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Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

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**November 1, 1990**

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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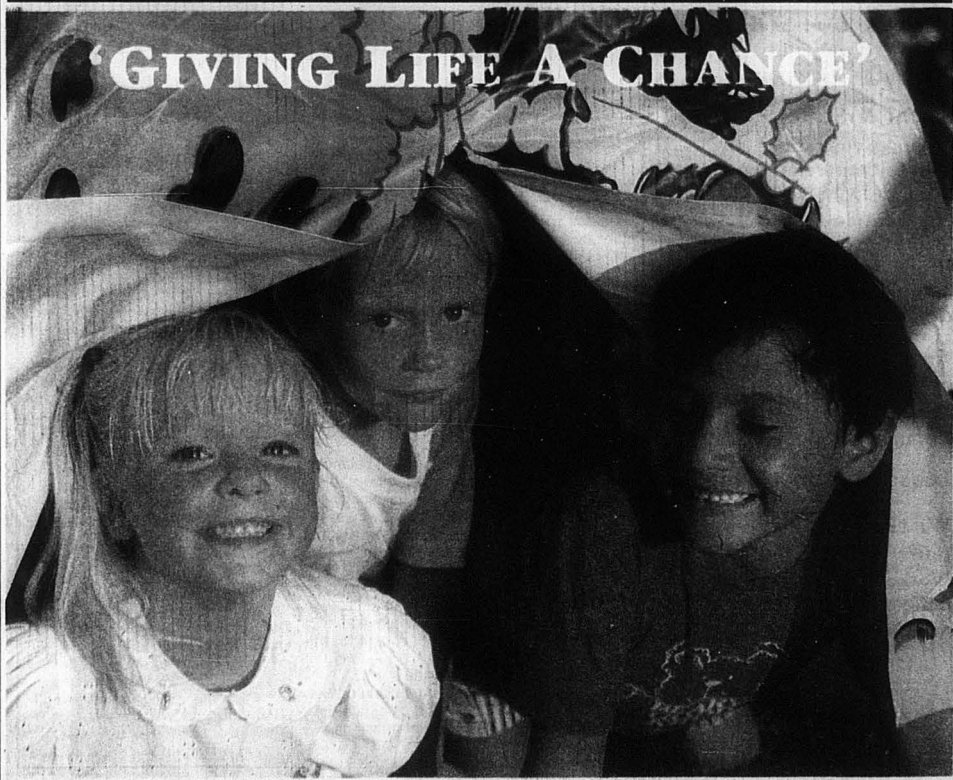
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Pastor, Tentmaker

# Arkansas Baptist

November 1, 1990

'GIVING LIFE A CHANCE'



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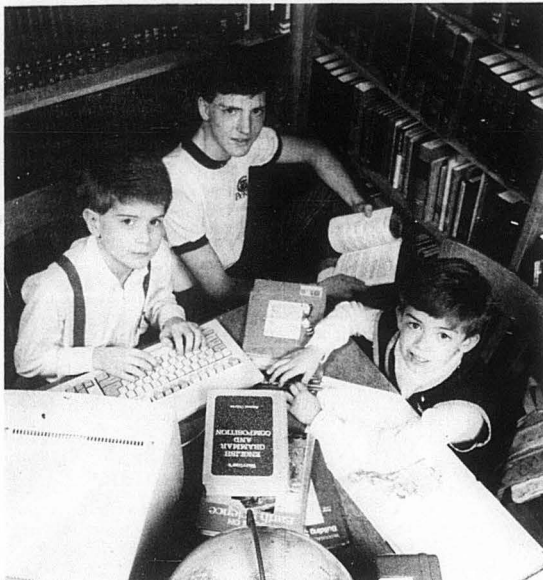
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# Missions at Work

"Extending the Kingdom  
Through Marketplace Ministry"



**ROYAL AMBASSADOR WEEK  
NOVEMBER 4-10, 1990**

**R**oyal Ambassadors is a well-balanced missions program that helps boys in grades 1-9 with their spiritual, social, mental, and physical needs. Every boy living within reach of a Southern Baptist church should have the opportunity to be a Royal Ambassador.

Through Royal Ambassadors, boys can learn to set high goals for their life, choose Christ as their leader, and develop a deep spiritual concern for the needs of people.

Are your boys worth the effort?

Participate in Royal Ambassador Week, November 4-10, 1990, and celebrate the future of Southern Baptist missions.







## Letters to the Editor

DON MOORE

### You'll Be Glad To Know



OK! In just a few days we will know if the real Christians will really stand up! Election Day is Nov. 6. It is a tragic mistake for any Christian to be so careless as to fail to register to vote and to fail to vote. It will be even more tragic if a Christian fails to vote against the lottery amendment, which is Amendment 4.

At this point we are very short of funds for radio and TV advertising time. We are deeply grateful for every church and every individual who has made a contribution. We are also greatly indebted to a host of individuals who have worked on state, district and county levels in the organization. Even with the denominational networks that we have, it has been a giant task to put together an effective organization that could successfully oppose the popular lottery craze, which could have from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 to wage their campaign.

As chairman of the committee to develop the strategy, I want to express particular appreciation for Buddy Sutton, Chairman of the steering committee; Jimmie Sheffield, administrative assistant to the steering committee; and John Finn, executive director of the Christian Civic Foundation, for their sacrificial, beyond the call of duty, efforts. Their efforts have been heroic. We are indebted to them.

This is Arkansas' best opportunity for defeating the lottery. If we do not defeat it this time, we will never be able to. There will never be another proposal as awful as this submitted to the voters. If it is not defeated, we will be saddled with the most oppressive economic force we ever have had for the rest of our lives.

Let me change the subject. So many people work in so many capacities to bring about a good convention, I want to express thanks in advance for all who will be involved. Arkansas Baptists must not be turned aside from our clear responsibility. Maximum messenger participation is important for the convention to function well. By grace, we can love, edify, forgive, tolerate and bless one another. Let's commit to do it for the rest of our days.

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

### New Coalition

Moderates among Baptists have formed a new coalition to seek alternate ways to support missions through the the Cooperative Program. They have done this, not in anger as some suggest, but to avoid dominance by the "conservatives" who now exercise iron-fisted control of all SBC agencies and boards. Prior to takeover of the SBC by the Patterson-Pressler led "conservatives," the average percentage given through the Cooperative Program by SBC churches was 12-37 percent. However, among churches led by some prominent take-over brethren, the percentage was much lower. Bellevue Baptist, led by Adrian Rogers, gave 3-77; First, Atlanta, Charles Stanley, 2-6, with only \$1 undesignated to the Cooperative Program; First Baptist,

Jacksonville, Jerrys Vines pastor, 2-3; Del City, Bailey Smith pastor, 1-19 percent.

Those forming the new fellowship are led by Dr. Vestal of Dunwoody Baptist, Atlanta, who does not aspire to start a new denomination, but simply to bring about a return to historic Baptist principles and policies among us.

The events occurring since the "conservative" takeover of the SBC are a major cause of concern among moderates; seminary and college presidents have been attacked, and some forced to resign. Editors of the Baptist Press have been fired without cause. Sunday School Board trustees hired Dr. Leon McBeth to write a history of the Sunday School Board, and then refused to publish the book. They destroyed all but one copy, since it didn't "favor the 'conservative' cause."

JACKIE ROBBINS

### Woman's Viewpoint

#### Healing from the Inside Out

When a little one comes running and asks for a Band-Aid, the easiest response is to apply the Band-Aid and let them go back to play. But this response could have serious complications a little later. As unpleasant as the task may be, a thorough cleansing is needed before the Band-Aid is applied.

When Adam and Eve needed coats of skin to replace their aprons of leaves, God did not provide them until he talked to them about why they tried to hid from him. He cared too much not to ask.

When the Samaritan woman at Jacob's well asked Jesus why he asked her for a drink, he never gave her a short simple answer. Instead, he talked to her about who he was and his willingness to give her living water. He asked her to go get her husband and this provided her the opportunity to share her deepest hurts. She did so and Jesus commended her for her honesty.

She was so moved she asked others to come to meet a man who told her all she had ever done. Many Samaritans followed her to meet Jesus. He stayed two days longer and many believed in him.

Jesus so loves he yearns to heal our

hurts. He has proven his love by the sacrifice he made. He wants to be our Savior and Lord for all eternity, not just a Band-Aid for the present time.

As we respond to opportunities for ministry, let us remember that those who hurt do not care how much we know until they know how much we care. Whether we are interrupted during our quiet time to teach a tot a lesson in first aid or feel the need to visit a couple who has everything but is out of fellowship with the Lord or use our lunch hour to witness to a woman who is living with a man who is not her husband, we need to have the compassion that Jesus has in order to be effective.

