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Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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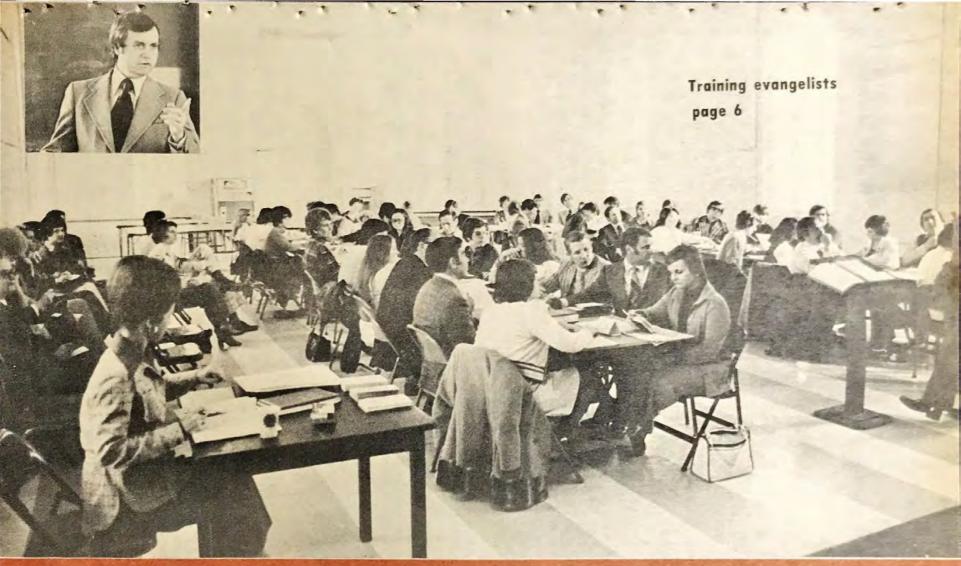
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Arkansas Baptist NEWSMAGAZINE



I must say it

Charles H. Ashcraft /Executive Secretary

One captain per boat--please

Across the Southern Baptist Convention there is evidence enough that staff conflicts are steadily eating into the heart of the effectiveness of our churches. The problem stated very simply, "It has not been adequately determined who's the head man."

Divine revelation supports the principle of a prime leader with able people gathered about him as the best way to get the job done. History is replete with its attestation to this divine principle. Such an arrangement demands good leaders and good followers with no alternatives. It presumes a person must be a good follower before he would hold the commission of a leader.

The leader himself in some echelon of service may in turn actually become a follower as he cooperates with a higher echelon of the project. In any case both are indispensible and terribly important. Important to the extent that the work will be destroyed unless compatibility is achieved in staff relations.

The actual trouble seems to arise at the point when a staffer, with due cause or not, feels insecure and asserts himself to overcome it. This is not bad unless he encroaches upon the God-endorsed structure of command. The insecure person may be insecure because his supervisor has made little effort to bring him to his best achievement and acceptance as a staffer. Nobody can relieve a prime leader of this basic responsibility. The staffer may be chafing under the delusion that his title and pay do not do him justice and his advice which is considered superior to the chief goes unheeded.

Any staffer may take a certain degree of comfort in the fact that the "second violinist" may actually play prettier music than the solo player. One can be an "opinion leader" even if he is the assistant custodian. This means the power behind the throne is not always the king but a wise, trusted and humble technician. Those who follow are technically as important, as those who lead and will receive no diminished reward in glory for their station.

There is no greater need in any major or minor religious group in America today than the identification, acknowledgment and acceptance of the captain. When this is done firmly and resolutely all staffers have hope of better days and the ship may proceed orderly on its voyage.

It may be the Queen Mary or a lowly rowboat but there is room for only one captain aboard. Until this is determined, the ship, cargo, crew and owners will enjoy minimal hope of reaching port intact. One captain per boat, please, or at least "one captain at a time." It is helpful if the captain knows where he is going.

I must say it!

In this issue

Camp food 4

Food for youth cook-outs is the subject of "Food and fellowship" this month. Some little-do recipes are provided, plus some tips on executing such a venture.

Evangelism training/ cover 6

First Church, Ft. Smith, is engaged in a program for training member on evangelism. Photos from the sessions tell the story of the methods.

Our volunteers 16

Some Arkansas Baptists are paying their own way to help home missionaries on the field. All have served before as volunteers.

Arkansas Baptist

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I EVERETT SNEED, Ph. D	ditor
BETTY KENNEDY Managing F	ditor
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ANN TAYLOR Bookke	ener
	chel

FRWIN L McDONALD, Litt D...............Editor Emeritus

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.

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The editor's page

If a school is unaccredited

1. Everett Sneed



Accreditation of our Baptist colleges and seminaries is sometimes taken for granted. On other occasions it is totally discounted. But the accreditation of our

institutions is of great importance.

Accreditation of college or seminary work may be defined as that which is certified to have met certain requirements. These standards include such things as the academic training of the faculty, curriculum taught, physical facilities, size and quality of the library, grading standards used, amount of resident or oncampus training required, etc. In other words, the accreditation of an institution is the student's guarantee of the quality of the school.

Accreditation is of immense value to students or graduates of our colleges and seminaries. It provides the probability of the transfer of work from one institution to another. While each institution determines, to a large measure, the work it will and will not accept, an individual going from one accredited school to another will experience a minimum of difficulty. Those who attend unaccredited schools often receive no credit elsewhere for the work they have done.

Graduation from an accredited institution also provides recognition for the diploma or degree issued from the school. An individual seeking secular employment after graduation from an unaccredited college will find many of the best job opportunities closed to him. Most firms seek the best trained person available.

An individual graduating from an unaccredited seminary will experience difficulty in finding a place of service in many areas of Baptist life, such as a chaplain, as a foreign missionary, as a home missionary, or as a professor in an accredited college or seminary.

Obviously, each Baptist church determines its own requirements for a pastor. This is as it should be, since each congregation, under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, knows best its own needs. But though some

persons have more native ability than others, anyone called of God should be more effective when he is trained in an institution of the highest quality. Those who do have the privilege of furthering their education should not limit their opportunities of service by attending an unaccredited institution.

Southern Baptist educators across the years have been in the forefront in developing standards for accreditation. Our oldest theological institution, Southern Seminary in Louisville, Ky., led the way in developing the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools which is recognized as an accrediting agency all across our nation.

