

Ouachita Baptist University

Scholarly Commons @ Ouachita

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1980-1984

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

3-18-1982

March 18, 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](#)

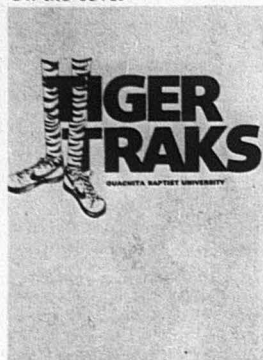
MAR. 18 1982



OUACHITA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

March 18, 1982

Arkansas Baptist
NEWSMAGAZINE



The Ouachita Student Foundation at Ouachita Baptist University will host its eighth annual Tiger Traks April 16-17. The weekend's events are scheduled to include trike races, bike races, celebrity tennis match, superstar competition and superteam competition involving youth groups from churches around the state. This year's concert will feature Farrell and Farrell, a contemporary Christian group. The annual event was begun in 1975 for the purpose of raising funds to provide scholarships for OBU juniors and seniors.

In this issue

5

When an increase in second- and third-class mailing costs went into effect Jan. 10, state newspapers, including the Arkansas Baptist, immediately felt the pinch. The long term effects, however, will likely hit much closer to home for the average church member. The ABN begins a two-part series on the postal situation in this issue.

14-15

Is a great spiritual awakening coming in America? Is it already here? The experts don't agree. Baptist Press' Walker L. Knight looks back 10 years on the Jesus Movement and examines its effect on Christianity today.



Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention

R. Keith Parks, President • Box 6597 • 3806 Monument Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23230 • (804) 353-0151

An open letter to Southern Baptists

Through the years we have depended upon the Baptist state papers as the primary means of informing Southern Baptists about their mission work around the world.

You depend upon your state paper to update you on Baptist work in your own state and on the way your Cooperative Program dollars are being used throughout the Southern Baptist Convention and overseas.

Now your Baptist paper is facing a severe financial crisis. The government on January 10 eliminated all subsidy for such nonprofit mailers. This meant that postage rates overnight doubled, or in some cases almost tripled.

The Baptist papers are being forced to raise their subscription rates, and that's why I'm writing you today. One way of increasing an awareness of missions and enhancing the cooperative spirit that marks Southern Baptist life is to support your state paper during this crisis.

How do you do this? By urging your church to continue its budget subscription for all members. Or if you subscribe individually, by renewing your subscription even though the rates increase.

Despite the higher cost, your state Baptist paper still represents one of the best bargains anywhere. It's one of the best ways to keep informed about how God is working through Southern Baptists in your state and throughout the world.

R. Keith Parks
President

Pastor's Bible conference set at Ouachita

ARKADELPHIA — The fifth annual statewide Pastor's Bible Conference will be held at Ouachita Baptist University April 26-28, according to Gene Petty, assistant professor of religion at Ouachita and director of the conference.

The purpose of the conference is to create a place and atmosphere of worship, fellowship, study and recreation for pastors, church staff members and other interested in Arkansas and to allow an opportunity for these people to become acquainted with the Southern Baptist Convention's January 1983 Bible Study on the book of I Peter.

The conference preacher will be Dr. Frank Pollard, pastor of the First Baptist Church of San Antonio, Texas. Pollard is

the speaker for the Southern Baptist Convention's "The Baptist Hour" radio program. He is an executive board member of the Texas Baptist State Convention and is the author of several books.

Professor of New Testament at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Dr. J. W. MacGorman, will be the conference teacher. He has been a speaker at a previous OBU Bible conference.

The three-day conference will include four sessions of Bible study and worship, as well as three afternoons of recreation.

For more information, persons should contact Gene Petty, OBU Box 638, Arkadelphia, Ark. 71923 or call (501) 246-4531, Ext. 517 or (501) 246-8848.

