

Ouachita Baptist University

Scholarly Commons @ Ouachita

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1980-1984

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

3-11-1982

March 11, 1982

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

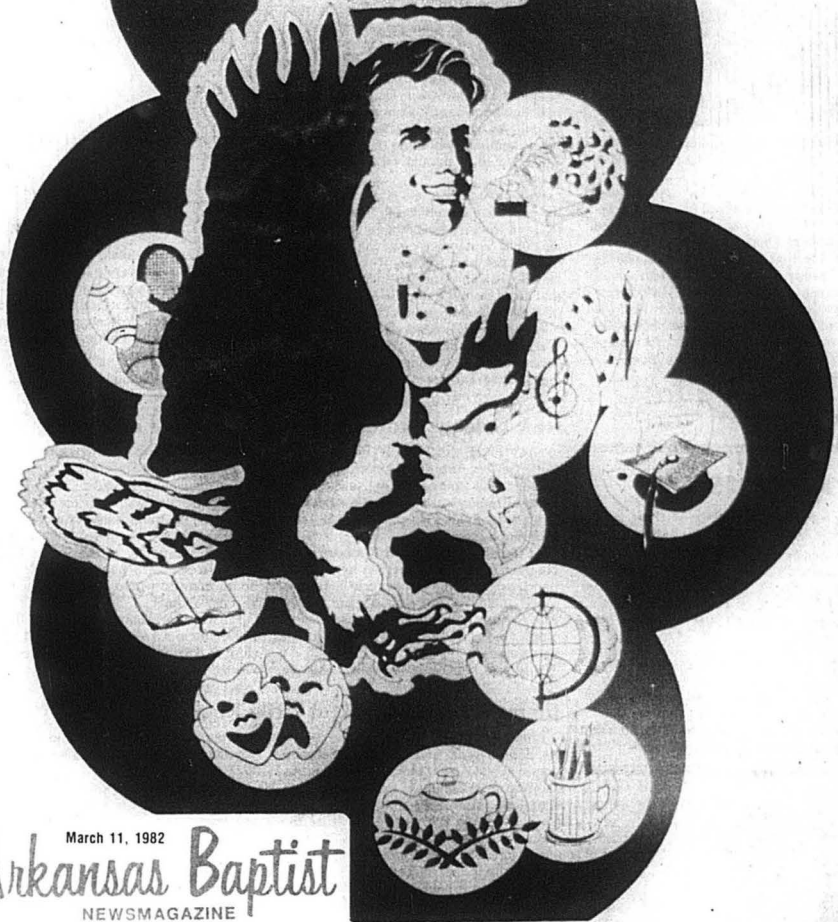
Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarlycommons.obu.edu/arn_80-84



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

DISCOVER SOUTHERN BAPTIST COLLEGE

WALNUT HILL, ARK.



March 11, 1982

Arkansas Baptist
NEWSMAGAZINE



Southern Baptist College is preparing for the annual High School Discovery Day on Saturday, April 3, 1982. A "Weston and Davis" concert plus a hot-air balloon will be special features. The day will begin at 9:30 a.m. with refreshments in the Southerland-Mabee Center. A concert by the Southern Singers at 10 a.m. will be followed by a campus tour. High school students will move to the Maddox-Fine Arts Center for a brief session with the admissions and financial aids staff. Discoverers from the churches will meet at this time with Jim E. Tillman, Vice President for Development.

Executive Committee votes continued building study

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Any decision on a new Southern Baptist Convention building is at least 15 months away, although half the agencies that would be housed in such a building told Executive Committee members they desperately need more space.

The SBC Executive Committee, in its February meeting, authorized its long range study committee to continue to develop a plan to provide adequate space for the agencies involved. The committee will report in September, but it is anticipated no final action will be taken before the 1983 Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Pittsburgh.

The long range study committee, then chaired by Knoxville businessman William A. Fortune, proposed in September that a new Southern Baptist Convention building be built for approximately \$6.5 million. Fortune's company would do the construction which would be through industrial revenue bonds.

Fortune was elected vice chairman of the Executive Committee in September, so resigned from the long range study committee. Since September, new long range committee chairman, Rodney R. Landes, of El Dorado, Ark., has tried to answer questions that arose from the surprise announcement of the new building plans.

Failure to document need for additional space was a primary criticism. Landes countered that by bringing the agency executives to project their 20-year space

needs at the February meeting.

Three organizations currently housed in the SBC building — the Christian Life Commission, Seminary External Education Division and Stewardship Commission — say they are desperately overcrowded.

Foy D. Valentine, executive director of the Christian Life Commission, said staff expansion from two to 12 in the past 20 years has cramped his space. Projecting, he said the commission should expand its services even more in the next 20 years.

Valentine also asked for a clear understanding of proprietorship among the agencies which would occupy a new building. In the current budget year, funds to operate the building have been diverted from the agencies' budgets to the Executive Committee for central management.

Harold C. Bennett, executive secretary of the Executive Committee, said he feels a strong need for additional common space and parking.

Correction

The On the cover caption of the March 4 *Newsmagazine* listed incorrectly the address to which registration for the Arkansas Baptist State Convention Conference for Women may be sent. The correct address is Mrs. Kerry Powell, P.O. Box 326, Forrest City, Ark. 72335.

In this issue

11

The unique pressures associated with serving a church as pastor can lead ministerial burnout, experts say. Arkansas pastor Bill Oakley was among a number of pastors attending a seminar on how to fight the burn-out problem.

15

All five church programs showed an increase, led by numerical jumps in Church Training and Sunday School, in Southern Baptists' 1981 final statistical report.

New Orleans professor Harold Rutledge dies

NEW ORLEANS, La. (BP) — Harold L. Rutledge, 69, professor emeritus of psychology and counseling at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, died at New Orleans Methodist Hospital, Feb. 17, after suffering a heart attack.

At the time of his death, Rutledge was a contract professor in the School of Christian Training on the campus and in masters-level studies at Mobile College, Mobile, Ala. He also had worked at the seminary's North Georgia Center in Marietta since it was started in 1980.

Rutledge had been associated with the

seminary for 24 years prior to his retirement four years ago.

Rutledge earned two doctoral degrees from the seminary, the doctor of theology degree in 1957 and a doctor of education degree in 1970. His thesis in 1970 was a study of counseling at the Sellers Baptist Home, a Southern Baptist Home Mission Board ministry where he served for many years as chaplain.

He was a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, Ark., and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

Jimmy Allen to speak at Little Rock church

Jimmy R. Allen, president of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, will speak on "Morality and the Media" March 21 at Pulaski Heights Church in Little Rock. Dr. Allen's lectures — at 10:45 a.m. and 6 and 7:15 p.m. — will be the ninth annual Brooks Hays lectures, in honor of the late Dr. Hays, former Congressman and Southern Baptist statesman.

Allen became president of the Radio and TV Commission in 1980 after serving as pastor of the 9,000-member First Church of San

Antonio, Texas. He was president of the Southern Baptist Convention for two terms, 1977-1979.

As president of the Radio and TV Commission, Allen heads the world's largest producer of religious broadcasting for public service time. He also is president of American Christian Television System, which the denomination is in the process of forming.

The lectures are open to the public at no charge.

Those non-resident church members

The editor's page

J. Everett Sneed



We Baptists have long prided ourselves on having a caring or community spirit among our membership. A spirit of mutual assistance is truly New Testament. Yet it seems that our spirit of community may not be as strong as we could wish since more than 25 percent of our almost 14 million members are non-resident.

The problem of the non-resident church membership reflects a failure of many Baptists to unite with another church when they move to a new area. There are at least two reasons for our members not joining a new church. These are: (1) The failure of churches to educate members regarding the importance of church membership; and (2) A failure to maintain a ministry to, members who have moved away.

Some churches require all new believers to go through an orientation prior to baptism. The strength of this approach is that it assures new believers will have heard about the importance of church membership and the basic New Testament doctrines. We, however, reject this approach because it is not the pattern practiced in the New Testament.

In the early church at Jerusalem new converts were baptized the same day they trusted Christ (Acts 2:41). A similar pattern seems to have been followed throughout the New Testament era. To delay baptism for a long period could have an adverse effect on evangelistic outreach.

Churches in the New Testament era placed strong emphasis on church member training. This is where we have often failed. Every church should have a new member orientation program and urge all new members to attend.