Perhaps one might ask "Why is accreditation necessary? Couldn't we just allow each institution to develop its own standards?" Yes, we could, of course, but without minimum standards a diploma would soon have no more meaning than any other wall decoration. The American Medical Association has long protected the health of the public by its high standard of accreditation of medical schools. We, as Christians, should do no less to protect the spiritual health of our people.

Finally accreditation is necessary because the Bible insists that the Christian be at his best. Paul, who had studied under the best scholars of his time, admonished Timothy "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of truth." (II Tim. 3:15) Thus, Paul's challenge to the minister was to do everything possible to reach the highest standards so as to understand and disseminate the truths of God.

We, as Southern Baptists, are fortunate to have six highly accreditated seminaries. In Arkansas we have two of the finest educational institutions available — Ouachita University, Arkadelphia, and Southern College, Walnut Ridge. These great schools were made possible not by accident, but by the sacrifice and dedication of others. Let's thank God for our heritage and seek to uphold these standards in the future.

Guest editorial

'Since I retired'

"Since I retired" is an expression heard quite often. It is usually followed by a long list of activities which can make the listener tired. Some of the busiest people I know are retired.

"Before I retired I thought I would have plenty of time to do all I wanted to do. I am busier than I have ever been in my life. Every day I leave more undone than I can do." These are words heard again and again.

Many pastors who retire are as busy as they were before retirement. There seems to be an ego boost for us preachers in being able to say "I don't miss a Sunday."

Does the busy pace set by most retirees mean that people retire too early? This is a matter of opinion, of course, but why wait until we are sick or broken down

physically and emotionally to retire?

A change of routines and scenery can help us. No one wants to feel unneeded or unwanted. This feeling is a special danger to those who retire.

Besides, retirement income is inadequate for multitudes of people who retire. Retirement plans which were initiated years ago are not sufficient when prices are as inflated as they are today.

Retirees are being utilized in churches in a fine way. We need to emphasize youth programs in churches, but we should not neglect those who have already lived a long time. They need us and we need them.—Editor Hudson Baggett in the "Alabama Baptist"



One layman's opinion

Daniel R. Grant / President, OBU

A simple proposal for longer work days

The problem of how to get all my work done in one 24-hour day has long troubled me. I made an amazing discovery at Stockholm, Sweden, while attending the Thirteenth Baptist World Congress. There is a relatively simple answer to this problem which I had never really considered

During my first day in Stockholm the sun did not set until almost nine o'clock and it did not really get dark until much later. I went to bed about midnight and awakened not much later to bright sunlight. Since I was still sleepy I checked my watch and saw that it was only 3:00 a.m. I thought perhaps I changed my watch the wrong way in crossing all those time zones on the Atlantic. When fully awakened I remembered the famous Swedish long summer days and short nights. The daily bulletin from the Baptist World Alliance printed the following schedule for the

WCCK+	Sunrise	Sunset
Tuesday	2:48 a.m.	8:57 p.m.
Wednesday	2:49 a.m.	8:56 p.m.
Thursday	2:50 a.m.	8:54 p.m.
Friday	2:52 a.m.	8:53 p.m.
Saturday	2:55 a.m.	8:50 p.m.

This arrangement of sunrises and sunsets worked out beautifully for me because I inherited two time-consuming assignments--membership on the Resolutions Committee and membership on the Commission on Religious Liberty . and Human Rights. I was involved from early morning to late evening helping draft a kind of manifesto on public morality.

The long days would have been helpful during two early summer Baptist meetings in Miami where there were not enough hours in the day to get the committee work done. The progress of Ouachita Baptist University would undoubtedly be accelerated if my work day could be extended. Sweden has given us a simple answer to an old problem. If we could just arrange for the sun to stand still over Arkansas for a few hours each day, and then have it speed up through the night hours, there is no telling how much more work we could all get done

As is the custom for many college educators, I am simply offering to the world the basic theoretical principle for a solving this problem. I hope others will come along and work out the details.

New subscriber:

Church

New budget: Pee Dee, Clinton Hopewell, Atkins **Pastor**

Don Rose

Association

Van Buren Dardanelle-Russellville





Food and fellowship

Virginia Kirk and Jane Purtle

Cook-outs for young people

overflows the heaven. You have taught responsibilities. Each youth can sign up the little children to praise you perfectly.... Psalm 8: 1-2 LB .

have next?" we often ask our GA group. school or back-to-school cookout has become a favorite time for all of us, girls and leaders alike. The girls like it because of the combination of fire and water which it promises. Cooking their own food over an open fire and wading in the streams near our camp sites have an irresistible appeal for them. The than adults, to participate in gathering counselors like it because it's an wood and laying a good fire. Time for a opportunity to escape into the outdoors, to catch a few moments of the peace and beauty of God's creation, and to watch the girls who in their spontaneity and simplicity "praise God perfectly."

The menu for a cookout for young one people-GA's, RA's, Sunday School class, successful: or youth group-is fun to plan with the Pocket stew

"O Lord our God, the majesty and young people themselves. Let them make glory of your name fills all the earth and suggestions and divide up the for some part of the menu or for some other needed item such as paper plates, "What kind of party would you like to napkins, cups, foil, etc. The leaders should make a check list which includes The first answer, whether it's February or such indispensible items as water, July is "a cookout." Our annual end-of- matches, tablecloth, utensils (paring knives, bottle opener, and tongs for sure.)

> If young people learn some outdoor skills as part of the outing, it's even more enjoyable and satisfying. The time for the cookout should be early enough to allow children, who do things much slower devotional period after eating is also important. Young people are usually very open and responsive in the outdoors.

> The menu should be planned to suit each group, but we would like to suggest that have

French bread Potato chips or corn chips S'mores (or toasted marshmallows or Lemonade (or bottled drinks)

Pocket stew

Each youth should prepare his own pocket to suit himself. In the middle of a large piece of heavy foil place any combination of the following: a ground meat patty, sliced potatoes, sliced carrots, sliced onions, sliced green pepper, catsup or margarine (very important to provide moisture), salt and pepper to taste. Fold foil to make a tight pocket and place directly on hot coals. Turn occasionally and cook for about 30 minutes or until done.

S'mores

Toast a marshmallow. Place toasted marshmallow between two graham crackers and half a milk chocolate candy bar. They're very gooey and delicious.

Heaven and hell

by Ralph W. Davis (57th in a series)



Davis

The final state of the righteous is heaven. It is a state in that it affords freedom from sin and fellowship with God. A lost man would not be happy in heaven or anywhere else in God's universe. He would change heaven into hell.