Vocational training center dedicated

MORONG, Philippines — A new Baptist vocational training center was dedicated recently at the two-year-old Philippine Refugee Processing Center at Morong, Bataan, Philippines. Major General Gaudencio Tobias, refugee center commander, praised Southern Baptists for their leadership in vocational training at the center, which

houses 17,000 Southeast Asian refugees. Southern Baptist missionaries and volunteers teach English, construction and repair techniques, carpentry, electricity, plumbing, automotive repair and refrigeration. They also teach Bible classes and lead worship services. Volunteer Al Ingram of New Mexico directs the Baptist program.



A well-written church covenant can be one of the finest methods available for acquainting church members with their responsibility to the Lord. Most Baptist churches accept the traditional church covenant. Available from the Baptist Book Store, its content, style and subject matter is excellent. However, when a church studies and writes its own covenant, it will become more important to the members.

A church covenant is a series of pledges which the church members voluntarily make to God and to each other. These vows are based on principles drawn from the Bible and are intended to guide church members in their day-by-day conduct or the practice of the church faith. A church covenant has an entirely different focus from a confession of faith. A confession of faith strives to set forth doctrinal beliefs, but a church covenant focuses on conduct.

Proper doctrine and proper conduct are both essential to a New Testament church. In recent years much has been said about the purity of doctrine among Southern Baptists. It is essential that we remain true to the word of God. But all too often we have failed to encourage proper conduct. Christ taught that there was a vital relationship between an individual's doctrine and his conduct. Jesus said that we were to love God with all of our heart and our neighbor as ourselves. (Mark 12:28-31).

There are many reasons why a Baptist church should have a church covenant. First, the covenant has a biblical base. Both the Old and New Testament covenants have played an important role between God and his people. A covenant relationship was established between God and Abraham (Gen. 12:1-3). It was repeated to Abraham, Jacob and others.

In the New Testament, covenant pledges find expression in the Lord's Supper, in baptism and in various other subjects. For example, Christ covenanted with his apostles that he would not drink of the fruit of the vine until the day he drank it new in his Father's kingdom (Matt. 26:27-29).

Church covenants have played an important role in the history of Baptists. Both 17th century English Baptists

and early American Baptists used covenants extensively. There were at least four characteristics of church covenants before 1830. These characteristics were: (1) churches tended to write their own covenants; (2) churches designed individual covenants to meet the specific needs of a particular congregation; (3) churches used covenants in multiple settings such as baptismal services, the Lord's Supper and constituting of new churches; and (4) covenants were closely related to church discipline.

The church covenant, when properly used, will have many positive and beneficial effects on a congregation. It will point up the necessity of every church member having a personal relationship with Christ. It will encourage high ethical and moral conduct among the membership.

There are a number of advantages in a church writing its own covenant. First, the study and writing of a church covenant can create and intensify an interest in the covenant. All too often, a uniform church covenant becomes a document to be placed on the wall and never read or studied by anyone. Or, it becomes a document which is read with little or no thought on special occasions.

The second advantage in a church writing its own covenant is that it recognizes the church's autonomy. Every church member needs to know that no outside person or organization exercises authority over that congregation. It also provides opportunity for the membership to deal with the individual needs of the local church.

Another value in a church writing its own covenant is that it provides opportunity for moral and spiritual renewal. When a congregation begins to study the moral and social implications of the gospel, it will have an impact on the lives of the members. Perhaps the most critical need among Baptist churches today is to recognize the ethical demands of New Testament Christianity.

Whether a church writes its own church covenant or simply adopts a uniform one, it is important for the members to study and adopt the ethical pledges set forth in those church covenants. We, as Baptists, will have more impact on the world in which we live when we recognize, understand and practice the high ethical and moral demands set forth by Jesus Christ.

Arkansas Baptist

NEWSMAGAZINE

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

VOLUME 81

NUMBER 11

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

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

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

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

Copies by mail 50 cents each.

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

Advertising rates on request.

Opinions expressed in signed articles are those of the writer.

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), \$6.40 per year (Every Resident Family Plan), \$6.00 per year (Club Plan) and \$12.50 per year (no 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



One layman's opinion

Daniel R. Grant/President, CBU

Can we really do it?