Immediately upon joining a new church either by baptism or transfer of membership the new member should be told when the next orientation class will begin. Through letters, phone calls and personal visits, the pastor, deacons and Sunday School teachers should encourage the new members to participate. Every means possible should be used to stress the importance of new member training.

The Church Training Department has prepared excellent materials for these classes, stressing the concept of a regenerated membership. By regeneration we mean that God, through Christ and the convicting power of the Holy Spirit, acts on fallen, sinful

human nature producing a change in an individual's entire outlook.

During the orientation period, the individual should become aware that a direct relationship exists between a regenerated church member and all that a Baptist church does. For example, it is impossible for a non-resident person to properly understand and/or participate in the church ordinances, evangelism and New Testament doctrines.

New member orientation is also important to those who have transferred their membership from other Baptist churches. Every church does some things differently from the others. New member orientation also provides opportunity for new members to become acquainted with the leadership of the church. And it is helpful to all Christians to review the basic teachings of the New Testament periodically.

A second reason for our high percentage of non-resident members is a failure to maintain a ministry for those who have moved to a new city until they unite with another Baptist church. When a person leaves home to attend college in another city, Christian parents do not cease to care for or support their child. We should not forget the members of our church family when they move to a new location.

There are several things a church can do to encourage its members to unite with a Baptist congregation in their new location. Among these are: (1) A letter from the pastor encouraging the individual to unite with a church in his new location; (2) A letter to the nearest Baptist church to the member's location, or to the area missionary; and (3) Continuing communications through church mailouts and the Baptist state paper until a new church home is found.

A major problem in Southern Baptist life is our neglect of the non-resident church member. The solution to the problem lies in developing a true Christian fellowship within our churches. The word "fellowship" in the Greek is *koinonia*, which means partnership or a possession of things in common. Christians are in partnership with Christ and with each other. So we are to care, to help and to encourage each other. As we develop a true caring and loving relationship in our Lord, our non-resident membership will decrease.

Arkansas Baptist

NEWSMAGAZINE

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

VOLUME 81

NUMBER 10

J. Everett Sneed, Ph.D. Editor
Betty Kennedy Managing Editor
Erwin L. McDonald, Litt. D. Editor Emeritus

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

Letters to the editor expressing opinions are invited. Letters should be typed double-space and must be signed. Letters must not contain more than 350 words and must not defame the character of persons.

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

Copies by mail 50 cents each.

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

Advertising rates on request.

Opinions expressed in signed articles are those of the writer.

Member of Southern Baptist Press Association.

The Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine (USPS 031-280) is published weekly, except the third week in April, at July 4 and Dec. 25, by the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine Inc., 525 West Capitol Ave., Little Rock, AR 72201. Subscription rates are \$6.36 per year (individual), \$5.40 per year (Every Resident Family Plan), \$6.00 per year (Club Plan) and \$12.50 per year (foreign address). Second class postage paid at Little Rock, AR. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203

Reflections on gifts

The Bible teaches the Holy Spirit gives gifts to whomever he chooses and that not all are given the same gift. We Baptists emphasize the gift of evangelism. We see the kingdom of God first and foremost from the perspective of the new birth experience.

Others accept the new birth as necessary entry door but thereafter emphasize relational Christianity, social justice, etc. Together we are the body of Christ.

The word 'charismatic' connotes strong negative meaning to many of us. I'm not sure we know the scriptural definition. The best I've found is 1 Peter 4:10-11.

I do not know nor have I met a charismatic who ever asked the devil for anything. For me to so accuse is to put myself on dangerous ground as to ascribe that which is from God as being from the devil.

To disallow another to use a scripture out of context would necessitate disallowing our Lord and most all New Testament writers and speakers the same privilege. In John 7:38b Christ quoted two or three words from seven of three Old Testament passages — a regular New Testament practice. We Baptists regularly quote scripture out of context. Let's not discredit others' similar usage.

Charismatics cause church splits? Are we qualified to judge? Among others, Olivet in Little Rock and University Church in Fayetteville began in highly emotional disputings and church splits. We don't condone church splits for any reason. However, we are witness that somehow God works it out to his glory.

Prayer in a language not of the understanding the least gift? Could be. Some say, "Why make such a fuss about it?" If socks were the least important article of clothing, why not put them on and get on with becoming fully dressed? If the wearer of socks boasts that they make him/her superior or possessor of something superior, then he/she is to be admonished as per 1 Corinthians 14.

The only question a Christian in Russia, China, Cuba, etc., asks is, "Is Jesus Christ your Lord and Saviour?" Need we ask more? — **Boyd Mills, Little Rock**

Concerned about staff security

In the Feb. 18 ABN Mr. Sneed discussed the security of church staff members. I, too, am concerned with the way our churches treat the staff. How can we, as Christians, assumed to be full of love for our fellow Christians, treat our pastor with so much unlove? Is it not rather strange that we tend to be more compassionate to

our fellow man in the secular world than we are to our brother in our church family?

Years ago as a young deacon I followed a group of older deacons in asking for a pastor's resignation. This resulted in an absolute disaster for the preacher. My burden over this is very heavy. And I suspect that the older men also have a problem. Since that time I have attempted to be protective of the church staff. I hope that as one of the older deacons now I can convince the younger ones that it is not the deacons' job to hire or fire the preacher, and that if God can call a preacher to a church he can also call a preacher away from a church without the help of the deacons.

A few years ago a few individuals in my church pressured the pastor to resign. That preacher should still be here. Instead his replacement is now facing similar pressure.

Mr. Sneed should re-run his article frequently. Unfortunately, it would always be timely. — **Name withheld by request**



The Southern accent

D. Jack Nicholas/President, SBC

Colleges and moral instruction

While most colleges have officially abandoned responsibility for moral instruction, let no one assume that moral instruction does not take place on the college campus. It is impossible for education to take place in a value vacuum and every college imprints, directly or indirectly, a value system upon its students.

It is rather that instruction in traditional morality has been forsaken. On this subject, William F. Buckley, Jr. said of his alma mater:

"... there is surely not a department at Yale that is uncontaminated with the absolute that there are no absolutes, no intrinsic rights, no ultimate truths. The acceptance of these notions, which emerge in courses in history and economics and sociology and political science, in psychology, in literature, makes impossible any intelligible conception of an omnipotent, purposeful and benevolent Supreme Being who has laid down immutable laws, endowed his creatures with inalienable rights, and posited unchangeable rules of human conduct."

Charles Malik, former president of the United Nations General Assembly commented years ago on this problem as follows:

"I will say only one word about the university crisis, and that is, that although

In defense of a brother

I have read with interest the various remarks in the *Arkansas Baptist* about Nathan Porter. I am not concerned with the controversy over Act 590 since legal channels will decide that issue. I am concerned that many people will gain a false impression of a Christian brother.

I am pastor of First Church in Arkadelphia and thus am following Dr. Porter. Nathan and his family are still members of our fellowship and residents of our community. They have treated me and my family with the utmost respect and acceptance. They have done their very best to make our arrival in Arkansas a positive experience. I have found Nathan to be a friend and a brother in Christ. We share many ideas but as is true of all thinking people, we would disagree on some things.

It is my prayer that many who read about Nathan will not create a false image of him.

there are many problems which beset the university today, financial and academic and administrative, and all sorts of problems, yet the greatest single problem facing the university ... is the divorce between scholarship and character, between intellectual excellence and moral excellence, between man and God. Now all universities arose in the womb of the church, and without Christ no western university would ever have arisen. And yet today, they are moving away from their origin and their source ..."

Those in the universities of today who profess to espouse the position of moral neutrality need to be reminded of the words of Dante, "The hottest places in hell are reserved for those who, in a period of moral crises, maintain their neutrality."

To educate a human being without inculcating within him a sense of right and wrong is to create a menace to society. Higher education has arrived at a contemptible state when it would send a person into the world armed with Aristotle, Darwin, Dewey, Freud, history, economics, psychology, and computer science but without any notion as to how he as a man ought to live.

D. Jack Nicholas is president of Southern Baptist College at Walnut Ridge.

He exercised his right as a Baptist to speak out on an issue he felt strongly about. He spoke as a Baptist, not for all Baptists. I would hope we could all keep in mind that any time we express ourselves we do so as individuals. No one, conservative or liberal, speaks for all Baptists. Each of us under the Lordship of Jesus Christ and following the leadership of the Holy Spirit should take our stand. This is what Dr. Porter did. We may agree or disagree, but let's not overreact to one of our brothers in Christ. — Lyndell P. Worthen Jr., Arkadelphia

Correction

The article "Hard rows to hoe", appearing in the Feb. 25 issue of the ABN, and reprinted from *Missions USA* magazine, contained two misstatements of fact. A caption on page 9 should have identified the cover photo as a witnessing session in a tomato processing shed on a local farm.