Milton in his Paradise Lost has Satan saying, "Which way I flee is hell; myself am hell."

However, heaven is a definite place as well as a state. Jesus said, "I go to prepare a place for you." (John 14:2) This place cannot be located, but we know it will be a glorious place. Gold and precious stones (Rev. 21:18ff) suggest moral value; white robes (Rev. 6:11) suggest purity, there will be leaves for healing (Rev. 22:2) and crowns for victory. (Rev. 4:10; 19:12) The "unclean" will not be there. (Rev. 21:27) "Heaven is described in the Word of God under various figures, but no figure of speech can adequately

portray its glory. Everything that causes pain and sorrow are shut out. (Rev. 21:4) Heaven will include everything that will satisfy the deepest longings of the soulrest, and peace, and joy, and fellowship, and service." (Turner, These Things We Believe, p. 137)

Will we recognize each other in heaven? "Those we have known on earth we will probably know there, as well as the host of the redeemed. Earthly relations will be swallowed up in a higher relation" (Conner, A System of Christian Doctime, p. 554).

Will the saved in heaven be aware of the lost in hell? We know that Abraham was aware that the rich man was in torment. If our loved ones are not saved, it is not the matter of how we can be happy, but how God can be happy. We will be able to look at things more from God's viewpoint.

Hell is the place of eternal punishment. Hades in the New Testament is the translation of the Hebrew word, Sheol, and it seems to refer to the place of the dead. Gehenna is the word rightly translated "hell" which means destruction, condemnation, and

punishment. How is the fact of hell to be understood? "It must be understood in the light of the New Testament teachings on man's sin and rebellion against God, God's offer of mercy, and man's rejection of God's grace and his choice of the way of Satan rather than the way of God... How tremendous is the challenge to those entrusted with the responsibility of presenting to men the full truth of life, destiny, sin and salvation." (Summers, The Life Beyond, p. 196)

Next week: The final article in this series will be, "Did God Forsake Jesus on the Cross?"



Rose Bud Church's new 6-foot by 10-foot lighted sign has more than one message. While it clearly identifies the church, it also provides a place for a message to passers-by. The fund to buy it began with a memorial donation from Mrs. M.O. Blakney of Little Rock.

9

Woman's viewpoint

Iris O'Neal Bowen

Back on campus

It is seldom I get to a convention, more seldom, still if it is out of town, and I found it a joy to be "on campus" again. We have been attending a national poetry convention on the S.M.U. Campus at Dallas, and while learning about poetry, we learned some other things,

For instance, we found that campus life does not close down for the summer. In fact, the dorms were so filled, we were told we were lucky to find rooms.

A baton clinic was in session. A Lion's Club Convention was in town and the colleges were helping with the overflow. Another group or two was meeting there, and summer classes provided a good supply of students.

Another thing: Dining halls have changed! When I worked for my room and board at college, the food was placed in the middle of the table and everyone dived in.

At S.M.U. they punched our meal ticket, we selected our food, cafeteria style, found a table and ate. - Alas, temptations were abundant. There was a

"help yourself" ice-cream bar with cones, dippers and several flavors. We also were provided with a row of cold drink, milk, tea, and coffee dispensers. It was hard to get to our sessions on time.

The students we met were so friendly and helpful—and so young! They helped us register and carried our luggage for us.

One student assisted us to our dorm and onto the elevator. Then he found there was no room for him and two of our hags

"I'll wait," he said, but when the door opened to our third floor destination, there he was. He had raced up the two flights of stairs, bags and all, and beat us there!

I also learned college stairs are steeper, classes are farther apart, and one-o'clock gab-fests are more apt to take their toll. Never-the-less, I am like one of the passengers in our car, who, on the way home, remarked: "I'm ready to go again!"

"When, next year?" she was asked. "No! Tomorrow!" she retorted.

Conference on single adult ministry set

University Church, Fayetteville, will sponsor Aug. 22-24 a conference for single adults and workers with single adults in Northwest Arkansas. The site will be the Mt. Sequoia Assembly grounds.

The conference, to be led by Pastor H.D. McCarty of the Fayetteville Church, is designed to interest other churches in ministering to single adults, and to provide fellowship for singles. Activities begin at 7 p.m. on Friday and close at 3:30 p.m. on Saturday.

Speakers include Dick King, a member of the church's staff, and Mrs. Gerri Freeman of Tulsa. Conference topics range from "Premarital Christian Counseling" through "The Single Parent" and "Divorce and Remarriage" to "Organizing to Reach Single Adults." Also offered will be "Content and Creative Living as a Single," "The Spiritfilled Walk," and "Studying the Bible."

Reservations for the conference must be made no later than Aug. 18. Contact H.D. McCarty or Othelia Paul at University Church. BELOW. Trainees meet with the teacher, a member who has been through the training. Each Thursday night the trainee and his teacher discuss homework.





A lecture session is taught by Pastor Bennett.

The First Church, Ft. Smith, has held 13 consecutive evangelism schools in the past six years. During these training sessions approximately 300 members have been trained and 50 of these verbalize a witness each week. Pastor William Bennett attributes six to eight public professions of faith per week to the work of members in training.

Pastor Bennett says "These on-the-job evangelism training classes have been the key to our reaching the large number of people that we have won each year."

A little over six years ago, Dr. Bennets studied Evangelism Explosion, by James Kennedy. Bennett took these materials and refined them so that he could begin his first on-the-job evangelism training class. The first class was begun with six trainees. Bennett says "One of the most important things in developing any evangelistic church is to select the right trainees. A pastor must be willing to start with a small number of the committed people if he is to build a witnessing church."

Each person who is trained has the responsibility of enlisting and training one person. Prior to the beginning of the school, Dr. Bennett meets with each of the potential trainees to explain to them precisely what is expected. Before they can enroll in the on-the-job training program they must sign a "Heart, Agreement." This agreement outlines their responsibility to the church, the work of the Holy Spirit in their life, and the actual procedure of the evangelistic training. Those who feel that they cannot totally commit themselves to the effort are asked not to enroll in the program.

The on-the-job training for Evangelism lasts a period of five to six months and involves four phases of training. The trainees are tested on each area of the work that is presented. Each trainee must make a passing grade on a comprehensive oral and written

On the cover







ABOVE: Deacon Chairman Gordon Guest (left) is an enthusiastic supporter of the evangelism training led by Pastor Bennett (right).