Some may not know their need, some may try to hide it and others will be open and honest. Whatever the circumstance, our desire should be to lead them to Jesus for complete healing.

If not before, a minute after we die, we will know the joy of helping or the emptiness of hindering those in need.

**Jackie Robbins** is an active member of First Church, Fayetteville, and is the mother of two and grandmother of three.

Martin Bradley, recording secretary of the SBC was replaced by the conservatives by the 26-year-old son of a "conservative" DOM, through political manipulation.

The Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs was stripped of funding by the Executive Committee, the money diverted to a conservative-controlled agency. A Church of Christ minister, hired by "conservatives," has been parliamentarian of the past two SBC sessions at \$120 an hour. A Campbellite setting Baptist policy is too much for some! Moderates cannot, in good conscience, support such practices and hope for an act of God to intervene. It is time to act now.—Walter Watts, Fort Smith

## Moral Blight

We are indebted to Paul Simmons for enlightening us concerning his abortion views. After reading his explanation, it appears to me that David Miller neither misunderstood nor misrepresented Simmons. Miller was only mistaken concerning

the time element involved (erring by two weeks). According to Simmons, convenience abortions should be allowed through the "twenty-fourth week of pregnancy."

Simmons is certainly entitled to his own opinion as to the morality and legality of abortion. The outrageous tragedy is that the majority of Southern Baptists, who believe convenience abortion to be perhaps the greatest moral blight upon our society, must continue to finance the propagation of such beliefs through our Cooperative Program dollars.—A. Timothy Hight, Newport

## Altogether Different

I so appreciate your printing the views of Paul Simmons, ethics professor at Southern Seminary. Never before have I seen such an explicit example of the reason for the "conservative" resurgence printed in the *Arkansas Baptist*.

Mr. Simmons states that "abortion is

always morally problematic; but it is and should remain legally available. . . ." He also advocates that convenience abortions be legally prohibited after the 24th week. (Mr. Simmons apparently thinks that life has value and deserves protection on day 168, but not on day 167.)

The Southern Baptist Convention has repeatedly reaffirmed their opposition to legalized abortion. We have voted to urge our Christian Life Commission and various state Baptist conventions to support legislation which will prohibit all convenience abortions.

So what we have in Mr. Simmons is a professor, paid by the tithes of Southern Baptists, who is teaching "ethics" that are diametrically opposed to the will of the convention. Mr. Simmons might use the term "morally problematic" for this situation—I prefer the more simplistic term "wrong."

I would never tell any Southern Baptist layperson or pastor what their opinion should be on the issue of abortion. However, a professor paid by Southern Baptists to teach "ethics" to our future preachers is altogether different!—Robin Cook, Magnolia

## Sin Is Sin

Mr. Paul Simmons has requested that he be allowed to present his views rather than have them interpreted by someone else.

I do not claim to be especially bright, but neither am I pitifully dumb. So, may I say that I have a hard time finding Mr. Simmons' article clear on just what his belief really is. It seems to me that he presents a pretty fair affirmation of Brother Miller's statement in the first article.

His last statement would have us believe that abortion is justifiable according to circumstances.

Come on, Mr. Simmons! Anyone who has ever studied the Scriptures knows that God is no respecter of persons. Sin is sin and murder is murder, be it committed by great King David, Adolph Hitler, or a person who kills an unborn child.

When the Lord sent Nathan to confront David in his sin, he did not say, "Well now David, you were so lustful toward Bathsheba and you really were in misery from your wanting her and you were so prideful of your kingship that I see you were justified." What he did say was, "You have sinned." Nowhere in the Scriptures do I find where sin is justified.

I fail to see Mr. Simmons' purpose in accusing Brother Miller of lying and then finishing his article with a definite affirmation of the "lie"—Iris E. Basden, Heber Springs

# This Lottery is a Lie.

# NO

# LOTTERY

## Vote Against Amendment 4.

## On November 6th

## W.O. Taylor Celebrates 100

W.O. Taylor of Melbourne, who delivered his first sermon in 1912, celebrated his 100th birthday Oct. 21 when he preached at First Church in Melbourne.

In his 78 years in the ministry, Taylor has pastored several Arkansas churches, founded three church camps, organized over a dozen churches, and served as an associational missionary. Taylor also has served as guide, role model and mentor and as a source of inspiration for many young people and pastors.

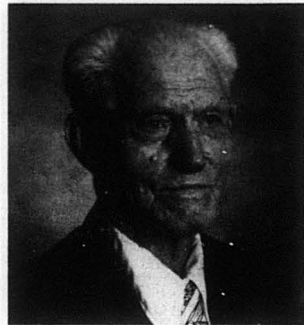
In his 100th year he continues to speak, is an avid reader, carries on a large correspondence, and continues to memorize new poetry. He has been the oldest minister in the Southern Baptist Convention since 1970 and still serves as a messenger from his church to both that convention and the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

Education has always been of vital importance to him. He qualified as a teacher

at Arkansas Teacher's College (now University of Central Arkansas) in Conway, qualified as a minister at Ouachita Baptist University (where this year he was awarded the honorary degree of doctor of divinity) and obtained his master of theology degree at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

In addition to his involvement in Baptist causes and education, Taylor has written several books and poems, and he is a gardener.

Along with his late wife, Minnie, he has raised and educated eight children who were together Oct. 21 for the first time in 50 years. The eight, who hosted an afternoon birthday reception at the Wildflower in Melbourne, are Ann Taylor Packer of Melbourne, Orville Taylor of Ridgecrest, N.C., Idavonne Rosa of Jonesboro, James Taylor of New Orleans, La., Ira Taylor of Lajolla, Calif., Jack Taylor of Arizona, Billy Joe Tatum of Melbourne, and Sammy

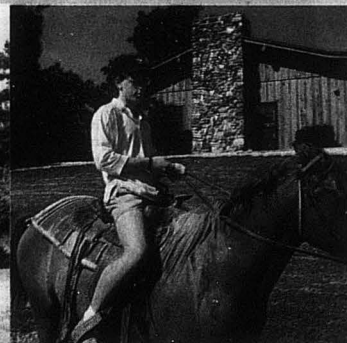


Denhoff of Chula Vista, Calif. The Taylor family also includes 18 grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

First Church in Melbourne, where Taylor is a member, honored him with a noon potluck luncheon.

# "GIVING LIFE A CHANCE"

*"I have come that they may have life, and... have it more abundantly." John 10:10*



## THANKSGIVING OFFERING PLUS



Arkansas Baptist Children's  
Homes & Family Ministries

LITTLE ROCK • MONTICELLO • HARRISON  
FAVETTEVILLE • JONESBORO • HOPE

Third in a Series of Seven Articles on Church Growth

## People Centered Ministry

by J. Everett Sneed  
Editor, Arkansas Baptist

"Almost every church has a Christ centered, Bible centered ministry. If our church has done anything unique it is in our people centered ministry," declared William F. Howard, pastor of Salem Church, near Benton. This open country church, with a full-time pastor, has experienced phenomenal growth. In 1985 the church was averaging 180 in Sunday School. In 1989 the church averaged 285 in Sunday School. In the same period of time the church offerings have increased from \$163,000 to \$243,000.

When Howard came as pastor in August 1984 he quickly established his priorities. These are for the church to be: Christ centered, Bible centered, people centered, program centered, and finally, building centered. He believes the Bible is the soul source of authority for a Baptist church. "We believe that if we do the things which will please God, he will bless us."

Howard's goal is to involve all the members of the congregation in the life of the church. He is interested in involving them in evangelistic activities. This means that the congregation will use many ideas from the members. Howard believes that people are innovative if they are allowed to be. Sometimes pastors try to put people into their own mold and this will not work.

There is some risk in allowing members to use their ideas. Howard said, "When you use people you take chances, but I believe that a person who is enterprising will do two things right for each one that he does wrong. If you refuse to allow people to use their ideas you will stifle their enthusiasm."

The Salem Church has every program that Southern Baptists offer. But, primary emphasis is placed on evangelism and Discipleship Training. Among the programs that are emphasized are Continuing Witness Training and Lay Evangelism Schools. Every individual who makes a profession of faith is given the Survival Kit.

In addition to evangelistic training, MasterLife and Survival Kit II are offered to all of the members. Howard said, "We have not had a person to go through Survival Kit II and not come out a tither."

Periodically classes are offered for adults who have been saved and for others who have not had Survival Kit I. Parents are encouraged to teach the children's version of Survival Kit to their children who have made professions of faith.