In the body of the article, John and Debbie Magyar should have been identified as brother and sister. Debbie Magyar (now Mrs. Ed Adcock of Conway) and John Magyar were volunteer workers with the migrants for several summers while students at Ouachita Baptist University.

Ariel Hernandez, who directs Bartholomew Migrant Mission Center, was born in Mexico.

BOLD MISSION

ENCOUNTER '82



EVERY-CHURCH PRESENTATION

PRESENTING THE STEWARDSHIP CHALLENGE OF BOLD MISSION THRUST IN 1982 TO EVERY SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH!!

EVERY CHURCH REACHING THE WORLD

AUGUST-OCTOBER 1982

—ACTS 1:8



Food and fellowship

Virginia Kirk and Jane Purtle

Christmas 1982

At Christmas there is a large evergreen tree decorated with Chrismons in the sanctuary of First Church in Batesville. "Chrismon" is a combination of the words "Christ" and "monogram." The Chrismons are thus symbols representing the life of Christ and his presence in our world.

The symbols on the tree are in gold and white to represent the purity and perfection of our Lord. They illustrate some of the original monograms of Christ, such as X for "Chi," the Greek letter which is the first letter of the word for Christ in Greek. Another example is the fish, one of the most ancient symbols for our Lord. The tiny white lights used on the tree shine for him who is the light of the world and for his commission to let your light shine before all men (Matthew 5:10).

If your church would like to have a Christmas Tree, this is the time of year to start preparations. Some group must spearhead the project. In our church, it was initiated by a young women's Sunday School class. The first step is to order the instructions. One source is the Lutheran Church of the Ascension, 314 West Main Street, Danville, VA 24541. Order *Chrismon Basic Series* (\$1.50) for complete instructions or a booklet titled *Chrismons* (50¢) for an introduction to the subject. The material to make the Chrismons must be carefully bought and assembled into individual kits with appropriate instructions. These supplies can be obtained from a local craft dealer.

A work day was held by the group early in the year. Everyone interested was invited to come to the meeting to start making the ornaments and to fellowship together for a potluck salad luncheon.

The simple Chrismons can be made in a short time and finished during a work day. However, it is necessary for some of the more difficult structures to be finished at home.

As Christmas approaches, a date should be chosen for a special program to acquaint everyone with the symbolism of the ornaments. Explanations should be given to explain the basic designs, which are centuries old, some as old as the Bible itself, and which represent our Christian heritage.

Our recipe is for a main dish salad. It is easy to make and keeps well.

Recipe and ham salad

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 2 cups cooked rice | ½ cup salad oil |
| 1½ tablespoons dry mustard | ½ cup green peppers, chopped |
| 3 tablespoons cold water | 1 cup cooked ham or smoked turkey, diced |
| 1½ tablespoons sugar | ¾ cup cooked green peas |
| 3 tablespoons cider or wine vinegar | 2 hard boiled eggs, chopped |
| ½ teaspoon onion powder | chopped parsley |
| 1 teaspoon salt (or to taste) | |

Prepare rice as directed on the package. Mix mustard, water, sugar, salt, onion powder, vinegar. Gradually beat in oil. Stir lightly into warm rice. Cool. Add pepper, ham, peas, and eggs. Sprinkle with parsley.

Virginia Kirk, professor emeritus at Arkansas College, is a member of Batesville First Church. Jane Purtle is on the staff of Christian Counseling and Teaching Center in Syria, Virginia. They have enjoyed cooking together for several years.

Journeyman applications up 14 percent over 1981

RICHMOND, Va. — The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board has received 226 applications for the 1982-84 term of its missionary journeyman program, a 14 percent increase over 1981 applications, which totaled 198.

The 1982 total fell short of the 244 applications submitted in 1980, however, when a record 130 journeymen were commissioned

for overseas service. Eighty-two journeymen were commissioned in 1981.

The missionary journeyman program offers foreign mission assignments to Southern Baptist college graduates, age 26 and under, interested in assisting career missionaries for two years. Missionaries in 54 countries are requesting nearly 200 new journeymen in 1982.

by Millie Gill/ABN staff writer

Mark Tolbert

began his service Feb. 28 as pastor of the Pocahontas First Church. He has been serving Jonesboro Central Church as minister of evangelism/pastoral care. A native of Atlanta, Ga., he is a 1973 graduate of Georgia State University and is currently a candidate for the Master of Divinity program of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He is married to the former Joy Musick of Atlanta. They have two children, Jennifer and Jason. The Tolberts have served on the staff of Campus Crusade for Christ on both the campuses of the University of Arkansas and Arkansas State University.

David and Sheri Sancillo

are now serving as youth directors at Mena Dallas Avenue Church. David, a native of Tupelo, Miss., has attended the University of Mississippi and has worked with Campus Crusade for Christ, as well as other youth oriented organizations. Sheri, the former Sheri Harvey of Mena, is a graduate of the University of Arkansas where she was active in the Fayetteville University Church choir and youth program.

Jeff P. Cheatham

is serving as pastor of the England First Church. He came to England from Russellville where he was chaplain of Valmac Industries and pastor of the East Mt. Zion Church. Cheatham is a captain in the naval reserve, attached to the U.S. Naval Reserve Center in Little Rock. He and his wife, Donna, have a daughter, Mrs. Jim Jones of Denton, Texas, and two sons, Paul Alan and



Tolbert



Cheatham



Sancillo

Russell Lewis

Fred H. Findley Jr. began serving March 8 as pastor of the Little Rock South Highland Church. He and his wife, Kalliope Kathryn, and their son, Jonathan Andrew, recently returned from Uganda where they were under appointment by the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. A native of Reform, Ala., he is a graduate of the University of Alabama. He attended Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and is a graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has served churches in Kentucky, Alabama and South Carolina. The Findley's also served as director/houseparent of the Palmera Children's Home in Double Springs, Ala.

Jamey Smith

has resigned as minister to youth at Little Rock Pulaski Heights Church; to accept a similar position with the Broadway Church in Fort Worth, Texas.

Joe Shaver

died Feb. 20 in Memphis following a long term illness. He was a full-time evangelist. His funeral services were held in Jonesboro First Church where he was a member in his youth. Survivors are two nieces of St. Louis, Mo.

Douglas Duncan

is serving as pastor of the Crawfordsville Church. He began his ministry there Jan. 24.

W. G. Davis

is serving Jan. 31 as interim pastor of the Palestine Church.

D. C. McAtee

is serving as interim pastor of the Colt Antioch Church.

Mary Howell

has retired from the staff of Little Rock Pulaski Heights Church where she served a total of 22 years in positions of organist, financial secretary, pastor's secretary and office manager.

**Crossett pastor is BSSB trustee**

NASHVILLE — Ferrell D. Morgan (right), pastor of Mt. Olive Church in Crossett, and a trustee of the Sunday School Board, congratulates newly elected officers Alton McEachern (left), chairman and pastor of First Church of Greensboro, N.C., and John Daley, vice chairman and pastor of Brook Hollow Church in Nashville.

**International fair
March 12**

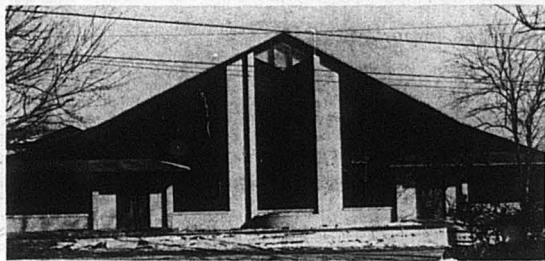
The Friendship International Fair will be held on Friday, March 12 from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Pulaski Heights Church, 2200 Kavanaugh in Little Rock.

Arts and crafts from all over the world will be on display and some items will be on sale, too. Visitors will have the opportunity to taste exotic foods from all the participating countries.

Admission is free.

**Boyce announces
schedule change**

Bad weather prevented Boyce Bible School from meeting in its Feb. 26 and 27 sessions. Term 3, therefore, will close March 27 instead of the originally scheduled March 20. Term 4 will be rescheduled to run April 2 through May 22, 1982.