LEFT: Ethel Huffman is secretary for the evangelism program.

examination which is given at the conclusion of the study.

The program developed by Dr. Bennett includes four areas: homework, classwork, on-the-job training, and "Koinonia Kontact." The homework includes a week's study of a portion of the gospel. A minimum of two hours homework is required each week and on some occasions it may take three or four hours.

During the Thursday evening class work, a brief lecture is delivered by Dr. Bennett. Immediately following the lecture the trainee meets with the evangelist or teacher. Each evangelist is one who has previously completed all the requirements for the Evangelism course of study. The evangelist goes over church, from 6 to 7 p.m. class work is all of the home work with the trainee.

the job training which is a time in which the evangelist and the trainee go into the homes. At the beginning of the course of training the evangelist makes the entire presentation. Later, the trainee begins to give a portion of the gospel presentation. By the end of the course of study the trainee is able to present the entire plan of salvation.

A vital part of the on-the-job evangelistic training is "Koinonia Kontact." During this period victories and defeats are shared. The entire group discusses how they can become more effective in witnessing for the Master.

Each Thursday evening session is divided into four distinct periods. From 5:30 to 6, a snack time is furnished by the carried on, from 7 to 9, on-the-job Each Thursday's activity includes on- training, and from 9 o'clock on,

"Koinonia Kontact." During the approximately five months that the evangelistic training is carried on, Dr. Bennett meets with the faculty or evangelists three or four times in which individual evaluation is made of each trainee. Bennett is also available for individual conferences as needed.

Dr. Bennett evaluates the program by saying "Across the years I have studied many evangelistic methods. This program is by far the most effective of any that I have ever studied or used. It involves the people, challenges them to follow the leadership of the Holy Spirit and gives them practical experience which they can use in winning others to the Master." First Church, Ft. Smith, will be beginning its next on-the-job training class Sept. 4.

Youth Music Reading Clinics

Elmdale Church, Springdale Tuesday, Aug. 26 Don Wright, director

Two sessions 3:30-5 p.m. and 6:30-8 p.m.

Baptist Building Chapel Little Rock Thursday, Aug. 28 Gerald Armstrong, director

These two reading clinics are being sponsored jointly by the Church Music Department and the Music Department at Nashville, and will deal mainly with youth music materials.

The afternoon and evening sessions will not be a repetition, but will cover new material all the

Directors are urged to attend both sessions, and those close by the locations are invited to bring several of their youth to read with us in the evening session.

Page 7

Varied learning experiences offered girls at camp

From all parts of Arkansas came more than 415 girls to GA Camp, at Paron, for a week of meaningful and fun experiences. Missions, Bible study, recreation, crafts, quiet time, swimming, camper's follies, cabin devotions, along with a missions fair, campfire-candlelight service and water olympics, were all a part of each week's camping program.

Theme for this summer was "My Father's World", with morning worship brought by the missionaries based on phrases from the theme song, "This is My Father's World". Each evening following flag lowering, the whole camp observed quiet time—time alone with God—using a devotional guide also based on the words of the theme song.

Missionaries from Taiwan, Kenya, Malaysia, and Paraguay brought the "mission field" to camp as they shared about their work and the country in which they serve. GA's heard music of Paraguay played on a harp, saw native dresses, cooking utensils, jewelry, slides

countries.

Each week, girls gave to the camp mission offering to be used to help meet specific needs as presented by the missionaries. A total of \$761.38 was given this summer.

and other interesting things from these

A staff of 19 dedicated young people helped to make the summer camping program successful as they willingly gave of their time, talents and energies to see that each girl had an enjoyable and meaningful week.

G.A. campers observed quiet time each day as a time for personal devotions, Bible reading, and prayer.





A "missionary kid" plays for campers music from the country where she has grown up.









Photos that might fill a GA's album on camp: (Above, left) singing games in the dining hall line; (above) afternoons highlighted by cooling off in the pool; and (left) Bible study in God's out-of-doors.



by R. Wilbur Herring
We must be about our Father's
business. Surely the Lord Jesus Christ
was. (Luke 2:49) Surely the Church of the
Lord Jesus Christ will be? (Acts 1:1) And
surely if we are a part of that body we
will be. Will be what? We will be busy
about "the thing" of God the Father. The
Father's business or main thing is that of
the redemption of man.

We cannot be busy about a thousand

other things and neglect the business of God our Father. Even if these other things are good things it will not be sufficient. Granted, we do have gifts differing one from another. But there is one thing that every believer can do and is expected to do and that is simply "to tell" others of the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Too long we have hidden behind all kind of phony excuses as to why some preachers, some deacons and some Sunday School teachers have never led a soul to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. Too many times someone will say, "I am a scholar and I am not expected to do the work of an evangelist." The other extreme is that some layman will say, "I can paint and build buildings, but don't expect me to talk to anyone about salvation or about Jesus."

Where do some get such distorted ideas about the work and business of God? God has one plan and that is the redemption and salvation of man through Jesus Christ. If teaching helps in that plan, then good, but that does not excuse the teacher from personally

telling others about the saving grace of Jesus Christ. If building buildings and digging ditches to drain the church yard helps in the eternal plan of God, then good, but that does not excuse the ditch digger from telling others the good news.

Most of us have just enough gray matter called brains to rationalize ourselves right out of doing the work of God. If one doesn't want to do a thing it doesn't take much "smarts" manufacture some excuse for not doing it. But I tell you one thing, Beloved, and that is that if you have had an honest-togoodness experience with the Lord Jesus Christ you wouldn't be the least bit inclined not to want to tell others about this wonderful Savior. If you have a vital relationship with Jesus and He is real to you, you couldn't be silenced by man or any powers of darkness in telling others about the saving grace of Jesus.

As you go, tell others about the Good News of Jesus Christ. The world is dying to hear it. Some will tell and some won't. May God have mercy upon those of you who won't!

Your state convention at work

Brotherhood officer training scheduled

No organization can function properly without trained leadership. Those in leadership must be trained in the purpose, methods, and procedure of the organization. This is true in secular or religious organizations.

Secular organizations and business always train their leadership and workers to do the job expected of them

The greatest business in the world is the Lord's business. The greatest organization in the world is a New Testament Church, Should a church, Christ's organization for sharing the gospel, do less?