Southern Baptists have taken a lot of ribbing and even serious criticism for their "sloganeering." Ever since "A Million More in '54" I have heard both friendly and unfriendly criticism of our tendency to put our faith in catchy slogans, goals, and artistic logos. I suppose I am especially sensitive to such criticisms because I have endorsed my share of them for Ouachita Baptist University, such as "Commitment to Educational Excellence and Christian Excellence."

Probably the most imaginative and challenging slogan of all time for Southern Baptists has been "Bold Mission Thrust," with the goal of taking the Christian gospel message to every person in the world by the year 2000. Marvin Reynolds, who served as missionary to Africa for 10 years, recently told the Arkansas Directors of Association Missions about a conversation he had with a woman who was questioning whether we really can reach the entire world with the gospel by the year 2000. He told her "we certainly can!" and then proceeded to tell her why he believes that. He explained that

during his 10 years of missionary service in Africa, he was in some very remote parts of the world, but said, "I have never been to a place where I couldn't find two things: (1) Coca-Cola, and (2) Singer sewing machines."

He recalled seeing a woman walking along a dusty trail in an area very isolated from civilization, balancing a heavy load on her head. He was amazed to discover that the load on her head was a portable Singer sewing machine.

It seems that salesmen, operating with the incentive of the profit motive, have taken their product literally to the uttermost parts of the world. Christians, with what should be a far more powerful incentive, should have even less difficulty in taking the gospel to every living person in every part of the world.

And why not? And now abideth the sharing of Coca-Cola, Singer sewing machines, and the Christian gospel, but the greatest of these is sharing the Christian gospel.

Daniel R. Grant is president at Ouachita Baptist University.

Letter to the editor

Something more

In reference to "Tongues Valid Gift" and comments about it: I'm perplexed that many Southern Baptists believe they received everything the Lord had for them when they were saved as to the empowering of the Holy Spirit. Have they not read Paul's letter to the Ephesian (5:18-19) about how to be filled with the Holy Spirit? You believe first and then receive just like salvation. You can call it the second touch, baptism of the Holy Spirit, or the infilling of the Holy Spirit. You can get off to yourself whether it be in the woods or in a room and just begin praising the Lord (not praying) in songs, psalms, or words until your infilling comes and it will. When you use up all these phrases, you are going to begin praising him in words of another language and it will be praise words whether it be Chinese, Hebrew, or what have you. How can you know it's from God? Read Luke 11:13. After this experience the Bible will come alive to you as never before.

Praise is a sure way to come into God's court or presence. This is why the tribe of Judah (Praise) was stationed at the east gate of the Tabernacle in the desert. God comes in the east gate through praise. Jesus entered the east gate of Jerusalem on a donkey through praise of little children, a preview of things to come.

Read how they filled the temple after it was built. Jesus the ark was already in the temple but the presence and power of God was not. The singing priests begin to sing the praises of God at the east end of the altar (II Chron. 6:12-14). The cloud (Holy Spirit) the power of God came and filled the temple where even the priests couldn't stand. Wouldn't you like your tabernacle to be filled that way? Believe it, ask God for it, and begin to praise him. It's part of your inheritance as a son or daughter of God. Praise God. — James O. Young, Warren, Ark.



Woman's viewpoint

Frances Carroll

What kind of woman should I be?

While preparing a Sunday School lesson recently on the ideal wife, as seen in Proverbs 31, I paused a few moments to reflect. How should I present this lesson to my class? What does God have for me to share in this lesson? I sat at the kitchen table staring at my husband, who sat on the other side, preparing his lesson. In my mind I thought and half prayed, "God, just what is it that you want me to be? The answer was immediate and I picked up my pen and wrote:

My child, I would have you be a woman who keeps her eyes steadily upon me. One who sees not with eyesight alone but from the soul within.

A woman with a gentle sense of humor and a twinkle in the eye. A woman with a spirit that is gentle, that feels, touches and cares very deeply.

A woman who is tender in love, free to

give, and gracious to forgive. A woman not loud, or proud, but possessing a humble spirit in the Lord.