Bentonville First dedicates new facility

First Church of Bentonville dedicated a new Family Life Center during a dedication/anniversary celebration held at the church March 3. The service commemorated completion of the 13,000 square foot facility and the 99th birthday of the church, which was organized March 3, 1883, with seven charter members. Recently, Sunday School enrollment passed 1,000 for the first time in the church's history. The celebration/dedication dinner also served as a kickoff for a Sunday School enrollment/attendance emphasis for March and April. Members of the building committee were chairman Max Burger, Mrs. Bob Bogle, Dr. Earl Cill, Bill Coodell, Dr. Sam Morrison, Harlon Phillips, Lavelle Sanders and Joe Yates. Don Evans is pastor.

Jonesboro Walnut Street Church

has completed first phase of its building program and will move into a 24,000 square foot gymnasium March 7. This building, has been built at 1910 Scenic Road in Jonesboro to replace church property destroyed by fire two years ago. It houses an auditorium that will seat 500, a gymnasium and fellowship hall. Pastor C. A. Johnson reports dedication services will be held in

the near future.

Hurricane Lake Church

dedicated an enlarged auditorium Jan. 31 that more than double the seating capacity. The construction cost was approximately \$50,000. Dedication speakers were Preston Cooper, Carl M. Overton, director of missions for Central Association, and Pastor R. B. Crotts.

Little Rock Geyer Springs First Church recently licensed assistant pastor Mike Curry to the gospel ministry.

Fayetteville First Church

will do Indiana mission work June 18-25. They will assist with Backyard Bible Clubs; musical programs and construction work.

Hamburg First Church

will observe Homecoming March 14. Former pastors, Reese S. Howard, Klois L. Hargis and Raymond C. Atwood will be speakers. Activities will include a noon luncheon in Fellowship Hall and an ice cream social at the close of the evening service.

Conway First Church

voted Feb. 28 to increase its efforts in the Bold Mission Thrust by sending \$500 per month to the Woodglenn Mission of Thornton, Colo., and to send the youth choir and mission team, along with adults-on-mission, on a ministry trip to this same church. Woodglenn Mission is located in a Denver suburb of about 50,000.

Little Rock West Side Church

honored its Senior Adult members with a banquet Feb. 20. Pastor Bill Ward gave the devotional thoughts and also sang in the musical program that featured Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Cockman, members of Little Rock Chicot Road Church, as guest musicians.

News about missionaries

Dr. and Mrs. James D. Bryant, recently appointed by the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention to Bangladesh, will be delayed at least six weeks in their departure awaiting visa approval. They may be contacted at 709 Bower, Harrison, Ark. 72601, or by calling (501) 741-3064.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Wayne Fuller, missionaries to Lebanon, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: P.O. Box 11-5232, Beirut, Lebanon). A native of Minnesota, he was born in Remer and lived there and in Walker while growing up. She is the former Frances Anderson of Wynne, Ark. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1963.

Ruth Spence, missionary associate to Lebanon, has completed furlough and returned to the field (address: P.O. Box 11-5232, Beirut, Lebanon). Born in Arkansas, she also lived in Garner, N.C. She was employed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1978.



Students meet alumni head

Student representatives at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary met recently with the president of the alumni association from their various states or regions. The group included (from left) Jere Mitchell, pastor of Fayetteville First Church; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Wooten and Charles G. Fuller, Roanoke, Va., national alumni association president. Wooten is a master of church music student from Osceola.

Your state convention at work

Evangelism

Revival personnel hospitality committee important group

The care of the evangelistic help for a revival is very important. Gracious Christian hospitality should be shared with them as you would any guest.

The committee or church should provide a quiet comfortable place for them. If possible, arrange for them to stay in a motel. If they do, be sure the manager understands the church is paying the bill.

If they must stay in a home, arrange for the preacher and singer to have separate rooms. Never expect them to occupy the same bed. Do not arrange for a home where the evangelist or singer will have to be alone at the house with a woman. This can be embarrassing for both.



Shell

The meals should be scheduled and prepared with a clear understanding with the evangelistic help. If they are eaten in the restaurant, the helpers should sign the meal tickets. If meals are to be eaten in homes, let it be a noon or after service at night meal. Save valuable time in the afternoon for visiting the lost and unaffiliated prospects.

At the close of the revival, escort the helper to the plane or bus. If they drive, share with them your gratitude as they leave. A thank you note is greatly appreciated from the church as an expression of appreciation for the evangelist's ministry. If he is a full time evangelist, write his wife and express your appreciation. Treat the evangelistic helpers as you would want to be treated so they will remember with gratitude the experience in your church. — Clarence Shell Jr.

Christian Life Council

Taking unfair advantage

Scarcely a week passes without news of unfair advantage being taken of a physically handicapped or weak person.

It is especially disturbing and tragic when the victim is an infant, elderly or blind.

Regarding the perpetrator of such senseless acts, nearly always the comment is heard, "How sick can one get!" Rarely does the reminder come that man's extremely wicked heart, left unchecked, can lead to unspeakable atrocities.

By nature, all are sinners. Many have weaknesses that are easily exploited. One such weakness is the desire to gamble. Another is the temptation to escape life's tough realism via a mind altering chemical.

Using multimillion dollar publicity, entrepreneurs of gam-

bling and alcoholic beverages take unfair advantage of all. The tragedy is that we are letting them do it with little complaint.

A noted sociologist has called ethyl alcohol the great disinhibitor. Such alcohol is found in varying degrees in all type alcoholic beverages. Other factors lower human inhibitions. The epidemic of other drug usage plus the rapid spread of pornography, gambling and other addictions contribute to all type crimes; the most dastardly of which are against the weak and innocent.

Jesus Christ is the only answer and hope. A heart that has been given to him produces a changed individual who can only manifest love, joy, peace and other fruit of the Spirit. — Bob Parker, director

Woman's Missionary Union

Speakers scheduled for WMU annual meeting

Speakers for the Annual Meeting of Woman's Missionary Union at Baring Cross Church in North Little Rock, March 16-17, will include such outstanding personalities as Alma Hunt, former Executive Secretary, and Dorothy Sample, new president of Woman's Missionary Union, SBC. Miss Hunt will do a Bible study on the theme "Transformed" during each session while Dr. Sample will challenge women to fulfill their purpose in missions.

Other personalities include Chris Elkins, former member of The Unification Church, James Hampton, associate area director

for missions in East Africa, a product of those missions Elijah Wanje, the Thurman Braughtons from the Philippines, and other missionaries and short term mission volunteers.

Sessions will begin on Tuesday, 10 a.m., 2 p.m., and 7 p.m., and the closing session will begin at 9:30 Wednesday morning.

There will be a fellowship time following the Tuesday evening session to give everyone an opportunity to meet and speak with program personnel. — Betty Jo Lacy

Youth Ministry

Area Summer Youth Ministry Conferences planned

Area Summer Youth Ministry Conferences are planned for three locations in our state on April 27-29. The conferences will be held at Southern Baptist College, Walnut Ridge, on April 27; Lakeshore Drive Church, Little Rock, on April 28; and Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, on April 29. Each conference will begin at 10 a.m. and adjourn by 3 p.m., with a lunch break.

The conferences are specifically designed for students and others planning to serve or interested in serving as summer



Taylor

youth ministers this summer. Pastors, staff, youth committees and volunteer youth leaders are also invited to attend. The conference leader will be Bob Taylor, Youth Ministry Specialist with the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville.

Conference content will cover the basics of youth ministry philosophy and methodology. We will also deal with materials and resources — particularly the Summer Youth Ministry Packet. This item and others will be available for purchase at the conference.

I hope you will plan to be a part of this training experience. Please contact Bill Falkner at the Church Training Department, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, 72203, phone number 376-4791 for questions or further information. — Bill Falkner, associate

Arkansas Baptist Assembly

Reservations coming in at a steady pace

Reservations for the Arkansas Baptist Assembly are coming in at a steady pace. The first week is already closed and the second week probably will be closed by the time you are reading this. The other four weeks have plenty of space available at this time. I would suggest that reservations be made as soon as possible.

Conservatively estimate the number of boys and the number of girls you think you will bring, and make your reservation now. Adjustments to your estimate can be made at any time even if we close that week to others. A week will be closed when 1000 are registered.