Personally, I think not. When we do, the Cause of Christ suffers, the individual given a responsibility suffers, and the organization suffers, and all because the necessary training was not provided to equip the person for the job.

a successful Brotherhood organization and missionary education program for men and boys in any church adequate training must be provided for the leadership

19-20, a State-wide On Sept. Leadership Training Clinic will be conducted at Camp Paron.

A qualified staff of instructors will be provided to train all Brotherhood officers. Included in the instructions will be the following: Brotherhood director; Baptist Men's president, vice-president and secretary; mission study leader; activities leader; mission Ambassador leader and committeemen; Crusader counselor and Pioneer counselor. Pastor and minister of education should also be involved in the training sessions.

regarding Information registration, and time for the meeting has been mailed to all churches. Ask your Brotherhood director, Baptist Men's president, Royal Ambassador leader or pastor for information regarding cost and making reservations. - C.H. Seaton, Director, Brotherhood Department

Sunday School

Report those good Vacation Bible Schools



Vernon Bible related activities

Churches over the state are reporting some good Vacation Bible Schools. A thrilling thing about churches more boys and girls were reached

A stewardship of maturity

My wife had become deeply involved in working with an organization that ministers to troubled youth. Her enthusiasm had rubbed off on other members of the family, and all of us found ourselves sharing her interest and concern and helping in various ways.

Others from our church had also become involved. Several ladies cooperated together in teaching a class weekly in their homes. The church itself had contributed equipment and had assisted in other ways

The sponsoring organization was nondenominational and was supported by churches and individuals from many denominations. However, the youth themselves had been exposed largely to a denomination other than Baptist

One day the group of girls with whom my wife was working, along with their Cooperative Program Department

leaders, expressed spontaneously their feeling about Baptists. They said, "We have noticed that Baptists seem to be more stable and more consistent in helping us than any other group. Your faithfulness in working with us has been a real encouragement to us."

Southern Baptists have no monopoly on the gospel, but we have, through the years, developed a stability and maturity that gives us a special opportunity and demands a special kind of stewardship.

When we are consistent and faithful in our missionary commitments, both in giving and in serving, it serves as an inspiration to others and encourages greater spiritual maturity in those to whom we minister. Faithfulness is the proof of mature stewardship. -Roy F. Secretary, Stewardship-Lewis,

Two offers to prisoners: friendship and Jesus



Miss Hays

My original assignment was to assist a prison chaplain in his programs and ministry in the prison. But when I arrived, there was no chaplain or programs or ministry. Also, there has been a turnover in the administration at the prison so there is much re-organization going on right now

A two-week orientation has been very helpful. I've had a chance to get a look at what the prison is really like and how it is run. I have been placed as a temporary intern with one of the counsellors.

Right now I am in an office, which is very helpful. I have a place where I can talk with inmates privately. I'm excited that I'm coming in this capacity, because I am not an authority or a disciplinarian over anyone. I am just a young college

student with no training, with nothing they can get out of me, and with no authority. I have two things to offer: Jesus and friendship.

My pianist, who has been in prison a little while, talked with me after our service a couple of weeks ago. She gave her life to Christ, and without any pressure from her parents. She had had church, Jesus, and playing the piano forced down her throat all of her life. She told me she knew I cared but I wasn't forcing anything on her. This was very affirming to me because sometimes I didn't feel like I had been bold enough in my witnessing.

I have had a good two weeks. It began by a BSU share team doing a program at the prison. They were so good. The Sunday night services have been going great and more women come every week. I'm having an arts and craft class and 60 women have signed up. Donations are unreal! We are having prayer meeting on Wednesday nights. The women came to me and asked if we could have this!

I am keeping busy! Continue your prayers.

Sincerely, lo Hays

(Jo Helen Hays, a student at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, is one of 34 summer missionaries sent out by Arkansas BSU. She is working at Georgia's Rehabilitation Center for Women in Milledgeville, Ga.)

We would like to have at least 1000 them is that many churches reporting a Vacation Bible indicate School but so far only 461 have reported. they did not have a If your church has conducted a local VBS school last year. This or mission school I would like to have tells me that many that report as soon as possible.

Here is a way to make a report even if for you do not have one of the printed Bible study and forms. List your association, church name, number enrolled in the school, the Harold Vernon, VBS Consultant

average attendance, cost of the school, and the director. If you do not have all that information, just a card saving you had a school would enter your church on our record form. Send reports to the Sunday School Department at P.O. Box 550, Little Rock, Ark. 72203

Help us reach 1000 schools by reporting the ones in your association. -

Foundation board holds quarterly meeting

A spirit of cautious optimism prevailed as the Arkansas Baptist Foundation board viewed the national economy during their regular quarterly meeting, July 24.

The investment committee reported appreciated profits of \$15,198 on investments and recommended that these profits be taken. Each institutional account will be increased by the prorated share of these profits.

The board enthusiastically accepted a recommendation that David Posey be awarded the scholarship money from the Medical Mission Scholarship Fund. This scholarship is provided by the income

from a gift made several years ago in which the donor specified that the recipient be a person preparing for medical missions.

The board also heard a report that a gift of \$7,500 had been received through the Convention from the Arthur G. Newman estate. The will instructed the establishment of a trust for "the benefit of underprivileged black youth to attend a Christian camp." The recommendation that the Arthur G. and Della M. Newman Memorial Trust be established was unanimously accepted.

A report from Harry D. Trulove,

executive director, noted that the assets managed by the Foundation had increased from \$786,345 on June 30, 1974, to \$1,274,243 as of June 30, 1975. A part of this increase was the transfer of \$400,000 from a Convention agency to the Foundation for the purpose of managing the funds. The transfer was made under a detailed agreement worked out by both parties. The transfer was completed on Feb. 28, 1975. Since that time, the corpus has appreciated to \$406,229 while providing \$15,401 in investment income. Trulove pointed out that this was due to the close watch that is made on investments and the wise counsel of knowledgeable men. The investment committee meets regularly by way of conference calls.

Trulove also reported that personal conferences had been held with 15 individuals during the quarter of April to July. Also, two churches had sponsored Christian Family Financial Planning Conferences with an average attendance

of 34.

The Foundation has also provided leadership conferences for the development officers of two of our institutions. More of these conferences

are planned for the future.

The board also approved the 1976 budget for the Foundation. It was presented by the budget committee composed of Herbert McAdams, Jesse Porter, and Jack Clack, chairman. Since the Foundation does not charge for its services or deduct management fees, the total operating budget is made possible through the Cooperative Program. The 1976 budget will be funded, 83 percent from current Cooperative Program gifts and 17 percent from Cooperative Program gifts made in prior years.