A woman who touches the hearts of her children with the example of the Christ like life. A wife who gives love, provides encouragement and is of strength, to the one I have given her as a husband.

A woman who prays and quietly listens to the voice that speaks within. A person whom, as she struggles in her own life, seeks to fill the needs of others.

A woman who is still a child. A child who seeks to have her Father take her hand, and guide her each day. A woman, a wife, a mother, and my child, is what you should be.

Mrs. Carroll of Russellville is a member of First Church, where she teaches a women's class, is director of children's worship and is intercessory prayer chairman.

Malaysia seminary meets fund raising goal

PENANG, Malaysia — The Baptist Theological Seminary in Penang, Malaysia, reached the building fund goal the same morning groundbreaking services were held for a new building. The goal was to raise \$50,000 by the end of 1981 in order to begin expanding faculty housing at the seminary. The housing project is the first phase of an expansion project that will more than double the capacity of the seminary by 1985. The Malaysia Baptist Convention agreed to raise 25 percent of the funds for the first phase of the project. The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board provided the remaining 75 percent from the 1980 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

Postage hike making waves across SBC

by Bob Allen

The initial shock of a surprise increase in non-profit postage approved by Congress effective Jan. 10 has subsided, but like ripples after a big splash, the effects are beginning to reach out to every corner of the Southern Baptist Convention. And though the waters may be rougher for some than for others, it appears that everyone's boat will rock at least a little.

Congress responded to a demand from President Reagan in mid-December to cut domestic spending by \$4 billion. Included in the cut was \$82 million from a postal subsidy which provides preferential rates for non-profit mailers.

The subsidy system was set up in 1970, when the post office was given a quasi-independent agency status by Congress with the aim of making it self-supporting. A phase-out plan allowed second class profit mailers 10 years and non-profit mailers 16 years to gradually pick up the full burden of mailing costs. The recent cut in the subsidy had the effect on non-profit mailers of skipping from step 10 of the phase-out to step 13, leaving many publications with a surprise increase of 100 percent or more in projected mailing costs for 1982.

Hardest hit by the postal increase were publications, including the 32 state Baptist newspapers. Editors across the convention responded in editorials from the perspective of everything from lauding the act as putting into practice the separation of church and state to decrying Congressmen as liars for not standing by the original phase-out plan.

Postage for distributing the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine multiplied twelve-fold in the 10 years preceding 1981. It cost \$7,423.29 to mail the magazine in 1971. The cost rose steadily through the '70s to a \$94,970.12 total in 1981. Under the recently-approved second class non-profit rates, projected postage costs for the ABN in 1982 are \$195,000.

Congress is scheduled to reconsider the postal question this month. Some editors are attempting to make their voices heard in Washington in hopes of either getting part of the subsidy reinstated or at least getting a commitment that the rest of the subsidy will not be dissolved until their publications have time to recover.

Some state papers are financed totally by Cooperative Program funds and will have to survive the year on a fixed budget. Some have been forced to cut back on the frequency of publication and on complimentary mailouts.

Others will try to absorb the increase without doing anything. Still others, like the ABN, are getting by by passing the added costs on to their readers.

The Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine has been authorized by its board of directors to increase or decrease subscription costs to cover fluctuations in production and distribution costs. Subscription costs are set at a break-even rate with production and mailing costs.

The Jan. 10 postal hike found its way into subscribers' pockets as increases of 32 to 40 percent in the yearly cost of the ABN. Individual subscriptions went from \$4.82 per year to \$6.36, an increase of \$1.54 or 32 percent. The club plan subscription rate, for churches buying 10 or more Newsmagazines, rose from \$4.44 to \$6, or 35 percent. And the "every resident family" rate, which is available to churches buying subscriptions for at least one-fourth of their Sunday School enrollment, rose from \$3.84 a year to \$5.40, an increase of 40 percent.

The subscription price increase came at a bad time for many churches. Some were already beset with concerns such as building programs with high interest rates and rising utility costs. Others got news of the ABN increase, and the increase in their own

mailing costs, after their 1982 budgets were approved.