The church has a large number of young married couples, children, and young people. Because of this it is necessary for new

members to be put to work quickly. The only restriction that the church has is that all church workers must be born again, baptized members of the Salem Church. Before an individual can become a deacon, he must be a member of the church for one year.

Pastor Howard also believes that a strong emphasis on missions is essential in order to have the blessing of God. Approximately one-third of every Sunday's offering goes out of the community. Howard observed, "Ours is a young church which has no one who is wealthy."

The church currently is giving 12 percent to the Cooperative Program and three percent to associational missions. Recently the church raised \$10,000 in 11 days for a mission enterprise.

In order to keep missions before the church, there are at least three missionaries who speak to some activity in the congregation every year. Howard believes that his members need to know about both home and foreign missions. He also utilizes opportunities to involve his members directly in mission projects both at home and abroad.

Often the evangelistic and Discipleship Training will enable a church worker to point someone to the Lord who will in turn become the key for many others to be saved. A few months ago a 12-year-old boy was attending church with his mother. The Sunday School teacher observed that the boy was lost. He took time from the Sunday School lesson to give the plan of salvation.

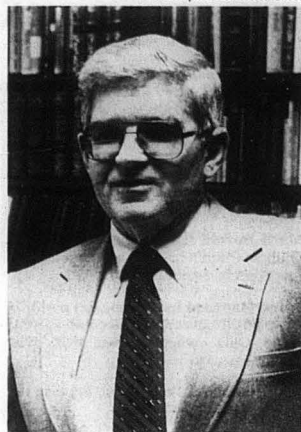
After the service was complete, on the parking lot the boy said to his mother, "Mother, why didn't you tell me that I couldn't go to heaven without being saved?"

Pastor Howard followed up and the boy and his friend were saved in the boy's yard. Church members continued to visit the family and three months later the boy's father also was saved.

Recently the boy's father came to the pastor's home saying, "Brother Howard, my brother is lost. He has three children. Could you visit him?"

Although the brother has not made a profession of faith, the church continues to minister and witness to him. The brother of the boy's friend also recently was saved and baptized into the church.

Another facet of the church that is extremely important is the deacon ministry. The deacons use the Family Ministry plan. Each deacon ministers to approximately 18 families.



Pastor Bill Howard

Another major emphasis of the church is the children's Sunday School. In the preschool department the Bible Book Curriculum is used. This is headed by Mrs. Howard, a state approved preschool leader. Much of the adult church growth comes through the preschool department. Preschoolers' parents are often reached through ministering to the children.

Pastor Howard uses what he calls "The 3-2 Visitation Plan." Anyone who visits the church will receive three visits in two weeks. The goal is for a deacon and a yokefellow to visit on Sunday afternoon. Other follow-up visits are made by the Sunday School class and by the pastoral staff. Howard observed, "This plan has proven to be exceedingly successful. Anyone who visits our church knows that we are interested in him."

Howard said that another strength of his church was the ministry that is provided by Bob Endel, minister of music and youth. Howard said, "I firmly believe that we have the greatest music director and youth director in the state." Endel has seven fully graded choirs which provide music for many special occasions. Howard and Endel work together in planning the worship service.

Endel also has developed an outstanding youth program. He may lead the young people to do unexpected things. For example, they may take the van and pick up young people and bring them back to play volleyball ball.

In conclusion Howard said, "Our church emphasizes people and uses the Flake formula. When we do these basics well, I believe the Lord will bless a congregation."

## Arkansas All Over

MILLIE GILL

### People

**Willie Gold** is serving as pastor of Roberston Church, Carlisle. He previously served at First Church, McRae.

**Mark Porter** has resigned as pastor of Gillham Church to serve as pastor of Temple Church, Searcy.

**Doug Maggard** has resigned as pastor of Chapel Hill Church, DeQueen, to move to Hugo, Okla., where he will work with Frisco Association.

**Larry Hobbs** of Dierks is serving as pastor of Concord Church, Mena.

**Freddie Woodral**, pastor of Friendship Church, Black Fork, was ordained to the ministry Sept. 23.

**Howard Head** has resigned as pastor of Temple Church, Waldron.

**Billy Harwell** is serving as pastor of Parks Church, coming there from Casa Church.

**William C. Viser**, assistant professor of religion and counselor at Ouachita Baptist University, is serving as interim pastor of First Church of Hicks.

**Joey Fischer** of Earle is serving as music director for First Chapel in Jonesboro.

**Benny Brooks** of Trumann is serving as pastor of Mount Pisgah Church, Jonesboro.

**James R. Dickerson** of Crossett died Oct. 10. He was founder of Suffolk Church in Great Britain and Pleasant Lane Church in Crossett. He was a Crossett police chaplain and a minister for more than 30 years. Dickerson was a guard at the Nuremberg trials, international trials of World War II criminals, and a retired employee of the U.S. Postal Service. Survivors are his wife, Lois Dickerson; three sons, David Dickerson of Crossett, Steve Dickerson of Fayetteville, and Randall Dickerson of West Monroe, La.; his mother, Bertie Dickerson of Coshocton, Ohio; three brothers; three sisters; and eight grandchildren.

**Rusty Bushong** of Fort Smith is serving as interim pastor of First Church in Clarksville. He is a graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and Arkansas Institute of Theology in Fayetteville. He and his wife, Debbie, have two sons, Jeremy, and Aaron.

**Alline Moore Sims** of Arkadelphia, a former resident of Huttig, died Oct. 14 at age 87. She donated her body to the University of Arkansas Health Science Center for research. Memorial services were held Oct. 20 at Huttig First Church where she was a member, having served in the Woman's Missionary Union and as a nursery worker. Survivors include one son, Kenneth F. Sims of North Little Rock; two daughters, Mary Wright of Arkadelphia and Marie F. Cummings of Blue Springs, Mo.; eight grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren. Memorials may be made to First Church in Huttig for the Lottie Moon Season of Prayer offering.

**Bill Steeger**, chairman of the Religion Department at Ouachita Baptist University, is serving as interim pastor of First Church in Sherwood.

**Paul Williams** completed 15 years of service Oct. 28 as minister of music for Calvary Church in Little Rock. A graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, he served Texas churches prior to coming to Little Rock. Williams has collaborated in writing over 200 songs which are now in print in 20 different publications. He and his wife, Donna, have two

sons. Matt resides with his parents. Grey and his wife, Tongva, and their twins, Jessie and Jackie, reside in Pittsburgh, Penn.

**Rev. and Mrs. Carl Ellis Chote** will celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary Nov. 10 at Second Church in Hot Springs where they are members. Their children, Carla Jane Chote, and Cathy Johnson, will host a 2 to 4 p.m. reception. Chote has pastored churches in Alya, Percy, Hot Springs, and Benton. He has served as interim pastor of churches in Malvern and Jones Mill.

**Frances McGhee** of Scott died Oct. 19 at age 55 following a lengthy illness. Her funeral services were held Oct. 21 at Toltec Church in Scott where she had served as a Sunday School teacher, on various committees, as a choir member, and as a member of Woman's Missionary Union. Survivors include her husband, Sammy McGhee; two sons, Steve McGhee of Scott, and Mike McGhee of England; one daughter, Chris Stewart of Scott; her mother, Irene Fielder of Lonoke; one brother; and five grandchildren. Memorials may be made to Toltec Church.

**James Hensley** is serving as pastor of Rocky Mound Church, Fouke.



*DeQueen First Church membership dedicated the Eddie Reed Center for Weekday Early Education Sept. 9. The ministry, begun by the late Eddie Reed in 1987, with five teachers now ministers to 40 preschoolers, including two blind students in the DeQueen Area. Pastor Faron Rogers is pictured presenting the dedication plaque to Reed's widow, Carolyn Reed. Also pictured are his parents, Raymond and Norene Reed of Camden.*



**Greg Jones**, who served as summer youth intern for Shiloh Memorial Church, Texarkana, is now serving the congregation as minister of youth.

**James Roy Clayton** is serving as pastor of First Church in Wedington Woods. He has pastored churches in California and served as a Bible institute teacher in Iowa. Clayton and his wife, Cullene, have one son, Michael.

**James Criswell** of Springdale is serving as pastor of Silent Grove Church, Springdale.

**Tony Pedone** has joined the staff of Sonora Church, Springdale, as youth director.

**Delorise Boyle** has retired as director of the older preschool Sunday School Department at West Helena Church, following 33 years of service.

**Joe Jones** began serving Oct. 28 as pastor of First Church in Prairie Grove. He is a graduate of the University of Arkansas. Jones and his wife, Carol, have two children, Aaron and Candace.