The total registration now stands at 3233. Send registrations to: Freddie Pike, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203. — Freddie Pike, assembly business manager



Pike

New churches joining BSU Third Century Campaign

Church	Association	Pastor
Cedar Heights, NLR	N. Pulaski	James Hayes
Chapel Hill, Jacksonville	N. Pulaski	Lee Lawson
Elkins, 1st	Wash-Madison	Walter Jesser
Longridge, Booneville	Buckner	Donal Elmore
Northside, Ft. Smith	Concord	James Johnson Jr. (Treasurer)
West Memphis, 2nd	Tri County	Jack Authen

Speakers highlight Conference for Women

Joyce Rogers, wife of pastor Adrian Rogers of Bellvue Church in Memphis, Tenn., will be among the featured speakers at the Arkansas Baptist State Convention Conference for Women scheduled April 29-May 1 at the Pine Bluff Convention Center.



Rogers

Rogers is scheduled to speak on "God's Word and Sure Foundation" and "Women Witnessing" as well as leading a workshop on ministers' wives. She chaired a "women's concerns" conference in 1980 in Memphis attended by 4,000 women.

Rogers is author of the book *The Wise Woman — How To Be One In A Thousand* in which she urges women to live "a balanced Christian life." The book maintains that "only obedience to God's word brings true freedom. The truly submissive wife finds that her husband and her God release her to a freedom unknown by others."

Other workshop leaders include:

—Johnnie Lord, wife of Peter Lord, pastor of Park Avenue Church in Titusville, Fla. She will speak on "How to Pray for Our Children," a subject which she has addressed in a book by the same title.

—Kay (Mrs. Ron) Dunn, a Little Rock native, is married to an Arkansas native known nationwide as a speaker in Bible Conferences. Mrs. Dunn, too, has spoken to various women's groups.

—Barbara Taylor, the wife of Jack Taylor, who is a Bible Conference speaker and author of several books published by Broadman Press. She also has been a frequent speaker and was co-director of a

women's conference held in Fort Worth, Texas.

—Len Sehested, a native of Scotland who worked in India with deprived children 13 years. Sehested, a widow, will speak on "Coping With Loss" and "Singles."

A number of other nationally- and locally-known speakers are scheduled as well as a number of musicians.

An estimated 70 prayer groups statewide will be meeting regularly to pray for the conference and for specific requests relating to the preparation. The groups are being asked to pray that women across the state will be made aware of the conference, that it will be well-attended, for conference leaders, and that the conference will glorify God and meet the individual needs of women attending.

There will be interpreters for the deaf. Some private homes will be available for lodging, and some camper hookups are available at the convention center.

Registration for the conference costs \$20. To register, send fee, name and address to Mrs. Kerry Powell, P.O. Box 326, Forrest City, Ark. 72335. Motel reservations can be made by writing to the Convention Center, P.O. Box 8748, Pine Bluff, Ark. 71611, phone number (501) 534-3448.

Balance

The sound, video and lighting system in your sanctuary should be balanced to provide the best environment possible for your worship service.

We'll provide custom designed systems to match the interior beauty of your church.

For a free consultation, call Jack Langston on our toll free number: 1-800-654-6744.

ford audio-video

4800 West I-40 Oklahoma City, OK 73128 (405) 946-9966
4715 East 41st Tulsa, OK 74135 (918) 653-4730

Passenger

Van

headquarters
Nice late models

5 passenger to 15 passenger
Special prices to churches

QUALITY
AUTO SALES

(501) 268-4490

1500 E. Race, Searcy, Ark. 72143

WORLD'S LARGEST MANUFACTURER
OF **FIBERGLASS**
CHURCH PRODUCTS

- STEEPLES
- WALL CROSSES
- STAINED FIBERGLASS WINDOWS
- BAPTISTRIES
- BAPTISTRY HEATERS

Write for free
color brochure.

FiberGlass Specialties

A.C. 214 657-6522 Box 210 Henderson, Texas 75652



STATEWIDE
**PASTOR'S
BIBLE
CONFERENCE**
OUACHITA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY
APRIL 26-28, 1982

Conference Preacher

Dr. Frank Pollard, Pastor of the First Baptist Church of San Antonio, Texas.

Conference Teacher

Dr. J. W. MacGorman, Professor of New Testament at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Texas

Registration

Fee: \$35.00, includes room, meals, and materials, or \$25.00, meals and materials only.

APRIL 26-28, 1982

All interested persons are welcome to attend!

For additional information contact: Dr. Gene Petty, P.O. Box 638, OBU, Arkadelphia, AR 71923

Difficult pressures, standards can lead to ministerial burnout

by Jim Lowry

NASHVILLE (BP) — Two Southern Baptist pastors confronting burnout in the ministry say pressures of time and secular standards of measurement imposed on the church are significant problems for many of the denomination's ministers.

The magnitude and number of pressures involved in serving as pastor of a local church are as varied as the pastors themselves, but the common denominators seem to be unrealistic expectations on time and demands of productivity.

Floyd Higginbotham, Calvary Church, Batesville, Miss., and Bill Oakley, First Church of Piggott, Ark., with 30 and 32 years' experience as pastors, respectively, recognize problems which they believe are faced by ministers.

Depression, internal conflict, breakdown in relationships with family and church members, overwork and rationalization for missed goals are some of the symptoms of burnout listed by the pastors as they examined their own experiences.

Both pastors attended a seminar on burnout in ministry out of a desire to be more effective and caring leaders of their congregations — both spiritually and through more efficient administration. Each man spoke with high regard for his present church and the support of members there.

Oakley, who has been pastor of six churches and is a former employee of the Baptist State Convention of Michigan, described himself as a perfectionist who is

faced by an inner compulsion to accomplish all tasks in the church. His recognition of these symptoms helps him deal with the inevitable stress of failure when some tasks are left undone. Confident delegation of responsibility is a difficult but necessary step for him.

For Higginbotham, who has been pastor of seven churches, the pressure of preparation for preaching three times each week and leading a one-hour Bible study are primary sources of frustration leading to the symptoms of burnout and unfinished goals. The preacher must "produce" if he is to be perceived as successful. "The problem is created by secular standards of measurement imposed on the church," he said.

"People look at the budget, the number of baptisms, church growth and Sunday School attendance," echoed Oakley. "In our denomination, a pastor is expected to produce.

"These are the things that are measurable, yet I'm not sure they are always the most important," he continued. "The ministry is a highly stressful calling."

Oakley, 50, and Higginbotham, 48, also agreed that age restrictions set by pastor search committees are a constant source of frustration and pressure for men their age.

"We've set the standard in the Southern Baptist Convention that a man at age 45 is about through," Oakley said, primarily referring to mobility and acceptability to

churches seeking pastors. "We are both at the age where we have to do a lot of praying about God's intention for our lives. I believe God will take care of it, but worrying about it gives me stress."

"I'm in a position at my age to be the best pastor I've ever been because of the experiences I've gone through," Higginbotham added. "Yet this is the age where churches don't want you. The pastorate is the only profession I know where a person doesn't continue to advance."

Another responsibility which is time consuming for pastors and creates severe stress is the increasing number of requests for counseling by church members. Sermon preparation time requirements, coupled with visitation, administration and planning leave little time for talking with members about problems.

"I overschedule myself to the point I work approximately 70-75 hours each week," Oakley said. "That's probably common among ministers, but it affects my work.

"How do you tell a church member you love and care for that you just don't have time to deal with his problem at the present time?" Oakley asked. "It gives me a deep sense of agony to turn someone down."

Oakley has four full-time persons on the church staff including himself. Part-time persons handle finances and the summer youth program. Staff openings create pressure for other staff members with work flow while trying to fill the position.

For Higginbotham, because he is the only staff member, comes the added pressure of trying to be all things to all church members. Motivating and enlisting volunteers, attending committee meetings and preparing for sermons often leave him frustrated because there just are not enough hours in the day.

"In a church with one staff member, the pastor has to initiate the activity, whether it is recreation, fellowship, education or Bible study," Higginbotham said. "You also have to be a participant in all the activities."

Giving time to these necessary, worthwhile activities then serves as another source of stress for the one-staff-member pastor who finds himself lacking adequate time for sermon preparation.

Higginbotham and Oakley were two of 33 pastors attending a seminar at the Sunday School Board to study the symptoms and causes of burnout in the ministry and how to deal with the problem personally.

Brooks Faulkner, career guidance supervisor in the board's church administration department, directed the seminar using his new book, *Burnout in Ministry — How to Recognize It, How to Avoid It*, as the text.



Bill Oakley (left) of First Church, Piggott, Ark., and Floyd Higginbotham of Calvary Church in Batesville, Miss., agree burnout in the ministry can affect the effectiveness of pastors who live daily in the highly stressful conditions of their calling.