As a result, circulation for the ABN has been on a steady slide since the first of the year. At the mailing of the March 11 issue, 67,635 subscribers received a Newsmagazine, 2,367 less than the 70,002 circulation recorded at the mailing of the Jan. 7 issue. In the nine weeks since the new subscription rates went into effect, the ABN has lost 3.38 percent of its subscribers.

ABN circulation manager Ann Taylor says it is not unusual for a number of churches to drop the Newsmagazine at the first of the year with the intention of picking it up later if offerings match projected budget needs. A total 988 subscribers were dropped from ABN mailing lists in January 1982. Only 668 canceled during January a year ago and only 254 during January 1980. January 1979, however, saw 790 subscribers wave the ABN goodbye and 1,295 dropped in January 1978.

Next week: The effect of higher postage costs on churches and on the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.



Losing ground

by Millie Gill/ABN staff writer

Douglas Kent Beasley joined the staff of Haven Heights Church in Fort Smith on Feb. 21. He is serving as minister of music and activities, coming there from First Southern Church in Central, Ark. He is a graduate of the University of Central Arkansas.



Beasley

Ron Goza

is pastor of the Heber Springs Post Oak Church. He and his family moved to Silver Ridge from the Camden area.

Peggy Sue Caudle Vining

has been chosen Arkansas Mother of the Year and will represent the state in May at the National Conference of American Mothers in Salt Lake City. She is a member of the Little Rock Lakeshore Drive Church where she serves as a Sunday School teacher. Mrs. Vining is a kindergarten teacher and student teacher supervisor at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock Children's Center and belongs to several writers' groups. She

and her husband, Don, have five children and five grandchildren.

Keith Byrd

is pastor of the Whiteville Church at Gasville. He moved there from Bigflat Mission, a mission of Mountain Home First Church.

William L. Probasco

celebrated his tenth anniversary as pastor of Conway First Church March 7.

Rev. and Mrs. Chester S. Maynard

celebrated their 50th anniversary with a reception at the Little Rock Brookwood Church March 14. Maynard, a retired Southern Baptist minister, was pastor of the Brookwood Church for 23 years. He has served the past seven years as interim pastor of the Little Rock Northpoint Church. He has also served churches at Bald Knob, Greenway and Leonard. Mrs. Maynard is a teacher. They have the one daughter and two grandchildren.

David W. Talbert

began serving Feb. 7 as pastor of the Lawson Church. He came there from the Chi-

dester Church. Talbert is a graduate of both Ouachita Baptist University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Dale Kinder

is serving as pastor of the Pollard New Hope Church, coming there from a pastorate in north Missouri. He has served other churches in both Arkansas and Missouri.

Mike Routon

is pastor of the Pocahontas Pine Grove Church. He has been serving as associate pastor of the Paragould Calvary Church. He and his wife, Pat, have two children.

Mike McReynolds

has resigned from the staff of the Leslie Church to return to his home in Sikeston, Mo. He was serving there as music/youth director.

Carl Buch

is serving as director of missions for Caddo River Association. He and his wife, Alice, moved there from the Jonesboro area where he had retired as director of missions for Mount Zion Association.

Arkansas staffer takes Maryland WMU post

Willene Pierce, Baptist Women/Young Women Director for Arkansas WMU since December, 1975, has been elected executive director for Maryland Woman's Missionary Union.

The action was taken by the State Mission Board (executive board) of the Maryland Baptist Convention March 1. Pierce will be on the job May 1.

She is a native of Belle Plaine, Kansas, and a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Pierce also has served as minister of youth education for Little Rock's First Church. Before that she was youth director at Virginia Avenue Church in Bartlesville, Okla., and an elementary school teacher in Oklahoma.

From October, 1979, to October, 1980, she was a Mission Service Corps volunteer, working with the Choctaw Indians in Oklahoma.

Pierce will be working in Baltimore, Anne Armstrong's hometown, which is the birthplace of Woman's Missionary Union of the Southern Baptist Convention. The long-established state convention is steeped in WMU history, Pierce said.