**Murl Walker** of Van Buren died Oct. 20 at age 77. He was serving as staff evangelist for North Park Church in Van Buren. He had pastored in the Arkansas and Oklahoma area for 52 years. Survivors are his wife, Annie Walker; two daughters, Linda Hoffman of Eufaula, Okla., and Dana Stallings of Greenwood; two sons, Paul R. Walker of Greenwood, and Kenny Hall of Van Buren; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. Memorials may be made to North Park Church building fund or to the Gideons.

**Grace Marrs** was honored Sept. 30 by St. Charles Church in recognition of her retirement as church treasurer following 17 years of service.

**Fred M. Gay** began serving Sept. 14 as pastor of Cross Road Church in Little Rock.

**Mark Alan Porter** is serving as pastor of Temple Church in Searcy, coming there from First Church, Gillham.

**Harrison Johns** of Harrisburg is serving as interim pastor of First Church in Lepanto.

## Briefly

**Batesville Emmanuel Church** membership has voted to increase their mission gifts to both Independence Association and the Cooperative Program.

**Bryant First Southern Church**, Bryant Indian Springs Church and Salem Church, Benton, have joined forces to provide a monthly event called "Powersource," designed to reach non-church teenagers. The first rally, held Oct. 3 at Boswell Community Center in Bryant with 150 teenagers in attendance, resulted in eight professions of faith and 48 rededication decisions. Rick Caldwell of Little Rock, a national youth speaker, and David Bell, a Dallas-based musician, led the first rally and will lead the second one planned for Nov. 7.

**North Crossett First Church** will celebrate its annual homecoming Oct. 28. Charles Lloyd will preach at the morning worship service. The afternoon service, beginning at 1:30 p.m., will featuring Heartland, a musical group. David Talbert is pastor.

**Norphlet First Church** conducted a revival Sept. 30-Oct. 4 that resulted in 78 professions of faith, five additions by letter, and 67 rededications. Scott Camp and team were leaders. Lawrence W. Harrison is pastor.

**Remount Church** in North Little Rock will be in revival Nov. 14-18, according to Pastor John Ashcraft. Evangelist will be D. Wade Armstrong, a former Arkansan and staff member of the Home Mission Board, who recently returned from China.

**Huttig First Church** launched a Discipleship Training program Oct. 7 for all ages. There were 65 in attendance.

**Ozark First Church** has launched ministries to both senior adults and the hearing impaired.

**Dover First Church** will observe homecoming Nov. 4 with activities which will include an 11 a.m. worship service, a noon meal, and a 2 p.m. service. Former members will be special guests. Jeff Paxton is pastor. The church also recently ordained Jerry Hankins, Chuck Hayward, Darrell Vaughn and Hartsell Hankins to the deacon ministry.

**Camden First Church** ordained Bob Anders to the deacon ministry Oct. 21.



*Central Church in Magnolia was awarded the Jewel Beall Award Oct. 14. This award is presented annually by the Home Mission Board to two churches—one on the east side of the Mississippi River and one on the west side of the river—in recognition of outstanding ministry to community and other mission causes. Central Church was chosen because of its involvement in and support of the Migrant Mission Center in Hope; for a community crisis clothes closet sponsored by the Woman's Missionary Union; for sponsorship of an independent living center for mentally handicapped women; and numerous other community outreach programs. Participating in the presentation were (left to right) Pastor Rich L. Kincl; Harold Hime, associate director of the HMB Church and Community Ministries Department, Rodney Griffin, chairman of the deacon body, and Loyd Hunnicutt, pastor emeritus.*

**Delaware Church** recently held an Acteens Recognition Service in which Jenny Burris, Susan Burris, Regina Farnam and Laquita Wellborn received crowns. Valetia Wellborn is director.

**West Acres Chapel** in West Helena, which is still in mission status, recently voted to contribute \$60 monthly toward a new mission that is being launched at Pindall.

**Cullendale First Church** in Camden ordained Larry Gore, Luther Greene Jr., Robin Hooks, Bobby Marks, and Tommy Williams to the deacon ministry Oct. 28.

**Greenlee Memorial Church** in Pine Bluff ordained Phillip Rushing to the deacon ministry Oct. 21. On Saturday, Sept. 29, Pastor Warren Watkins and the youth of the church were involved, an automobile accident in which one of their youth, Robbie Williams, was seriously injured and the church van was destroyed. The group was returning from Venture '90 at Ouachita Baptist University. The other driver sustained numerous fractures and is recovering in University Hospital in Little Rock.

**Fisher First Church** has launched a year long emphasis on the work of the Southern Baptist Convention through the Cooperative Program. "Reaching the World from Fisher, Arkansas," is emphasis theme. Each week the church will hear a report about a different ministry supported by the Cooperative Program. Elias Pantaja, associate in the ABSC Missions Department, was guest speaker Oct. 7.

**St. Charles Church** recently participated in a community service held in the park during the community's annual Wildlife Festival. There were over 200 in attendance from all the churches in the community. Frank Pfeneger, pastor of St. Charles Church, was speaker.

**Fayetteville Immanuel Church** recently recognized Deniese Bartz, Jackie Hammonds, Teresa Haney, and Sara Maness for completion of their Acteens Queen Level of Studiaact.

**Fayetteville University Church** recently organized Royal Ambassadors with Bill Dunn as director, and Girls in Action with Vicki Lloyd as director.

**Sang Avenue Church** in Fayetteville recently broke ground to build a 10,000 square foot worship center. Building committee members are George Hendrix, Glenn Nelson, Freda Mifflin, Terry Hendrix, and Doyle Vernon. Paul Dennis is pastor.

## Dove Circle Consititutes

Dove Circle Chapel, Holiday Island, constituted into a church Sept. 30. The congregation was sponsored by First Penn Memorial Church, Eureka Springs; Blytheville First Church; Park Hill Church, North Little Rock; and North Arkansas Association.

In 1986, local residents of Holiday Island held a home Bible study. In 1987, Emory Day became the leader of the regular weekly Bible study which convened in the information center at Holiday Island. In 1988 an organized worship service was started in the information center. First Church of Eureka Springs became the primary sponsor. In June of 1988 a chapel was provided by the ABSC Missions Department and property was purchased.

In April of 1990 the chapel called Bill Melton to serve as full time pastor. In August of 1990 the chapel petitioned First Penn Memorial Church of Eureka Springs for the congregation to be established as an independent, autonomous body.

Thirty individuals became charter members of the congregation Sept. 30. The charter membership was held open during October.

Participating on the program was Pastor Melton, Vernon Payne, pastor of First Penn Memorial Church, and L. B. Atchison, director of missions for North Arkansas Association.

ABN photo / J. Everett Sneed



*Lu Docksider signs on as a charter member as Pastor Melton (left) and L. B. Atchison look on. On the right is member Glenn Andrew.*

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*John H. Butler*  
Principal



## White River Celebrates 150

by Millie Gill  
Arkansas Baptist

White River Association messengers attending the Oct. 15-16 meeting at First Church in Mountain Home not only participated in the annual meeting, but celebrated the association's 150th anniversary.

Ed Powers currently serves as director of missions for the association that covers Marion and Baxter Counties. It has 26 churches and two missions and 6,535 members. Rehobeth Church at Moorefield, the oldest Southern Baptist Church in Arkansas, is the only existing church that helped organize the association. First Church in Mountain Home and Gassville also are two of the oldest association members, both founded in 1868.

It was reported that in 1840, the founding year, there were few preachers and churches were few and far between, making it necessary for the preachers to pastor three or four different churches and therefore a community might have church only once a month.

In 1846, there were eight churches, four preachers and 320 members in the association. At that time the association covered portions of northern Arkansas and southern Missouri. Travel was another problem in the early years. Walking and riding a horse, maybe even a mule was the mode of transportation and often rivers were forded or crossed by ferry. Associational



*Historical displays were a highlight of the 1990 annual meeting of White River Association held at First Church, Mountain Home, Oct. 15-16. Ed Powers, director of missions, is pictured with the exhibit from Antioch Church, Flippin*

Missionary John Wolfe, in 1851, traveled more than 2,700 miles by horseback.

In 1854, a Baptist elder reported that, as of early September that year, he had traveled 405 miles, preached 75 sermons, worked 60 days, visited 50 families, supplied three churches, and distributed Bibles. His efforts resulted in 15 professions of faith, four baptisms, and special missions offerings.

The association, over the years, has been

strongly missions oriented, but has taken on duties that reflect today's needs. All 26 churches give financial support to the association on a percentage basis.