Roselle to retire from student helm

by Gail Rothwell

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Charles Roselle's introduction to Southern Baptist student ministries came long before his official duties began in 1941.

Roselle, who retires March 31 as secretary of National Student Ministries of the Baptist Sunday School Board, grew up one block from the Central Missouri State University campus in Warrensburg. There campus life became a part of him as he came in contact with the college students his father taught in Sunday School.

Roselle graduated from Central Missouri State where he was active in Baptist Student Union, then he earned a master's degree in mathematics at Louisiana State University. While at the University of Illinois, working on his doctorate, W. O. Vaught resigned as student director in Missouri.

"Vaught called me and asked if I'd be interested in being his successor," Roselle explains. "A move like that wasn't unusual in those days."

No longer struggling with his commitment, Roselle accepted the call to full-time student ministries. He finished out the semester at Illinois and moved to Missouri to

succeed Vaught.

Since that move 41 years ago, Roselle also has been city-wide Baptist student director for Nashville, Tenn.; local student director at the University of Missouri-Columbia and Auburn University, Auburn, Ala.; and then for 15 years state Baptist student secretary for Tennessee.

Fourteen years ago Roselle became secretary of National Student Ministries of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board. But his heart remains on the local campus.

"As I look back over the years I think the thing I have enjoyed most has been my involvement with students on the local campus. To watch them grow and develop was exciting for me," he says.

As state director, Roselle most enjoyed involvement in student missions, a commitment that has been a priority during his years at National Student Ministries.

Student involvement in missions and mission activities increased dramatically in the last few years.

Results from the 1980 NSM Bold Mission Thrust report indicate student baptisms jumped 55.8 percent during the year, up

from 7,048 to 10,984.

At the present growth rate, student participation in short-term mission service will total more than 25,000 between 1979 and 1982. This figure represents one-fourth of the denominational goal of 100,000 persons involved in some type of short-term mission service for the same period.

Youth . . . growing in



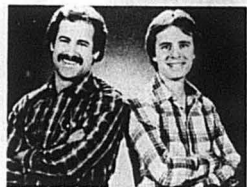
1982 State Youth Convention Friday, April 9

Little Rock Convention Center

Sessions: 10 a.m.
2 p.m.
6 p.m.

Program features

Bob Norman
pastor
Northway Church
Dallas, Texas



"Gabriel"
Concert artists
Arlington, Texas

Much more

Ouachita Singers
Southern Singers
Ouachitones
State Youth Bible Drill
State Youth Speakers' Tournament
Sponsored by Church Training Dept.
Arkansas Baptist State Convention



NASHVILLE — Charles Roselle, secretary of the Sunday School Board's National Student Ministries, displays the quilt given to him by Arkansas Baptist student union student directors. Local BSU groups made the individual squares to represent their campuses. The project was coordinated by Jamie Jones, student director at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. Roselle, who has been in student work for over 40 years, will retire at the end of March.

Emergency Net forms

A Southern Baptist Emergency Net has been formed by Baptist amateur radio operators in Texas, Oklahoma, Mississippi, Arkansas and Louisiana.

The net will aid with communications in disasters while Baptist Men's organizations are at the scene feeding and helping disaster

ter victims.

The net meets on Sundays at 2 p.m. on 7.275 megahertz for fellowship and prayer and for devotionals given by its members.

Amateur radio operators interested in being part of the net are encouraged to tune in and get involved.

International

Two miracles for a paralytic

by Lawson Hatfield, Arkansas Baptist State Convention Sunday School director

Basic and focal passages: Mark 2:1-12

Central truth: Jesus has power to bring blessings to the total person.

1. Support at home aids total healing (1-4). What is more devastating than to lose one's support at home, or more encouraging than support at home? Four people carried a paralytic to Jesus. Hope was alive. Obstacles did not deter them. Hope was continued. They sought creative means to help. Help remained. The four had faith. Hope prevailed. In today's melee of problems, it is difficult to maintain a strong, loving, and supportive family. Often when a youth is hooked on drugs, parents are at a loss of what to do or say. One attitude to share is that approval and acceptance are not the same. I may not approve of what you do, but I accept and support you as a person in need. Love points the way.

2. Faith and forgiveness are yokefellows (v. 5). Whose faith induced Jesus to forgive sins of the paralytic? "Their" faith included the four. The paralytic also had faith. Actually it was his faith that finally counted. It was his faith that prompted the support of home, family, and friends.

3. Unspoken hostility is usually perceived (6-8). Did anyone ever speak to you with body language? Watch an umpire on a close play at home plate. You may not hear but you instantly know the verdict through body language. The scribes reasoned negatively against Jesus. He perceived their thoughts. In addition to body language Jesus could read their thoughts intuitively through divine insight. He also knows our thoughts and attitudes.

4. Which is easier, to heal or forgive? (9-12). Normally Jesus performed miracles with a dual purpose; to establish his deity and to minister to individual needs. This means his miracles were redemptive in purpose. No physical affliction is more serious than one's sin. Jesus meets both needs.

The lesson treatment is based on the International Bible Lesson for Christian teaching, Uniform Series, copyright by the International Council of Education. Used by permission.

13-day China tour

\$2.331 all-inclusive from DFW

Aug. 8-20

Experienced escort • Special features

Write today:

Dr. Cecil Sutley

OBU, Arkadelphia, AR 71923

Life and Work

The way of love

by Earl R. Humble, Southern Baptist College

Basic passage: I Corinthians 12:31 B-13:13

Focal passage: Same as above

Central truth: Of all the ways to live, love is the most excellent way.

1. We need to consider first the problem of love. This is not to say that the kind of love Paul describes is so flawed that it falters and fails. What we mean is that some people have what they call love, but it is really something else. We must also note that love, when neglected, diminishes in effectiveness. Love between two people must be encouraged, nurtured, cultivated. If this does not happen, love pines away.

The most conspicuous failure of love is our failure to apply it in human relations. Paul says that eloquence, understanding, faith, and sacrifice are unavailing without love.

2. Let us look next at the power of love. Paul names 15 qualities of love in this chapter, some stated positively, some negatively. He says that love is patient, kind, enduring, trusting, hopeful, and triumphant. He says further that love has no envy, does not boast, is not arrogant, does not behave unseemly, does not insist upon its rights.

Love never loses control of temper, does not keep a record of wrongs received. It takes no pleasure in evil-doing. It is unfeeling. This is the kind of love that fulfills the law and that covers a multitude of sins.

3. We must note, finally, the permanence of love. Gifts of prophecy will be done away, but love will never pass away. The use of tongues will cease and knowledge done away, but love abides.

Paul also speaks of love as maturing. As the man-level is above the child-level of actions, so love grows up and is known for its maturity. Mature love is wise and constant. The incompleteness of child-love has been replaced by the more complete man-love, to use Paul's analogy.

Paul closes this psalm of love by a statement on the permanency of love. "But now abide faith, hope, and love, these three, but the greatest of these is love." As great as faith and hope are, love is even greater. Faith without love is forbidding and hope without love is repelling. Faith will some day give way to sight, and hope will give way to reality. Love still remains love, only purer and more glorious when it is mingled with the higher love of God.

This lesson treatment 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

The King's agony and arrest

by Vester Wolber, Ouachita Baptist University

Basic passage: Matthew 26:31-56

Central truth: The hour was late and the night was dark when Jesus confronted the issue before him, considered his options, and prayed through to the crucial decision that brought him to the cross.

1. Tough decisions are not easily made. Just as Jesus experienced involuntary recoil in his final confrontation with the ultimate issue, so also do we shrink back when we face into our own little Gethsemanes; but to be true to ourselves — true to our commitment — we, too, must veto all alternative options and elect for ourselves the one remaining option conforming to the Father's will.

2. In coming to a right decision one sometimes generates for himself a situation of hardship, even danger. Stephen brought nothing but hardship upon himself when he chose to witness before entrenched opposition in Jerusalem. They stoned him until he was dead. The really mature Christian, when forced to choose between duty and the avoidance of danger, sets his jaw, does his duty, and lets the consequences come as they will.

3. A person can feel terribly lonely in those moments when a major decision is being made. Jesus selected his three most reliable companions to accompany him into the garden sanctuary, but while he prayed they slept, and he struggled alone. Even the Father in heaven did not choose to speak as he had when Jesus was baptized: "you are my beloved son in whom I am well pleased." The heavens were silent, the earth was silent and dark, and Jesus was alone.