The budget will be studied again by the finance committee of the Executive Board, the full Executive Board and finally by the Convention in annual session. "Our board is proud to be a part of the Arkansas Baptist family. We sincerely appreciate the confidence expressed in us by the increased use of our services," said Bill Goodrich,

president of the board. Fourteen of the 15 members were present for the meeting. They were, lack Clack, Charles Fager, W.M. Freeze, W.R. Goodrich, Charles Gordon, Herb McAdams, Bruce McNeill, Dillard Miller, Will Pruett, Jesse Porter, Pete Raines, Arlen Waldrup, Bill Walker and Richard Wells. Also attending were Charles Ashcraft, executive secretary of the Convention; Ben Elrod, vice-president of Ouachita Baptist University; Tom Logue, state director of the Baptist Student Union; and Harry Trulove, and Jane Winstead, secretary-bookkeeper for the Foundation. The next meeting of the board is scheduled in Ft. Smith on Nov. 20, 1975. It will immediately follow the closing session of the 1975 annual meeting of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

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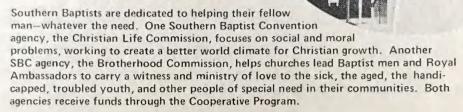
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The Christian Life Commission

The Christian Life Commission's main task is to help Baptists apply Christianity to everyday living. The Commission helps Baptists "create, with God's leadership and by His grace, the kind of moral and social climate in which the Southern Baptist witness for Christ will be most effective."

Specific areas of the Commission's ministry include family life, human relations, moral issues, economic life, daily work, world peace, and related fields.

The Commission's literature service with more than 70 pamphlets, booklets, and research papers available, is a valuable tool for awakening and nourishing Christian conscience.

Other activities include:

- Specialized conferences, aimed at various moral issues;
- Advisory and consultative services pertaining to Christian social concerns;
- Editorials, articles, features, press releases, etc., distributed to Baptist newspapers.

The Brotherhood Commission

The Brotherhood Commission helps churches to meet the mission-involvement needs of Baptist men and Royal Ambassadors. Men and boys are led to a deeper commitment to missions, a more meaningful prayer life for missions, a larger stewardship on behalf of missions, and a personal involvement in missions.

During 1974-75, thousands of churches were encouraged to conduct projects in which men and boys performed Christian service through church-wide activities, lay ministries, and mission action as church families.

Through family mission action, men and boys meet needs of the sick, the aging, the poor, the handicapped, troubled youth, vacationers, and others

The Brotherhood Commission also provided 460,000 Baptist men and Royal Ambassadors month-by-month reports of Southern Baptists' progress in world missions through six publications and arranged for 200,000 Southern Baptists in 1,000 churches to participate in lay renewal experiences.

Both agencies, the Christian Life Commission and the Brotherhood Commission, strive to be of service to mankind. Donations from you and your church through the Cooperative Program make that service possible. You provide the MEANS to another Baptist WAY of reaching out to needy people



Ninth in a series of ads on the Cooperative Program.

International Lesson

Growth in our relationships

Romans 12:9-21



Myers

The Christian is a part of the society in which he lives. Through his relationships to others he can make great contributions to the betterment of that society. His Christian life and influence add a distinctive spiritual flavor to the social

order. Think what it would mean to live in a community where there were no Christians.

The governing principle which controls our relationships is love; the practical expression of our relationships is through service. Second only to the command that we love God is the command that we love our neighbor. We show our love when we serve our fellow man in the name of Christ.

Indeed, the purpose of the Christian life is to serve. We are called to serve, not to be served. Unselfish service in our relationships not only reveals our spiritual condition, it also contributes to our spiritual growth. Here is a means of spiritual growth available to every Christian.

In the twelfth chapter of Romans, Paul discusses the variety of talents to be found among Christians. He lists a number of these, and encourages us to use our particular talent in the service of God. Then, in verses 9-21, the Apostle gives some practical suggestions to be followed by each one of us, whatever our ability. Paul's admonitions have to do with our relationships and, if followed, will help us to become more Christlike.

Cultivate Christian virtues (12:9-13)

Christians grow by cultivating Christian virtues. The very first quality in Christian life is love. Life cannot be truly Christian without this basic virtue. It is the motivating factor in our service to others. Pure and genuine love will cause us to hate evil and cling to that which is good. In our Christian relationships, we are to love one another with a warm, brotherly affection. This will lead us to put another's interests before our own and let him have first place. We will see to it that every member of the body of Christ is honored and respected. Verse 13 indicates that our love for the brethren will be shown by a generous sharing with those in need and by the practice of hospitality.

Our one absorbing aim in life should be to serve our Lord. We must not allow

The Christian is a our zeal to lose its vigor. The spiritual part of the society in light is to burn brighter and brighter with which he lives. Each passing day. With ardent through his enthusiasm, we are to be diligent in our relationships to others he can make room for lethargy in the Christian life.

The very nature of Christianity makes the Christian an optimist. We view our world not with despair, but with radiant confidence. We know that the future is in God's hands, and the hope of life in his presence brings joy to our hearts. The tribulations of this world are borne with patience, for we know God will provide sufficient strength to overcome them.

Display Christian attitudes (12:14-16)

Christians grow by displaying Christian attitudes. Our attitudes reveal the inner quality of our lives. Proper attitudes demonstrate to others the reality of our Christian faith. They are a reflection of the Christ who indwells our lives. When his attitudes become our attitudes, others see our growth and feel the impact of our witness.

A great opportunity for witnessing is open to us when we are persecuted. Instead of cursing these antagonists, we are to bless them. When our Lord was abused and insulted, he refused to return evil for evil and committed himself to the care of God. His great heart would not allow room for retaliation; he prayed for those who persecuted him. We can do no less.

A Christlike attitude is shown by our willingness and eagerness to share the feelings of others. Their joys are our joys; their sorrows are our sorrows. We want the best for others and rejoice with them in their happy experiences. In times of sorrow, our hearts are touched with sympathetic concern and grief. By sharing the deep feelings of others, we manifest the true compassion of Christ our Lord.

Our attitudes are to be consistent. They must apply to all men, regardless of their station in life. Every person should be regarded equally. We must never be so haughty that we cannot associate with ordinary people. An unwarranted conceit can hamper our witness among the very people who really need help and encouragement. Remember, God's attitude is the same toward all men; he does not show partiality.