With six of the current churches without full time pastors, work still must be organized through the association office which is located at Flippin. An executive committee, made up of pastors and lay people, assists in coordinating associational work, meeting every other month. 1990 messengers elected Tim Cypert, pastor of Yellville Church, to serve as 1990-91 moderator. Also elected were Eldon Hellums, pastor of Pyatt Church, vice-moderator; Ralph Poor, member of Mountain Home First Church, clerk; Nan Carole Morrow, member of Yellville Church, treasurer; and Gladys Morrow, member of Yellville Church, assistant treasurer.

Weekly pastors' prayer meetings are conducted at the associational office, providing a great source of strength for the pastors. Also, the association works with pastors regarding their Sunday School projects, and Discipleship Training programs. Powers also assists churches in organizing Woman's Missionary Union work.

The launching of new congregations is a future goal. Gamaliel Church, launched in 1989 through the sponsorship of Mountain Home East Side Church, brought people from all over Arkansas who constructed the building in one day.

Powers was assisted in anniversary preparation by his wife, Phyllis, Inez Poynter, Eula Gregory, Everett Wheeler, and Phillip Powers.

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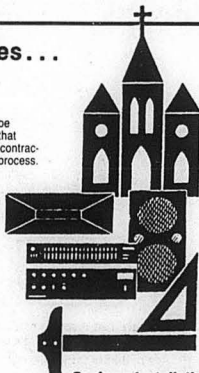
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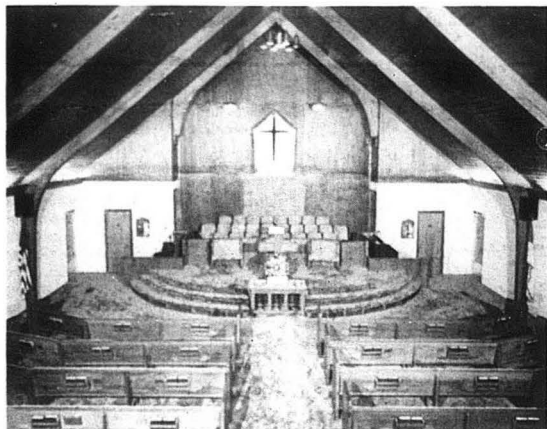
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MOUNTAIN VIEW CENTENNIAL

## Vision for the Future

by J. Everett Sneed  
Editor, Arkansas Baptist

"I have a vision for the future," declared Jackie Fendley, pastor of First Church, Mountain View, during the church's centennial celebration Oct. 7. "This vision includes a number of physical improvements, but more importantly it involves confronting every individual in Mountain View with the gospel. My vision is for our people to teach, nurture, and minister not only to our own congregation but also to our entire community."

A number of individuals participated in the morning and afternoon services. Among these were Tom Isbell, a dentist in Mountain View, who read scripture and led in the invocation; Mary Flatt, who presented a picture of the "Sunshine Choir" of some years ago; Rob Sutton, who presented special music; and former



ABN photo / J. Everett Sneed

*Pictured are former pastors present: (back row, l to r) Raymond Stogsdill, Amos Greer, Edward Powers and William Philliber; (front row, l to r) J.R. Hull, mission pastor; Jackie Fendley, current pastor; Hugh Davis, former interim pastor; and Gilbert Nichols, missionary to Paraguay.*

pastors and preaches who were associated with the congregation in the past.

In 1890, Jacob King organized the Corinth Church. A small group of members met for a few years in the newly erected court house. King served as pastor during the early years of the congregation's existence. By 1894 he was able to build a

building by taking his sons away from school and with their assistance he erected the first church building made of hewn logs. The family did most of the work in constructing the new building.

The influence of Rev. and Mrs. King spread as those who knew him settled in a wide area. His son, T.J.D. King, was a noted pastor of the West Church, Batesville, for more than 40 years. His daughters, Bettie, Laura, Viola, Emily, and George Ann, were faithful members of the Corinth Church which later became known as the First Church. The King descendants are still active in First Church today. His son, Josh, was a well known educator in the county.

In 1921 Sunday School rooms were added to the log building. In 1938, a rock building was erected and the logs that were hewn by the Jacob King family were used in the construction. In 1938, the name of the church was changed to the "First Baptist Church."

In May 1938, construction was begun on a new facility at the present location. In September 1938, this facility was used for the first time with no indebtedness.

In June 1939, the church erected a pastor's home and in 1964 a new auditorium was constructed. In 1967, the present parsonage was completed.

Pastor Fendley is convinced that the church has a great future. He said, "As we catch a vision for the future our opportunities are unlimited. We can be assured as we respond to the will of God his blessings are assured."



*Lisa Watson and Melissa Barnes package crayons.*

## Monticello CBYW Projects

The University of Arkansas at Monticello Baptist Student Union Campus Baptist Young Women collected over 300 boxes of crayons and packaged them into three large boxes. Two of these boxes were shipped to Guatemala City, and one box was sent to the Good Samaritan Center in Pueblo, Colo., where UAM-BSU member Stephanie Reed is currently serving as a semester missionary. The idea for the project came out of the BSU's mission trip to Guatemala in January; churches did not even have simple craft supplies such as crayons.

Another recent project was the placement of yellow ribbons around the UAM campus to remind students to pray for our men and women who are stationed in the Persian Gulf.

# College Digest

## News from Williams, Ouachita

### Williams Baptist College

**Russian Book Exchange**—Students at Williams Baptist College will soon have access to reference books published in Russia since the advent of "glasnost."

A set of four books reflecting the current culture of the Soviet Union will be part of the WBC library as a result of a new education exchange with the USSR. Thirty-three colleges in 15 states are charter partners in Operation Knigi, named after the Russian word for books.

**Craft Fair**—The Williams Baptist College Women's Club will host the "WBC Jubilee!", a handmade arts and crafts fair, on November 16th and 17th in the J.E. Carter Fieldhouse on the college campus.

**Renovations Complete**—Renovations on Southerland Hall, a Williams Baptist College dormitory made possible in 1960 by Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Southerland of Batesville, are now complete.

The east wing of Southerland Hall was converted from traditional dormitory suites

into modern, apartment-style units.

**Gift Received**—The college recently received a gift of \$3,225 from the Roy and Christine Sturgis Charitable and Educational Trust of Malvern, announced Martha Nicholas, WBC head librarian.

The gift will be used to purchase needed automated equipment and software for the school's Felix Goodson Library.

### Ouachita Baptist University

**New Responsibilities**—Three Ouachita Baptist University faculty members, Hal Bass, Tom Auffenberg, and Everett Slavens, have been given new academic responsibilities in addition to their teaching roles.

Bass has been named as the new chairman of the Division of Social Science and continues as chairman of the political science department. Bass replaces Slavens as chairman of the division. Slavens, meanwhile, has assumed the role of director of the Carl Goodson Honors Program. Taking

over from Slavens as history department chairman is Auffenberg.

**Share Teams**—Two Baptist Student Union Share Teams have been formed for the 1990-91 school year at Ouachita Baptist University.

Each team is made up of a preacher/speaker, music leader and pianist. The upperclassman team has as members Craig Jenkins, Jason Beams and Gayla Graves. The freshman team is composed of Wes Hamilton, David Bond and Mandi Loomis.

**Tiger Gift**—Eddie Brandt of Carlisle has provided a gift of \$5,000 to Ouachita Baptist University to be used in establishing a track and field endowment fund for the university's athletic program. The income raised from principal fund interest will be designated to supplement the existing Tiger track and field budget.

**Scholarship Established**—Mrs. Wilma Estelle Selph of Malvern has established an endowed scholarship at Ouachita Baptist University to assist students from Hot Spring County. The \$5,000 award from Selph will be matched with a \$15,000 grant from Exxon Corporation, for a total of \$20,000.

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## Southwestern Trustees Meet

by Scott Collins

Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

GRAPEVINE, Texas (BP)—Trustees of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary voted unanimously to elect Bruce Corley as dean of the seminary's school of theology and gave unqualified support for the Southern Baptist Convention's Cooperative Program unified budget during their semi-annual meeting Oct. 15-17.

The regular business session was combined with a retreat during which board members spent time in prayer and giving personal testimonies.

"I take this (election) as a form of trust," Corley told the trustees following the vote. "I want you to hold me accountable for this trust. I will also hold you accountable."

Corley, who has taught New Testament at Southwestern for 15 years, was recommended by Southwestern President Russell Dilday. Prior to the election, board members spent nearly two hours interviewing Corley. The trustees' Academic Affairs Committee then unanimously endorsed the recommendation.

During the question and answer session, Corley described himself as a "basic born-again conservative." He told board members his willingness to become the theology dean was "not a decision of flesh and blood."