Arkansans attend handbell workshop

NASHVILLE — Being first to preview methods and music books direct from the printer's presses was one of the exciting benefits of the participants in the Handbell Workshop held recently at The Church Program Training Center. Shirley and Phil Hardin, First Church of Paragould, confer with conference director Gerald Armstrong (left) about ways to use new books such as "Musical Excellence in Handbells" by Donald Allured (Broadman) in their church.



Sardis church burns note

Bill Hughes (second from left) sets fire to a \$36,000 note held by James Moon while Herman Miller (far left) and pastor Andy Kerr look on at a noteburning ceremony at Pleasant Hill Church in Sardis Feb. 28. The three-year note went toward financing a \$78,000 expansion and remodeling of the sanctuary and educational building. James Simmons was chairman of the building committee and Robert Ferguson of the "Together We Build" fundraising program.

North Little Rock Remount Church

held a ground breaking service Sunday, March 14. Remount Church has served the community for over 27 years. In the last six years there has been substantial growth at the church and there is now a need to build

a 4,600 sq. ft. building which will include worship space, educational classrooms, and a new pastor's study. The new building will be built on land adjacent to the present building at a cost of \$150,000. Timothy McMinn is pastor.

'And some . . . evangelists'

North Little Rock team organizes

Gene Stacks and Bob Etters have organized the Gene Stacks Evangelistic Ministries.

Stacks, with 15 years of pastoral experience in Southern Baptist churches, is evangelist for the organization. He is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University and Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Helen, are parents of three children. They have one grandson.

Etters, born in Galveston, Texas, is music director. He is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University and has directed church music programs from New Hampshire to California, as well as in Guam. He led these programs while serving in the U.S. Air Force. He and his wife, Susan, have two sons.

The two may be contacted by writing to 622 New Castle, North Little Rock, Ark. 72216, or by calling (501) 834-3665.

Captain Lovell, pastor of the Harrisburg First Church, said of the team, "I can recommend them because of the outstanding revival they recently led in my church. Under their capable leadership we had a very good spirit, high Sunday School and worship attendances, excellent music program and experienced 21 dedications.



Stacks



Etters

Fayetteville University Church

choir "The New Creations" is touring Arkansas and Louisiana March 12-18. The 70-voice choir is singing in churches and at the Children's Colony in Conway, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and the Men's Rescue Mission in New Orleans. F. Tanner Riley is director.

Benton County Association

has voted to begin an ethnic ministry to meet the needs of more than 2,000 Orientals in that area. Randy Cash, director of language missions for the Missions Department of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, is coordinating efforts with Director of Missions Bedford Jackson.

Camden Hillside Church

has reorganized a more effective and functional visitation program for all church members. Plans are also being made for a Deacon Family Ministry program and a tape ministry according to Pastor Greg Kirksey.

Cabot Mt. Carmel Church

will be sponsoring a prayer seminar March 27, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Loree Kiel of Minneapolis, Minn., will be leader of the four-session. Lunch will be provided and child care will be available for those pre-registering.

Grady First Church

served as host for a Deacon Enrichment Workshop Feb. 19-20. Deacons from three churches in Harmony Association attended sessions on the "how to" of organizing a deacon ministry. Bob Holley, director of the Church Training Department of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, led sessions on the biblical basis for deacon ministry and how to implement such a program.

Little Rock Second Church

will have a dedication recital March 21 for its rebuilt organ. David Buice, a native of Little Rock will present the 3 p.m. recital. Buice is head of the Key Board Department at Brewton-Parker College in Mt. Vernon, Ga. He is also a keyboard consultant for the Georgia Baptist Convention. Mrs. Pete Cooper is organist for the Little Rock church.

News about missionaries

Mr. and Mrs. William G. Ferguson, missionary associates to Brazil, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 410 West 13th St., Amarillo, Texas 79101). A native of Arkansas, he was born in Little Rock, and grew up in Pine Bluff. The former Betty Sullivan, she was born in Chicago, Ill., and lived in Brazil, where her parents were Southern Baptist missionaries. They were employed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1978.

by Bob Allen

The resignation of Christian Civic Foundation executive director Edward W. Harris was accepted, a slate of new officers was approved and plaques of recognition were presented to two members at the CCF's 23rd annual meeting of the board of directors in Little Rock March 8.

