from Hutchinson, Kansas. The Grahams have been in the country less than three months to do youth and music work at the National Evangelical Church.

Earlier in the day, other task force officials would only confirm that the Grahams were safe and in contact with the embassy, but not whether the family was being sheltered by the embassy. Dunbar said those officials probably did not have access to the cable confirming the Grahams had moved from their home on a church compound in Kuwait City to the embassy compound.

One task force member who asked not to be identified reported that the U.S. Embassy has been "in personal contact with almost 900 of the American citizens living in Kuwait out of a total of about 3,000. There's one operating telephone at the embassy and it's being used to check at the different hotels on the welfare of Americans in those hotels."

"There have been reports of looting and attacks on foreigners by Iraqi soldiers but we don't see yet any pattern that they're just targeting Westerners," she said. Iraq has imposed a dusk-to-dawn curfew on Kuwait since it invaded the country Aug. 2.

Last week State Department spokespersons could give no estimate of the number of Americans who have taken refuge at the U.S. Embassy, but they did say the embassy compound consists of a series of buildings on "a large amount of acreage" with about 130 U.S. diplomatic officials.

Dale Thorne, who directs Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board work in the Middle East and North Africa, said Aug. 13 that evacuation plans for workers in the region are being made should they become necessary. "Our people in the various

countries have been meeting," he said. "We want them to keep their plans current."

Thorne said the workers are maintaining a low profile, "not being too obvious in their movements, especially in countries with anti-American demonstrations going on."

In Jordan, Southern Baptist representative Gerry Milligan is seeing such demonstrations daily at the University of Jordan in Amman, where he is on the nursing faculty.

Milligan's wife, Arylis, heads the group of about 25 Southern Baptist workers assigned to Jordan. She said Aug. 13 that the university president told her husband that he didn't think the situation was dangerous but neither could he guarantee absolute safety for Americans. A dean at the school later told Milligan he should be careful wherever he goes.

"You get conflicting reports," Mrs. Milligan said. "We are just on hold here, not really knowing what to do, listening to the news accounts at every moment. We're waiting to see what's going to happen, whether we need to leave or if things are going to settle down."

Southern Baptist workers Charles and Nancy Browning, stationed in Ajloun, Jordan, will be spending several days in Amman "until they find out what's going to happen." Mrs. Milligan said, as will Jeffrey and Susan Vann, who are stationed in Irbid.

Travel plans remain in place for two additional Southern Baptist workers to arrive in Jordan at the end of the month, Thorne said. The two are Vicki Smith of Fredericksburg, Va., who already has worked in Jordan for four years with the Foreign Mission Board, and Liz Hardage of Sherwood, Ark., who is part of the board's two-year journeyman program.

In Bahrain, Southern Baptist worker Don Littlejohn, who works as a medical technology supervisor at a hospital, said the only sign of tension is the exodus of a number of foreign executives from the island nation, which is just a few miles from Saudi Arabia and some 300 miles from Kuwait.

Bahraini citizens and non-executive expatriate workers seem to be staying in Bahrain, Littlejohn said, adding, "There's definitely a lot of people here who do not know Jesus from all parts of the world." He told of a Sri Lankan woman who attended English-language classes that his wife led by utilizing readings from the Bible. The woman said last week that she wants to know more about Jesus.