Along with electing Corley to the dean's position, the board also promoted him from associate professor to full professor.

Corley, 47, succeeds William Tolar, who was elected vice president for academic af-

fairs and provost during the board's spring meeting, following the retirement of John Newport from that position.

The seminary's trustees joined a growing list of Southern Baptist Convention boards passing resolutions in support of the Cooperative Program, Southern Baptist's unified funding mechanism.

The resolution came as a response to alternative funding plans which have been

discussed in the SBC, including an August meeting in Atlanta which explored bypassing the Cooperative Program.

Trustees also approved a resolution in support of the seminary's faculty.

Trustees elected three new faculty members to the school of religious education. Joining the faculty are James Floyd as assistant professor of psychology and counseling; Norma Hedin, instructor in foundations of education; and Robert Welch, assistant professor of administration.

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**Needed**—Minister of music and youth needed by First Baptist Church in Star City. Please send resume to: Search Committee, P.O. Box 368, Star City, AR 71667. All replies will be treated confidentially.

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



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## Across the Country

### Texas Board Studies Relationship with Baylor

In a called meeting Oct. 17, the executive board of the Baptist General Convention of Texas named a special 26-member committee to examine the legal, financial and relational issues arising from recent actions by the trustees of Baylor University distancing the school from convention control.

The committee on the BGCT/Baylor relationship was named to study the Baylor trustees' action and to recommend responses by the BGCT and its coordinating entities for education and human welfare institutions. Legal and other counsel will be retained to assist in the study.

### CLC Ponders NEA Abolishment

The Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission has expressed strong concern that U.S. Rep. Dana Rohrabacher's amendment to the National Endowment for the Arts reauthorization bill was defeated in the U.S. House Oct. 11 by a vote of 175-249.

The Rohrabacher amendment required the NEA to exercise oversight over the disbursement of federal tax dollars to the arts community. This oversight would have included restrictions on the type of art which the endowment can and cannot fund.

Instead, the House adopted by a vote of 382-42 an amendment to the NEA reauthorization bill that the commission says will allow the NEA to continue funding art projects many Christians consider "obscene, highly offensive, morally repugnant and sacrilegious." That amendment was proposed by U.S. Reps. Pat Williams, D-Mont., and E. Thomas Coleman, R-Mo.

### Fellowship Okays Funding Plans

An interim steering committee of the new "Fellowship" of Southern Baptists organized this summer in Atlanta has approved mission funding tracks for churches that choose to bypass the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee and announced plans for a national convocation on May 9-11, 1991, in Atlanta.

Meeting in Atlanta Oct. 11-13, the panel also elected officers, organized working committees, expanded its membership and established communications strategies.

Acting on the issue of most apparent concern to the 3,000 participants at the August organizational meeting of the yet-unnamed Fellowship, the interim steering committee agreed to a two-track funding plan, both of which delete any funding for the SBC Executive Committee, Baptist Press news service, Christian Life Commission, Public Affairs Committee and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

One of the tracks, a "venture" plan, specifies that 25 percent of the monies received will be set aside for new mission initiatives of the Fellowship and a "safety net" to provide emergency assistance to SBC employees discharged or otherwise forced out of their jobs by fundamental-conservative boards of trustees. An additional 1.58 percent will be set aside for administrative expenses of the Fellowship and of Baptist Cooperative Missions Program Inc., a separate unit established during the August gathering to receive and disburse mission funds from churches and individuals.

Churches choosing the second track, called the "regular" plan, will send their missions gifts through BCMF Inc. according to the SBC formula with the noted exceptions.

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## Southern Seeks Nominations

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—The Office of Alumni Relations at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., is seeking nominations for the 1991 Distinguished Alumni Awards.

Any Southern graduate who has been active in some aspect of vocational Christian ministry for a minimum of 10 years is eligible.

Nominations should include the following: (1) letter(s) of recommendation; and (2) current resume of the nominee. The letter(s) of recommendation should address the nominee's qualifications in the following categories: (1) faithfulness in Christian ministry; (2) effective leadership; and (3) quality of ministry.

Send nominations to: Office of Alumni Relations, 2825 Lexington Rd., Louisville, KY 40280. The deadline for receiving nominations is Jan. 1.

## Bookshelf

### God, Could You Talk a Little Louder? by Tom J. Logue

Kent Popular Press, 1990, \$6.95

This is a father's diary of the life and death of a son born with muscular dystrophy. The author, retired director of Baptist student work for the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, struggles with his faith and with the daily problems of achieving as normal a life as possible for his son and family. Sometimes poetic, sometimes painfully realistic, this moving personal account is always compassionate.

Author and lecturer Chester Swor said of the book: "It contains vignettes from the life of a son 'born to die,' but who, with the devotion and encouragement of a loving family, lived valiantly, and who in death left a wealth of inspiring memories. This warm, true-to-life record of the valiant struggle of an individual and a family will stir the hearts of readers with the assurance that both life and death can be met and handled victoriously through the resources of the Christian faith."

The first edition of *God, Could You Talk a Little Louder?* sold out in four months and netted \$4,000 for the Baptist Student Union at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. It can be ordered through the UALR BSU or local bookstores. Proceeds from sales support Arkansas Baptist student work.



# Unrest in India

## Christian Persecution, Hindu-Muslim Conflict

by Michael Chute  
SBC Foreign Mission Board

BHUBANESWAR, India (BP)—Christians in eastern India have reported violent attacks on church workers and buildings in a fresh round of religious persecution by radical Hindus.

However, Christian leaders said rumors that an evangelist was beheaded are unfounded.

Many of the 280 Baptist churches in the Khond Hills near Bhubaneswar, in the state of Orissa, have come under increasingly violent attacks in recent months from the radical Hindu group called Rastriya Sebek Sayand Sangha (RSS).

RSS instigators have beaten church workers and burned churches, many of them Baptist. Also, local Hindu authorities have imprisoned some Baptists for their Christian beliefs.

Southern Baptist funds recently replaced roofs of a number of Baptist churches burned in the attacks. Southern Baptists also provide matching grants to help fund church planters working in the Khond Hills.

"We are now looking at putting in windows and doors" of the churches, said Salyananda Patra, vice president of the Baptist Union of India.

The RSS religious/political organization vows to oust all Christians and Muslims from India. It insists the country belongs only to Hindus, although about 100 million Muslims and 26 million Christians live throughout India.

Recently two church leaders, Srikanth Digal and Simon Nayak, were attacked while doing evangelistic work in a Khond Hills village.

"One was shot and the other was hacked but they were not killed," said Daniel James, secretary of the Orissa Baptist

Evangelistic Crusade, which works with churches in the Khond Hills.

Earlier, a mob of fanatical Hindus assaulted two Baptist leaders, Sushanta Naik and Paul Pradhan. Naik is an evangelist working in the region and Pradhan is secretary of the Khond Hills Baptist Church Union.

"They went to see about a church that was destroyed," said Patra. "When they were returning through another village a large group of Hindus surrounded their motorcycle and attacked them. They wanted to kill them but they somehow escaped. God spared these lives."

The latest violence began after RSS leader Laxman Saraswati exhorted followers to put Hindu gods on carts and push them through village streets.

Eyewitnesses said Christians were dragged from their homes and told to bow down and worship the idols. When they refused the Hindus beat them, then destroyed their houses and churches.

Saraswati reportedly said that in two years his group would drive all Christians out of the Khond Hills. However, Baptist work continues to grow in the area; 500 new believers are baptized every year.

Baptist leaders said Hindus in northeast India fear Orissa will become like Nagaland, an Indian state that registers a 95 percent Christian population.

In other unrest, increasing tensions between Hindus and Muslims threaten to erupt into religious war in India, even as the government has acquired a disputed temple site in a last-minute bid to head off confrontation.

Hindus consider Ayodhya, the temple site in Uttar Pradesh state, as the birthplace

of Lord Rama, a mythological hero they believe is an incarnation of their god Vishnu. They contend that 450 years ago Muslims destroyed the Ram Janmabhoomi temple on the site, a popular place of Hindu pilgrimage, and built the present-day Babri Masjid mosque there.

Hindu fundamentalists set Oct. 30 as the deadline for Muslims to vacate the disputed temple land. On that date, Hindus pledged to destroy the mosque and rebuild the Ram Janmabhoomi temple.

The government not only acquired the land, which was being legally disputed before the Allahabad high court, but shifted the case to India's Supreme Court for "expeditious disposal." The government action proposed a "status quo" for the disputed site and also took over land adjoining the area.