In addition, a report was read on legislation involving alcohol, gambling and pornography dealt with in 1981 by the 73rd General Assembly and four resolutions outlining the organization's stance on public issues were approved.

The Christian Civic Foundation is a statewide organization of ministers and laypersons from various Christian denominations concerned about moral issues. They are involved in both educational programs and lobbying efforts.

The directors accepted the resignation of Harris, effective the end of 1982. Harris is in his 10th year as executive director of the organization.

A new executive committee named at the meeting includes as officers Erwin L. McDonald of Little Rock, president; Earl Hughes of Ashdown, John Thompson of Little Rock, Roland M. Shelton of Little Rock, Mrs. Roy E. Snider of Camden and Don Hook of Little Rock.

Thirteen members-at-large and four ex-officio members were approved for the executive committee and a list of 286 names was approved as the group's board of directors.

Plaques were presented to Cary Heard, pastor of Park Hill Church in North Little Rock who served as president of the group last year, and to 93-year-old Clyde Coulter for a lifetime of service in the cause of temperance.

Bob Parker, director of the Christian Life Council of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, presented resolutions commending local television stations for airing programs dealing with drugs and young people, urging government officials to crack down on drunk driving and to initiate legislation against racketeering, and recognizing Central Baptist Hospital's Recover program for providing leadership in combating drug abuse. All were approved as statements of policy of the CCF.

W. McFerrin Stowe, retired bishop of the United Methodist Church, addressed the group, saying that America has returned to "altars of paganism" and that only at "the altar of Christ" can the nation find peace, hope or happiness.

Filipine Baptist honored

BANSALAN, Philippines — Warlito Lakiquhon, assistant director of the Mindanao Baptist Rural Life Center, Bansalan, Philippines, has been named one of the seven most outstanding young Filipino men of



The board of directors of the Christian Civic Foundation of Arkansas, Inc. approved nominations for six members of the organization's executive committee. Pictured are (from left) Raymond Hillis, chairman of the nominating committee; Erwin L. McDonald, president; Edward W. Harris, executive director; Mrs. Roy E. Snider, secretary; John Thompson, third vice president, and Roland M. Shelton, second vice president. Not pictured are Earl Hughes, first vice president and Don Hook, treasurer.



Cary Heard, pastor of North Little Rock Park Hill Church, and his wife Mary Lou accept a plaque of recognition for service from Earl Carter at the annual meeting of the Christian Civic Foundation board of directors. The plaque recognized Heard's contribution to the CCF during his term as president of the non-denominational social concern group.

1981. Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos presented the award for the National Jaycee Organization. Lakiquhon, who also is lay pastor of a Baptist church near the Rural Life Center, writes for several news-

papers and farm journals and edits the quarterly Baptist Farm Journal. As assistant director, he supervises the curriculum and teaches at the Rural Life Center. He is married and has three children.

MIDDLETOWN, KY. (BP) — Southern Baptists' biennial preoccupation with electing a new convention president is about to begin. It comes as the result of a clause in the convention's constitution which states "the term of office for the president is limited to two years."

Bailey Smith, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church, Del City, Okla., reaches that constitutional limit at the SBC meeting, June 15-17, in New Orleans, La.

History may tell us something about the person to be elected in New Orleans even now, however.

Forty-two men, no women, have been elected president of the Southern Baptist Convention since the convention was organized in 1845.

By states, Texas leads with eight presidents, followed by Tennessee, seven; Georgia, five; Kentucky, Louisiana, Oklahoma and South Carolina, three each. One of

those elected from South Carolina a century ago moved from that state and was re-elected as a Kentuckian.

The last three decades have seen 17 individuals elected from seven states. Five were Tennesseans, four Texans, three Oklahomans, two North Carolinians, and there was one each from Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi.