Even so, though you may feel terribly lonely in your hour of decision, you are not alone; and when the crisis has passed you will be able to look back and know that the Lord was also present, giving unseen guidance and unheard counsel; and that you followed the guide whom you did not see, and obeyed the counsel that you did not hear.

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.

See the Great Passion Play

(May-Oct). Groups: Stay & Save

at Keller's Country Dorm Resort.

Rt. 1, Eureka Springs, Ark. 72632.

Tickets, lodging, meals & recreation

just \$17 each. Phone 501/253-8418.

First \$100 million SBC budget okayed

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — The first \$100 million-plus budget in the history of the Southern Baptist Convention has been approved by the SBC Executive Committee.

The \$106 million Cooperative Program Allocation Budget will be presented to messengers of the 1982 annual meeting in New Orleans for final action.

Adoption of the budget by the 67-member Executive Committee "is only one step in the multifaceted Cooperative Program budgeting process," said W. Dewey Presley, a Dallas banker who is chairman of the committee's program and budget subcommittee.

He explained the budgeting process began last September, when agency executives of the SBC's 20 agencies listed priorities and needs. Then, in a subcommittee meeting in January, a more detailed presentation was made, and the budget proposal drawn, Presley said.

Presley noted "the entire budget supports Bold Mission Thrust, the denomination's plan to present the gospel to every person in the world by the year 2000."

The budget provides \$96,635,000 as the basic operating budget; \$3,365,000 for capital needs, and \$6,000,000 as the challenge phase.

That compares with the 1981-82 budget of \$93 million, of which \$83,400,000 was the basic operating budget; \$3,000,600 was for capital needs, and \$6,599,400 was the challenge phase.

Under the proposal, the Foreign Mission Board will receive \$47,839,300, a 17.06 percent increase over the 1981-82 allocation of

\$40,866,000. The Home Mission Board will receive \$19 million, a 16.83 percent increase over the \$16,263,000 last year. The Annuity Board will receive \$478,000, a 26.46 percent increase over the \$378,000 last year.

The six seminaries will receive \$20,520,600, a 13.26 percent increase over the \$18,118,900 last year.

Golden Gate seminary in Mill Valley, Calif., will receive \$1,917,049; Midwestern seminary in Kansas City, \$1,775,896; New Orleans seminary, \$3,437,840; Southeastern seminary in Wake Forest, N.C., \$3,201,053; Southern seminary in Louisville, Ky., \$4,497,014; and Southwestern seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, \$5,691,748.

The seminary allocations are made under a complicated formula based in part on full-time equivalency enrollment and per student costs.

Other agencies:

Southern Baptist Foundation, \$213,450; American Baptist Theological Seminary Commission, \$203,450; Brotherhood Commission, \$758,100; Christian Life Commission, \$562,800; Education Commission, \$378,400; Historical Commission, \$328,000; Radio-Television Commission, \$4,229,000; Stewardship Commission, \$344,500; and Public Affairs Committee, \$357,400.

The Southern Baptist Convention Operating Budget received an allocation of \$1,422,000, a 13.94 percent increase over the \$1,173,000 last year.

The Executive Committee also adopted a 1982-83 SBC Operating Budget, for presentation to the 1982 annual meeting in New

Orleans.

The budget, based on total income of \$2,144,500, provides \$631,900 for convention operations, which includes general operations, the SBC building in Nashville, the annual meeting and expenses of SBC committees.

Convention administration is budgeted for \$908,300; public relations at \$308,500, and the Baptist World Alliance contribution at \$295,800.

In the Cooperative Program Allocation Budget, the capital needs section provides \$201,400 to Golden Gate seminary for construction of child care facilities; \$306,000 to Midwestern seminary for a student center and energy package; \$1,000,000 to New Orleans seminary for a student center and cafeteria; \$1,365,000 to Southeastern Seminary for a student center and other building renovation; \$221,000 to Southwestern seminary for a resources and research center and building renovation and \$271,600 to the Radio-TV Commission for tape duplication and TV equipment.

Phase One of the Challenge Budget provides \$500,000 to the six seminaries.

Phase Two provides \$2,750,000 to the Foreign Mission Board, representing 50 percent of the total of \$5,500,000. The Home Mission Board would receive \$1,200,000, or 21.82 percent.

Others included in Phase Two are the SBC Operating Budget, \$200,000; seminaries, \$600,000; Christian Life Commission, \$75,000; Historical Commission, \$50,000; Stewardship Commission, \$45,000, and Public Affairs Committee, \$30,000.

Fewer social cuts urged by SBC hunger specialist

WASHINGTON (BP) — A Southern Baptist hunger specialist warned a House budget panel not to overrate the religious community's ability to compensate for large cuts in federal social programs for the needy.

Appearing before a budget committee task force considering the Reagan administration's proposal to cut entitlement programs by some \$50 billion over the next three years, SBC Home Mission Board Domestic Hunger Consultant Nathan Porter called for more emphasis on human needs in budget considerations.

Porter, who emphasized that neither he nor anyone could speak for all Southern Baptists, declared that SBC churches "must increase their concern and efforts to minister to the needy of our nation."

"However," he added quickly, "let's not fool ourselves with myths. Religious charity and the mission of the church cannot cover up national injustice by government. Human need and social justice cannot be sac-

rificed at the altar of economic programs and military might."

Asked to testify on the impact of budget cuts on the needy, Porter brought mini-reports from HMB field personnel and other Baptist leaders.

One report came from Bill Sumner, a missionary who works in a seven by 12 block area of New Orleans with a population of 52,000 and a poverty level of 60 percent. Faced with growing requests for assistance — especially from families headed by women — Sumner declared, "Budget cuts and fear of future cuts are making our situation absolutely serious... we will not be able to fill the gap."

Another New Orleans missionary, Lillian Mitchell, pointed to growing referrals from the food stamp office. "We are facing a serious crisis already," she warned, "and the situation will get worse if more budget cuts are implemented."

Porter also reported the position of HMB Missions vice president Gerald Palmer, who

said: "It is not a good thing for government to get out of the business of helping people," and warned that to do so is a "terrible step backward."

Porter concluded by relating a message he had received along with a donation for hunger causes from an eight-year-old Baptist Trent Coker, from Newton, Texas, who wrote: "If any of your helpers can talk the hungry people language, tell them I said 'hi.'"

"I join Trent in challenging the people of our nation and government officials to 'talk the hungry people language,'" Porter told the task force chaired by Rep. Paul Simon, D-Ill.

The hearing was the first of three Simon scheduled to review the impact of last year's budget cuts in entitlement programs and the potential impact of the proposed additional cuts. Entitlement programs include areas such as Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, food stamps, unemployment compensation and Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC).

SBC shows healthy gains; training figure jumps

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Healthier growth than predicted in December characterized Southern Baptists' final 1981 statistical report. Totals exceeded December projections in all areas except mission expenditures.

Church training, the one program projected to decline in 1981, showed a gain of more than 18,000 in the final figures. A sample analysis of church information letters in December predicted a loss of more than 10,000.

Points of special significance in this year's report are that the number of SBC churches topped 36,000 for the first time; membership is nearly 13.8 million; total gifts passed \$2.75 billion; and Brotherhood enrollment went over the half-million level for the first time since 1964.

This is only the second time since 1963 that all five church programs have increased, with Sunday School leading the way by going over the 7.5-million mark for the first time since 1968. Baptisms was the only area to record a loss from the previous year, but they still exceeded 400,000.

"The final report was better than the December projections this year because an estimated 1,000 letters from churches were involved in special processing and were left out of the projection figures," said Martin Bradley, secretary of the research services department at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

"These letters were mostly from stronger churches and this affected the projection totals for all the report areas," Bradley said. "The number of letters used in the projections was 2,000 lower than in past years, which also affected the outcome."

The number of Southern Baptist churches grew by 248, or 0.7 percent, bringing the total to 36,079. This continues a trend of accelerated growth in the convention over the past 11 years.

Total membership in the convention rose 1.3 percent, or 182,772, to a new high of 13,789,580. Membership was projected to increase by 1.2 percent.

Baptisms this year, although dropping 5.6 percent from last year's total, still were 405,608, the 10th highest total in the 137-year history of the convention. The previous year's baptism total, 429,742, was the second highest ever recorded. The 1981 total is 1.4 percent higher than projected in December.