But both Hindu and Muslim communities contend the controversy has not been solved. The government's decision is not supported by the Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP), the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), or the Muslim's All-India Babri Masjid Action Committee.

In a related development, the 10-month-old National Front government of Indian Prime Minister V.P. Singh apparently lost its parliamentary majority Oct. 23 after the Hindu BJP withdrew support. The Indian government arrested BJP President L.K. Advani that day and stopped, at least temporarily, his 6,000-mile procession across north India to the disputed site.

At whistle stops along the route, Advani reiterated that reconstruction of the Hindu temple remained the only acceptable solution to the controversy. The procession picked up thousands of temple-building volunteers along the way and organizers expect as many as 500,000 Hindus in Ayodhya on Oct. 30.

Prime Minister Singh assured Muslim leaders that the mosque would not be damaged under any circumstances.

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## ISRAEL & OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

# Workers Face New Strain

by David Smith

SBC Foreign Mission Board

PETAH TIQVA, Israel (BP)—Southern Baptist representatives in Israel, the West Bank and Gaza are adapting to changing circumstances, including Iraqi threats of chemical warfare and increasing anti-Americanism.

"People are nervous about the situation, although no ministries have been curtailed," said Tom Hocutt of Birmingham, Ala., administrator of the Baptist Convention in Israel. Families with children are under the most strain, he said. Nearly 50 Southern Baptist representatives currently work in Israel, Gaza and the West Bank.

Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein has repeatedly threatened to attack Israel with chemical weapons if Iraq or Kuwait are invaded by the international forces now massed in Saudi Arabia. Much of the Israeli population is obtaining gas masks to prepare for the threat. Meanwhile, violence between Palestinians and Jews in Israel—and Palestinian anger over U.S. actions in the Middle East—are rising.

Sonny Rogerson of Georgetown, S.C., a Southern Baptist representative who works with the West Bank Baptist Society, said he keeps track of his family members at all times. So does Connie Anthony, who works in Jerusalem.

Anthony's greatest fear is that her husband, John, would be at work, the children

at school and "me at home" when a crisis occurred. "The worst-case scenario for us is for the family to be separated," she said. The Anthonys are from Mount Ida and Hope, Ark.

Rogerson has had to reschedule many ministry activities.

"I have to be real careful where I go and when, since I've been hit by rocks or bottles five times in the last month," he reported. "I try to drive a beat-up van to avoid being targeted by stone throwers. I try to look at what's ahead whenever I go anywhere to see if there's any group or confrontation. I also try to keep up with the news to see if trouble is brewing so I won't put myself or the family in danger.

"The situation is the same as it's been for three years (since the beginning of the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories), but now it's more intense and brutal," Rogerson added.

Jack Hodges of Hildebran, N.C., works in Gaza. "Over the last three years we've learned to deal with a lot of new things, and I think that's given us some ability to deal more objectively with these new threats," he said.

Among the new threats are anti-American remarks and vandalism against Baptist institutions committed by Palestinian youths, as well as an increase in stone throwing.

"We're revamping our contingency

plans. We realize things could escalate and we might need to get out. The worst thing is that we might have to leave," Hodges said.

"Saddam Hussein has changed things," added Rogerson, who sees a resurgence in Arabism and Arab pride. Rogerson is concerned about a possible regional war in which Arabs would see America as an aggressor, followed by a Palestinian venting of anger against all things American.

"Some Palestinian Muslim friends have told me if there's war I shouldn't show my face," he said.

***'There's not indication that it's time for me to leave. . . . It's better for me to die in his will than to live outside of his will.'***

Some foreign businesses have ordered their employees to leave Israel, but Southern Baptist representatives in Israel, the West Bank and Gaza have not yet exercised that option. Each Southern Baptist family can choose to leave at any time, however.

"The only thing that keeps me here is that God has not directed me anywhere else," Rogerson concluded. "There's no indication that it's time for me to leave or that this is not where he wants me, even if it means death. It's better for me to die in his will than to live outside of his will."

# SUPER SUMMER IS NOT A CAMP FOR EVERYONE!

As a matter of fact, it is not a camp at all! It is an advanced School of Evangelism and Discipleship for senior high students with leadership potential.

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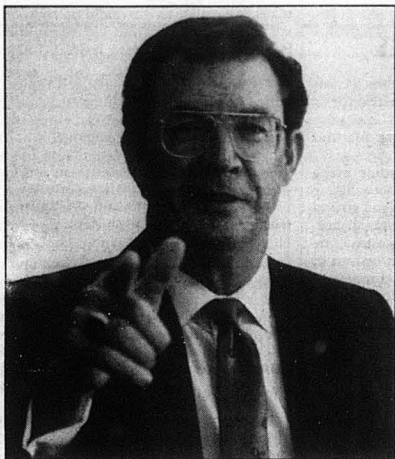


**Randy Brantley**

Youth Evangelism  
Arkansas Baptist  
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Super Summer is not a substitute for a youth camp experience. Super Summer is focused on the young person already dedicated to his or her growth in the Lord. We are looking for students in pursuit of excellence in their relationship with God; students with a passion for bringing the Savior to their lost friends. At Super Summer we want to provide these students with the tools, the instruction, and the motivation to

**WIN ARKANSAS YOUTH TO CHRIST!**



## *Hey, layman . . . Let's talk some hard-nosed business*

Some things we do cooperatively; some we do individually. For some things we share responsibility. For others we are solely responsible.

Gifts through the Cooperative Program allow every church to have a small part in the ministry of each and every missionary in 116 different countries. The cooperative effort of **all** churches ensures adequate income, retirement and insurance protection for every missionary. We do this **together**.

But there is something each church does **alone**. It calls a pastor. The members pray, choose the pastor, vote to extend a call, and the pastor serves by mutual agreement for an indefinite period. South-

ern Baptist churches are free and independent. Good! But with freedom comes responsibility.

When you call a pastor or other full-time staff member you, as a church, are **solely** responsible for that person's financial needs and ministry expenses. Pastoral and staff support are part of the cost of doing the business of the local church.

A few weeks ago President Bush ordered thousands of military personnel, dozens of ships and hundreds of planes sent to the Persian Gulf on a vital mission. Nobody asked the men and women to pay for a ticket or a truck. We all paid for the trip and the armament with tax dollars.

The Apostle Paul wrote to the church at Corinth about paying the preacher. He used a military analogy: "Did you ever hear of a man serving in the army at his own expense?" (1 Cor. 9:7a NEB)

Nobody would ever enter the ministry because of its potential for wealth. But nobody ought to serve in poverty, either.

The freedom to call carries the God-ordained responsibility to address with integrity the needs of your minister.

Too often, the last item considered in preparation of the church budget is salaries and benefits. Let's make a change for 1991. Every church ought to see that the pastor and any other full-time staff member has adequate salary, a church-funded medical plan, life and disability protection and the Church Annuity Plan.

And you shouldn't consider protection coverages and church ministry-related expenses to be minister's *pay*. You should budget these items separately from the minister's salary. Otherwise, people will think the minister is paid much more than he actually is.

Scripture demands that God's servants be properly supported by the churches they serve.

Each local church is solely responsible for its staff. Think about it. Pray about it. Provide adequately. Pay appropriately. Demonstrate your love.



*Paul W. Powell*  
*President and Chief Executive Officer*  
*Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention*  
*P.O. Box 2190, Dallas, TX 75221-2190*

## Convention Uniform

### *Why Change My Ways?*

by S. D. Hacker, Harrison

Basic passage: Jeremiah 26:1-6, 12-16

Focal passage: Jeremiah 26:3-6

**Central truth:** Man has a rebellious nature, but if he will heed God's offer of redemption, God will refrain from destroying him.

If there is anything consistent about people, it is their hateful and ungodly nature (v. 3). Man constantly resists God's way to righteousness and everlasting peace. Yet, the Bible reveals that God has never quit on his people. He has never given up. He offers them a choice: forgiveness and restoration, if they repent; or sure destruction, if they do not (vv. 5-6).

The prophets of old were commanded by God himself to tell everything and not omit a word (v. 2). Our pastors, evangelists, and teachers today have the same responsibility. It is strange that often conflicting messages come from our spiritual leaders.

God instructs the prophet to preach: (1) to the people, (2) in the house of God, (3) as they come to worship. Fifty percent of our religious world today is in rebellion with God and his Word because they refuse to assemble together in God's house to hear his prophet preach. How can this be changed? Some say: better preaching, better literature, better programs, more excitement, and more social get-togethers.

Ordinary people, average citizens, priests, and temple prophets were hearing Jeremiah—and they were shouting for his imprisonment and death (v. 8). The sin nature would rather torment, release from service, or even kill the servant of God, than repent, obey, and walk with God.