Perform Christian actions (12:17-21)

Christians grow by performing Christian actions. What we do as Christians is the best evidence of our stature in Christ. The overt actions of our daily lives must be in harmony with the

Aug. 17, 1975

inner attitudes of our hearts. Verse 17 says, "Provide things honest in the sight of all men." In other words, we must take care that our actions are honorable and reflect our Christian commitment.

We are to overcome evil with good. Evil must never be met with more evil. Evil begets evil and will conquer us when we use it in retaliation. The only way to overcome evil is with good. Love conquers hate; truth masters falsehood; right overcomes wrong; faith subdues doubt; goodness defeats evil. Therefore, at all times and in every way we are to do good to others, even to those who would do evil to us. This is the way that leads to inner peace and peace with our fellow man.

We are not to seek revenge against another. The very thought of vengeance should never enter our minds. Even when wronged, we have no right to take the law into our own hands. Vengeance belongs to God, not to us. He will right our wrongs if we let him. Moreover, vengeance is futile; there is no way to even the score with those who harm us. We only hurt ourselves when we seek the way of vengeance, Give way to God and he will punish those who need punishment. Admittedly, this is not easy, but it is right, and it will work.

Instead of thoughts of vengeance, we are to be concerned about the needs of our enemy. If he is hungry, provide him with food; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. That is, rise above any hostility toward him and minister to his needs. Such acts of kindness may soften the heart of an enemy and lead him on to repentance. We will then have a friend, not an enemy.

The aim of every Christian is maturity in Christ. To reach that goal requires concerted effort. Much more is involved in this endeavor, but these are certainly included: the cultivation of Christian virtues, the manifestation of Christian attitudes, and the performance of Christian actions.

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Life and Work Lesson

'Groping for meaning'

Ecclesiastes 1:16 to 2:18



Rowell

The author of the book of Ecclesiastes was Solomon. The Hebrew meaning for Ecclesiastes is preacher or teacher. Solomon was a tremendously powerful king known mainly for his wisdom and his riches. A key word in this book is vanity.

The Hebrew for this word is Heh '-bel, which means emptiness or something unsatisfactory. Ecclesiastes 1:2: "Vanity of vanities, saith the Preacher, vanity of vanities; all is vanity."

Solomon was like a person who is hungry for something and they are not really sure what it is. But one thing for sure, up until this time he had not found what would truly satisfy. Solomon's life was empty, and he realized it was not things that would satisfy his hunger. I am impressed that Solomon was not happy. The word vanity is used 37 times. People today know a great deal of this feeling. Many are trying to find happiness in the things of this world, and we know by reading God's word that it is not found in that way. In this lesson and also next week's lesson we will be searching for life's meaning.

Trying wisdom (Eccles. 1:16-18)

In these verses we see for ourselves that Solomon's wisdom alone cannot satisfy. We are living in a time when man prides himself in what he knows. For instance, after we have found out about Watergate, we are now finding out about the CIA. We're beginning to see more what the war in Vietnam meant. Let me ask you. Does that really satisfy, or do we still have an empty feeling down inside?

I believe the more wisdom we receive the more God expects the whole of life to improve. Herein could lie part of man's problem about wisdom.

Wisdom alone is folly. It will take much more if we are to find life's meaning. Verse 18 says "For in much wisdom is much grief."

As we find out one answer, we must find out another. Many times in wedding ceremonies I talk about the meaning of the rings, saying something like "the circle of the ring has neither beginning or end." So it is with wisdom.

Trying pleasure (Eccles. 2:1-3)

Wisdom failed to satisfy Solomon, so he now decides to try pleasure. It seems as you read these verses that Solomon is saying "I'm going to find happiness if it kills me!" He found that mirth, or party after party, would not take care of the longing in his heart. Many people in our day have found this to be true in their search for the meaning of life. Money was no problem to Solomon, so he could buy all the parties he wanted.

Verse 2 says that he even tried laughter. Surely this would help. But it did not. A thought like this might have inspired the popular song of a few years ago that had these lyrics--"Laughing on the outside, crying on the inside."

In verse 3 we find him turning to wine. I believe that Solomon put restraint on his drinking, and that he was not a drunkard. He probably was what we call today a "social drinker." All else had failed for him, so he turned to find happiness at the bottom of a bottle.

People of our generation have turned to the bottle to find out its dangers and to find that it deceives and lies to them. They really mean to control it, but find out that it controls them.

Years ago I read of a man who had a pet baby tiger. But the baby tiger grew into a huge animal one day. Something happened one day, and the huge tiger turned on its master and killed him.

Solomon found no happiness at the end of this road. Wine too had failed him

Trying wealth (Eccles. 2:4-5, 8-11)

Solomon could almost be heard making a statement that I heard at one time. A man said, "Money cannot buy happiness. But it can buy you a Cadillac to go look for it."

In the beginning of his reign, Solomon built the great temple. Now he seems to be building for himself. In the city and in the country he built many things.

Solomon also turned to gardening. He laid out vast waterways to provide for the irrigation of his gardens and orchards.

He brought in women singers and men singers to provide music for his own delight. In Verse 11 he says again, "All was vanity."

His walk down the primrose path had not satisfied. Life still had no true meaning to this man, whom as far as the world was concerned had everything. Or did he?

Death for sure (Eccles. 2:16)

Solomon now begins to agonize over death that was sure to come. In this 16th verse he is thinking that all that he has done will soon be forgotten. He was right. All that is not done for our Lord will soon be forgotten. A wise man and a fool truly may die and soon be forgotten. "And how dieth the wise man? As the

Aug. 17, 1975

fool."

Conclusion

This part of the book of Ecclesiastes would almost make you want to give up on life right now. Many people are already quitters. It starts with a child starting on a project and quitting half way through—a teenager quitting school because of grades or teachers or parents—the adult quitting a job or work for the Lord. We have the foolish idea that we can simply say "I quit" and everything is all over. But just because we say it, does not make it so.

Solomon tried many things for happiness—wisdom, pleasure, wealth, and all failed him. But please don't stop reading the book of Ecclesiastes here. There is more. Even though all that Solomon tried was vanity to him, he progressed in his life by learning from what happened to him.

This is the only hope that we have today, that we learn and grow in grace as we are confronted with life's problems. Only in Jesus as Saviour and Lord of our lives is there completeness. Jesus satisfies all our needs.