The convention's largest program, Sunday School, recorded a 1.3 percent, or 94,995, growth in enrollment for 1981, which makes the new total 7,528,400. The December projection for Sunday School was 0.8 percent growth.

The church training gain of one percent brings total enrollment to 1,814,179. The figure includes new church member train-

ing enrollment, which became a part of the program total this year. Projections made in December indicated a loss for church training of 0.6 percent, or 10,774. Final figures showed the gain of 18,560, the second consecutive increase for the program.

Enrollment in Woman's Missionary Union grew last year by 1.3 percent, or 14,418, making the new total 1,114,461. WМУ was projected in December to be up by 0.9 percent.

Brotherhood enrollment for 1981 increased 3.5 percent, or 17,234, bringing enrollment to 512,900. The December projected increase for Brotherhood was about 5,000 lower than the actual figure.

1981 marked the 16th consecutive year of enrollment increase in church music. Total music enrollment is now 1,590,992, up 4.2 percent, or 63,595, from last year. Music was projected to increase by 3.3 percent.

Total receipts for the Southern Baptist Convention were up by 12 percent, or almost \$300 million, to a new high of \$2,782,555,130. Last year's total was \$2.48 billion and the projected increase for this year was 11 percent.

Southern Baptist expenditures for missions in 1981 increased by 9.9 percent, or almost \$40 million, bringing the new total to \$441,400,157. This is approximately \$3 million less than projected.

Hughes pew cushions

Reversible or attached
Quality, comfort and beauty

**We believe we can
save your church money**

3 weeks delivery on fabric in stock
For free estimate call collect

Eugene Hughes, 353-6556

Route 2, Box 159A
Gurdon, Ark. 71743

New language hymnal ready in Philippines

MANILA, Philippines — A new hymnal in the Ilonggo language is ready for distribution in the Philippines. Edited and compiled by Texan Rae Scott, Southern Baptist missionary in charge of music promotion on the island of Mindanao, the hymnal con-

tains 222 hymns and 30 responsive readings.

Bolivian women celebrate, study

SANTA CRUZ, Bolivia — Laura Frances Snow, missionary to Chile, challenged 65 Bolivian Baptist women, at a retreat in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, to present their bodies as "living sacrifices to God." The women celebrated the 50th anniversary of the magazine, "La Ventana" ("The Window"), with a special cake and a study of the life of Mary Pimm Moore, the magazine's founder and editor for 25 years. "La Ventana" features Bible study, mission and home life material for Spanish-speaking Baptist women.



SR. HIGH YOUTH

Don't Miss

SUPERTEAM COMPETITION

April 16 and 17 at OBU

For Info: Call 246-4531, ext 176 or write,
Ouachita Student Foundation OBU Box 697

Tiger Traks Weekend '82

1982 World's Fair

Knoxville, Tennessee

Accommodations with kitchens available
for 2 to 40 people

Contact:

Roberts World Tours

Rt. 5, Box 107

Seymour, Tennessee 37865

615-573-5632

Smith's statements improved Jewish relations, rabbi says

MILL VALLEY, Calif. (BP) — Explosive remarks by Southern Baptist Convention President Bailey E. Smith 18 months ago that "God Almighty does not hear the prayers of a Jew" have helped improve Baptist-Jewish relationships, a leading rabbi says.

Smith's remarks caused "a lightning flash that illuminated the entire landscape of Baptist-Jewish relationships, prompting sudden heat and light that comes only once in a generation," James A. Rudin, associate national director of interreligious affairs for the American Jewish Committee, told a national Baptist-Jewish dialogue at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary.

The dialogue was jointly sponsored by the American Jewish Committee and the Interfaith Witness Department of the South-

ern Baptist Home Mission Board.

Although he explained he is not a "Pollyanna who sees cotton-candy good" emerging from a highly negative episode," Rudin observed that Smith's remarks "have placed Southern Baptist and Jewish relations on a much more realistic and much more mature basis. We both know how far we have to go, how painful has been the hurt and it has moved us to a deeper understanding of dialogue."

Rudin added: "Smith's remarks have forced Baptists and Jews to re-examine their deepest and most profound religious commitments. The remark angered and dismayed Jews who felt Smith had de-legitimized Jewish life. If there is no legitimacy to Jewish prayer, then there is no legitimacy to Jewish religious life, and then the next step is to say, 'There is no legitimacy to Jews'."

During the dialogue, an Oklahoma Baptist pastor, Travis Wiginton of Norman, said he disagreed with Smith's statements but said the SBC president is "a sincere, honest person who believes what he believes and thinks you ought to share what you believe. It was an honest, sincere statement, not made with malice."

Smith, pastor of First Southern Church of Del City, Okla., was not present for the dialogue because of a schedule conflict.

SBC First Vice President Christine Gregory of Danville, Va., presided at one session, calling on one of the rabbis to lead the invocation: "I'm one who believes God does hear the prayers of a Jew."

Gregory said in an interview that one of the most moving moments of the dialogue came during a small group discussion when one of the Jews confided how deeply he was hurt and offended by Smith's remarks, made in August of 1980 at a National Affairs Briefing in Dallas.

In a prepared paper, summarizing the

current state of Baptist-Jewish relations, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary professor Bob Adams said such relations have always been guided by the way Baptists answer four questions: "These questions concern the validity of Judaism as a religion, whether or not Jews should be free to practice their religion, whether or not Christians should seek to evangelize the Jews and what place Jews should occupy in the political, economic and social structures of society."

"Probably most Baptists would in some sense question the validity of Judaism ... and most would probably consider Judaism as preparation for Christianity," Adams said.

He added, however, that Southern Baptists aware of their history will unhesitatingly affirm and defend the right of Jews and all religionists to practice their beliefs.

Stressing the Baptist belief that the only right relationship with God can be through Jesus Christ, Adams said his belief is so strong that to withhold the gospel and to exempt Jews from witnessing attempts would be understood by Baptists "as the worst kind of anti-semitism. To ask Baptists to forego witnessing is to ask them to leave off one of their reasons for being."

In his presentation, Rudin, rather than emphasize the negative, stressed five things he said Baptists and Jews have in common: 1. similar congregational structure with emphasis on local rather than hierarchical control; 2. deep respect and reverence for the authority and integrity of the Scriptures; 3. an abiding commitment to the security and survival of the State of Israel; 4. a shared commitment to separation of church and state in the United States; and 5. mutual involvement in the struggle to achieve human rights and religious liberty, especially for Christians and Jews in the Soviet Union.

Address change???????

Two weeks before change of address send

name label below and new address to:
ARKANSAS BAPTIST NEWSMAGAZINE
P.O. Box 552
Little Rock, Ark. 72203

017560 COMP
DR HAROLD C BENEET
463 JAMES ROBERTSON PKY
NASHVILLE, TN 37219

Court says Amish employees must pay Social Security

WASHINGTON (BP) — The U.S. Supreme Court reversed a Pennsylvania District Court ruling which had relieved employers and employees who are members of the Old Order Amish religion from participation in the nation's Social Security system.

Present federal law exempts self-employed members of the Old Order Amish from compulsory Social Security participation. In 1980, the Western Pennsylvania District Court sided with a self-employed Amish farmer and carpenter who contended that imposition of Social Security taxes on his Amish employees violated their free exercise of religion rights.

Old Order Amish maintain that both payment of Social Security taxes and receipt of such benefits conflict with their religious

belief requiring members of their faith to provide for other members.

But the nation's high court, in an opinion written by Chief Justice Warren E. Burger, rejected the district court decision, ruling that the exemption from Social Security participation granted by Congress applies only to self-employed members of the Old Order Amish.

The high court's opinion granted that compulsory participation in the Social Security system "interferes" with the free exercise rights of the Amish but declared that "not all burdens on religion are unconstitutional." "The state," the court added, "may justify a limitation on religious liberty by showing that it is essential to accomplish an overriding governmental interest."

The governmental interest in this case is

apparent, the justices declared. Warning that voluntary participation "would undermine" the system, they stated that "mandatory participation is indispensable to the fiscal vitality of the Social Security system."

The court held further that it would be difficult to accommodate the comprehensive national retirement program with "myriad exceptions flowing from a wide variety of religious beliefs."

"The tax system could not function if denominations were allowed to challenge the tax system because tax payments were spent in a manner that violates their religious beliefs," the justices declared.

"Because the broad public interest in maintaining a sound tax system is of such a high order, religious belief in conflict with payment of taxes affords no basis for resisting the tax," the opinion concluded.

by Jim Newton