Jesus probably had Jeremiah and other prophets in mind when he wept over Jerusalem all night long in intercessory prayer (Mt. 23:37). Proclamation of God's Word is part of genuine worship. If a man neglects to assemble to hear the Word of God, he misses worship of God with God's people, and thus sins against God. Both testaments reflect the "gathering together" pattern (Jr. 44:20-29; Is. 61:1-2 and 63:7; Lk. 4:15-21; Ac. 20:20-21).

A prominent aspect of gathering together is to hear the reading of God's Word. God will certainly react to the personal decisions we make in our relationship to him and to his prophets through the worship scene. What changes do we need to make?

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## Life and Work

### *Effective Evangelism*

by Bobby Tucker, Maple Grove Church, Trumann

Basic passage: John 1:35-50

Focal passage: John 1:35-49

**Central truth:** Jesus calls us so that we may call others.

One sad, yet common, misconception prevalent in the 20th century church is that pastors and church staff are the "hired guns" in regard to personal evangelism.

As much of the laity becomes either involved or unconcerned about evangelism, so do baptism figures wane and fade. While not every church in Arkansas is plagued with this mindset, there remain many which are.

The passage under study sets forth a clear, biblical model of evangelism we could all agree with. The thought is simple, but profound. Jesus calls us to salvation so that in turn we may share with others the good news.

In John 1:35-49, three times, three different men point others to Jesus with utter simplicity and complete assurance. I find in these verses some clear principles about evangelism.

First, these three men (John the Baptist, Andrew, and Philip) were aware of who Jesus was. In other words, they knew, though perhaps not fully, that Jesus was the Messiah. In that acknowledgement, they sought to share him with others. In order to share the gospel of Christ, we must know him personally. That seems to be the foremost requirement.

Secondly, John, Andrew and Philip already had relationships established with those to whom they witnessed. John the Baptist, the forerunner, stands with two disciples and says, "Behold, the Lamb of God" (vv. 35-36). In doing so, he points them to Christ. One of those disciples is Andrew. Upon hearing his esteemed teacher say those words, he goes to tell his brother, a nobody named Peter. The next day, Jesus goes to Galilee and finds Philip and instructs him to "Follow me" (v. 43). Then notice what Philip proceeds to do. He finds Nathaniel and tells him the good news (v. 45).

Friends, associates, and family members make up our sphere of "gospel influence." God has provided all we need: He saved us, empowered us, and gave us a clear mandate—go! We are called so that we may share with others. Are you sharing?

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## Bible Book

### *Called to Ministry*

by Wayne B. Davis, North Park Church, Van Buren

Basic passage: Luke 6:12-49

Focal passage: Luke 6:20-26; 27-36

**Central truth:** Christian ministry is a call to serve others and celebrate the kingdom of God with joy.

The call of Matthew (Levi) thrust him into controversy. It also led him into a meaningful ministry for Jesus. In all controversy, he grew as he listened to the preaching and teaching of Jesus. He was not only called to be a disciple, but was named by Jesus as one of the twelve apostles. This followed a night of prayer by Jesus and preceded a healing session where Jesus healed physical and spiritual maladies.

Jesus then began to preach (vv. 20-49). His message began with a discussion of attitudes in ministry. He called for an inward sense of joy to flow from the minister. This would flow from a spiritual understanding of poverty as an opportunity to look to God for everything (vv. 20b-22).

This joy also would be available in sorrow and disappointment. Even rejection is a vehicle whose function is to bring the minister joy (vv. 21b-22).

Luke 6:23 explains the attitude of joy Jesus calls for and gives the reason for it: your reward in heaven. The other side of the verse encourages you to know that rejection is a ministry experience common to all true ministers of God.

The flip side of this attitude of joy is love or misery. Who can expect this result? Ministers whose ministry seeks riches (6:24). Ministers whose ministry seeks to keep the party going to protect their income (6:25). Ministers whose ministry seeks popularity or success (6:26). They forget the reason for joy: your reward in heaven. They seek acceptance of man and success on a social or political plane.

Jesus called for love as a basic tool of Christian ministry. This tool makes possible the almost impossible task of "love your enemies" (vv. 27-35). A minister motivated by his "reward in heaven" can rejoice and leap for joy as he carries Jesus' love to sinners. Only then will folks respond to the minister. Without joy, churches and denominations plateau or decline and there is only the occasional party or recreation. Jesus knew this joy as he endured the suffering and shame of the cross (He. 12:2).

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# *Crisis in the Persian Gulf—*



**(BP) photos  
by Don Rutledge**

*In the height of the Persian Gulf crisis, the ministry of Baptist workers was put to the test. They came through with food and medicine, often purchased with their own funds. Above, hungry Asian refugees swarm a relief truck bringing food and water to a camp on Jordan's border with Iraq. Left, a Bangladeshi refugee enjoys a rare luxury—soap and water. Often there is not enough water to drink at the camps, much less to bathe in.*

*Even though the Amman Baptist School in Jordan was closed as a refugee center earlier in the month at the request of the Jordanian government, in the midst of the crisis, it provided much-needed sanctuary for refugees. Opposite page, above right, Baptist worker Gerry Milligan distributes medicine to ill Philippine refugees. Top left, Filipino refugees learn of Christian love through the meeting of physical needs. Bottom left, the Filipino Christian Fellowship came in the evenings to lead musical worship; 30-40 refugees became Christians as a result of these services. Bottom right, young Jordanian Baptists fill pita bread sandwiches for hungry refugees.*



# *Reflections in Ministry*



## Subscriber Services

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

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## WORLD

### Around the Globe

#### Women's Day of Prayer

Catherine B. Allen, president of the women's department of the Baptist World Alliance, has issued an appeal for Southern Baptist Women to honor Monday, Nov. 5, as Baptist Women's Day of Prayer Around the World.

Prayer Guidance is printed in the issue of *Royal Service*. Women in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, and the Southwest Pacific will be joining in this day of devotion.

#### Urgent Need for Teacher

The SBC Foreign Mission Board has an urgent need for an English as Second Language (ESL) teacher at a major university in Eastern Turkey. A couple or single male, undergraduate degree (English preferred), with some experience in teaching and/or ESL certification. The university has requested applicants under 69 years only. This would be teaching English to university students and joining one teacher already on staff who wants to remain for another year. If we are unable to find a replacement for a returning teacher the remaining one may have to return early. Serious applicants only. Application deadline is November 15.

Applicants should contact Mike Barnett at 804-353-0151, ext. 472.

#### Mission Board to Appeal Ruling

The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board will appeal a \$1.56 million legal judgment against it to the Virginia Supreme Court.

Foreign Mission Board President R. Keith Parks said the board would move to the next step in the appeals process after a Richmond Circuit Court judge upheld a seven-member jury's verdict in a suit waged by a former missionary to Africa on behalf of her four children.

#### Baptist Worker Says Hello to Husband In Kuwait

It only lasts 30 seconds, but Laurie Graham is saying a daily hello to her husband, Maurice, in Iraqi-devastated Kuwait.

Mrs. Graham and her sons, now in a church's missionary residence in Nashville, have been sending daily greetings to Graham via a Voice of America shortwave broadcast set up for families of U.S. hostages in Kuwait and Iraq.

The Voice of America broadcast, called "Messages from Home," began Oct. 4, said a VOA spokesman in Washington, D.C. Relatives of hostages in Kuwait and Iraq may call a special number at the State Department from 1 to 6 p.m. each day to record a 30-second message.

#### Plane Crash Survivor Will Return to Oklahoma

Erin Thomas, the Southern Baptist teacher who survived the Oct. 2 crash-landing of a hijacked plane in Guangzhou, China, has been moved to Hong Kong and, as soon as arrangements can be made, she will be moved to Baptist Burn Center in Oklahoma City for further medical treatment.

Thomas suffered second- and third-degree burns over 6 percent of her body in the crash and will need skin grafts. She also sustained a dislocated shoulder and several broken bones, and she developed pneumonia from smoke she inhaled while struggling to escape the burning plane wreck.

### MK Birthday Prayer Calendar: November

#### Missionary Kids Attending College in Arkansas

- |    |                               |                                       |
|----|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 16 | Ariel Hernandez<br>(Arkansas) | UCA Box 4007<br>Conway, AR 72032      |
| 21 | Nelwyn Jordan<br>(Japan)      | OBU Box 3585<br>Arkadelphia, AR 71923 |
| 28 | Brian Kirby<br>(Venezuela)    | OBU Box 3079<br>Arkadelphia, AR 71923 |