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27

3

5

5

A smile or two

The head of a corporation, a rather obstinate man, called his executives on the carpet one day

"Look," he fumed, "you fellows have got to get on the ball. If we have any bottlenecks around here, I want you to tell me where they are. Is that clear?"

After the meeting one executive turned to another and said, "One thing I've noticed about bottles: the necks are always at the top."-The Rotarian.

A school had installed electric hand dryers in the library rest rooms.

Soon the librarian called the president and said, "You'd better come over here. There's something I think you should see."

The president complied. The librarian took him to the men's room. There over the electric dryer, someone had posted a

Push The Button and Hear A Message From Our Beloved President."-Harry Philpott, president of Auburn University.

A barber had one patron with rapidly thinning hair who was absolutely adamant about how it should be cut; he was so critical, in fact, that the barber hated to see him enter the shop.

One day, after an especially annoying session, the man ordered, "Part it in the

"I can't," said the barber.

"Why not?" the irate customer demanded

'Because," shrugged the barber, "you have an odd number of hairs."

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The bookshelf

Ouachita Cooks! Compiled Greater Little Rock Ouachita Club.

There's a new cookbook out. It will probably appeal to those interested in Ouachita Baptist University, especially since the sale of the book will benefit the school. Even the president of the institution has donated a recipe: perhaps the most original guide ever to the gourmet's peanut butter sandwich.

But all the rest of the recipes are serious and represe

familiar to OBU alumni. The 200 pages are divided into 12 sections. One of these is "Nostalgia" which contains recipes from a cookbook published 50 years ago by the club.

The book is dedicated to Mrs. I.R. Grant, widow of the former president of Ouachita, and her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Daniel Grant, wife of the current president. Recipes by the two women are

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Baptist heritage

In the early days of our country, Baptists suffered at the hands of certain religious groups. Their worship services were not recognized as legal. But they contended for religious freedom. They were vitally concerned about the results of the American Revolution, Many of them were active in politics. They wanted freedom of worship for others as well as themselves

After the Revolutionary War ended and the Constitution ratified, Baptists sought an amendment to the Constitution guaranteeing religious liberty to all groups. The General Committee of the United Baptists of Virginia met at Richmond, Aug. 8, 1789. John Leland, a respected preacher interested in political action, was present. He is said to have drafted the letter from that body addressed to President Washington appealing to him to use his influence in behalf of such an amendment. Leland died at age 87 having given 67 years to vindicate religious rights to all men.

And that's what Baptists were doing

186 years ago.

lesse L. Boyd, A History of Baptist in America Prior to 1845, American Press, New York, N.Y., pp. 126-7

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Arkansans are volunteer workers

Seven Arkansans are serving this summer in volunteer missions posts through the SBC Home Mission Board

Six of these are serving with the Christian Service Corps and one serves s

a Summer Sojourner

The CSC involves lay people through the Department of Special Missions Ministries. They work for periods from two to 10 weeks wherever needs are greatest. This may be in camp leadership, in VBS, doing secretarial work, or construction and renovation.

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Goodson of McGehee were scheduled for two weeks of construction work in Delta, Colo., working with Pastor Rex Newkirk of

Calvary Church

Seminary, formerly of Magnolia, was to work with the Michigan State Convention at an unspecified time. Mr. and Mrs. Staton Posey of Lincoln

Robert Hartsell, of Southern Baptist

planned to work probably two weeks in

Pierre, S.D.

Miss Elizabeth Taylor of Harrison was to do survey work in Miami during July. All have previous summer service.

Miss Taylor has worked eight previous summers

Cathy Pittman, 16 of Russellville, is serving 10 weeks as a Summer Sojourner, doing church extension work in New Mexico. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L.P. Pittman, and is a member of Baker's Creek Church.

Hot Springs to be site of youth ministry meet

NASHVILLE--Hot Springs will be the site of the 1975 central conference on youth ministry held Oct. 13-16 according to Howard B. Foshee, secretary, church administration department, Southern

Baptist Sunday School Board The conference is one of 14 "Regional Conferences on Youth Ministry," conducted throughout the SBC this year. The regional conferences are planned exclusively for church coordinators of youth ministry. Bob R. Taylor, youth coordinator ministries in that department, is leader of the conferences.

"The coordinator has many differnt titles," explains Taylor. "In many cases, this person will be the minister of youth, youth director, minister of education, associate pastor, or pastor, especially if he is the only staff member.

"The coordinator may be a professional staff member or volunteer worker, either full-time or part-time. He or she may coordinate all or part of the

youth ministry."

The conference will begin with a banquet on Monday night and conclude at noon on Thursday. The conference offers 22 hours of study sessions. In order to enjoy the location, leisure time will be provided.

The Arlington Hotel, located in Hot Springs National Park, is headquarters for the conference.

Due to limited space, spouses will not be enrolled in the conference sessions.

Topics of the three-day conference are Bible study and application of Bible truths to youth ministry; youth minister's role in a ministry of affirmation; how to motivate volunteer leaders; concept and practice of a total, balanced youth ministry; helping youth and workers discover gifts; working out interpersonal relationships; and youth minister as educator, coordinator, administrator and

The conferences are sponsored by the church administration, Sunday School, church recreation, church music and church training departments of the board; and the Brotherhood Commission and Woman's Missionary Union.

For registration, persons should send a \$25 deposit, name, church and address to Bob R. Taylor, 127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn., 37234, telephone number (615) 254-5461. If cancellation is made on Friday before the conference, the deposit will be refunded

News Briefs

□An area revival is to be held at Greers Ferry, Sept. 15-22. It is to be sponsored by the Post Oak Church, Westside Church, Pleasant Ridge, Brownsville Church, and Lone Star Church. The evangelist is to be Shelby Bittle and the song leader is to be Herbert "Red" Johnson.

□First Church, Henderson, licensed to the ministry Ray Taffar of Gepp, July 13. Taffar plans to enroll at Southern College, Walnut Ridge, this fall.

□Rose Bud Church has purchased 100

of the New Baptist hymnals.

□A total of 557 were enrolled in the main encampment of Baptist Vista, North of Ozark, July 14-18. George Domerese, pastor of Concord Church was director. There were 49 professions of faith, 26 surrendered to special service, and 81 made professions of faith.

Greene County Association recently held a day camp for GAs. One hundred girls and staffers participated in Bible study and handcrafts and heard missionary speakers.