All served the constitutional limit of two years with the exceptions of K. Owen White of Texas and James L. Sullivan and Adrian P. Rogers of Tennessee, who chose to limit their presidencies to one year.

Of the 17 elected since 1952, 14 were pastors of large metropolitan churches. Two were laymen — Brooks Hays of Arkansas, elected in 1957, and Owen Cooper of Mississippi, elected in 1972. One, James L. Sullivan, was a retired denominational agency executive.

The convention has met in 14 states during the last three decades. On seven occasions it met in Missouri; six in Texas; five in Florida; two in California; and one each in Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, New Jersey, Oregon, Pennsylvania and Virginia.

The convention last met in New Orleans in 1969, when W. A. Criswell of Texas was re-elected to a second term as president.

Of the last 17 presidents, only Criswell — elected in 1968 when the convention met in Houston, and Jaroy Weber — a Texan elected when the convention met in Dallas in 1974, lived in the state in which the convention was meeting at the time of election.

What, if anything, does recent history suggest about those most likely to be elected president of the Southern Baptist Convention? A look at the last 30 years reveals the following factors:

1. The president has always been a man.
2. A Tennessean or a Texan is most likely to be elected. (Jimmy Allen was the last Texan to serve, from 1977-79, and Adrian Rogers the last Tennessean, in 1979-80).
3. Whoever is elected president in New Orleans, unless he prefers otherwise, will almost assuredly be re-elected by the convention meeting in Pittsburgh in 1983.
4. The pastor of a large metropolitan church has an overwhelming chance of being elected president — this year, and every year. Conversely, a layman or denominational worker has only a very small chance.
5. The odds are at least fair that a person elected president of the Southern Baptist Convention will be serving a pastorate from which one or more of his predecessors was also elected president.
6. If tradition holds true, a candidate from a state where Southern Baptist work is strongest, other than Louisiana, will be elected convention president in 1982.

Guest editorial

Get those drunks off the road

by Ronald D. Sisk

A campaign is now in high gear to get drunk drivers off the roads. The push for stiffer punishment is gaining momentum across the country. Southern Baptists can help.

Each year drinking drivers in the United States are responsible for 26,000 deaths, 750,000 injuries and \$5 billion in economic losses.

In response to this national disgrace, multitudes are indignant and determined to do something about it. Efforts are under way at several levels to enact stricter laws and encourage enforcement. On every level there are specific things which you can do to help.

Groups such as MADD, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, are forming in several states to lobby for tough new laws. If there is such a group in your area, join them and support this effort.

Nineteen states are already writing new legislation or putting new laws into effect. Fines are being increased, minimum jail sentences made mandatory and license restrictions imposed even on first offenders. You can make sure your state does this, too.

Write or call your state legislators. Find out if there is such a bill in your state. If not, encourage your state representative or state senator to introduce one.

At the federal level, the House is considering a bill to set a uniform national standard of punishment for drunk driving. The bill would define legal intoxication as a blood alcohol level of .10 percent.

Under the bill, H.R. 2488, a first-offense conviction would mandate 10 days of community service, restriction of driving privileges, and participation in an alcohol treatment program.

Fifty congressmen sponsored that bill. If yours did, write him a letter of support. If he didn't, find out why. And let him know that you will be looking for action without delay.

Perhaps most significant in the long run, recent news reports indicate that President Reagan is about to appoint a Presidential Commission to develop a master plan for dealing with the whole problem of drinking drivers.

You can help by staying informed, by watching for the Commission's report, and by keeping pressure on responsible officials to see that action is taken.

The Christian Life Commission is eager to assist you in any way possible as we join together in this important task. Write us at 460 James Robertson Parkway, Nashville, TN 37219.

Finally, pray without ceasing. The destruction wrought in American life every day by drunk drivers is an appalling evil. It will require the power of the Lord to bring it to an end.

There is no more crucial issue for the day-to-day health and safety of our families than eliminating the legal neglect and lax enforcement which have characterized this nation's recent posture toward the drunk and drinking driver.

Southern Baptists have traditionally supported abstinence from alcoholic beverages as the best possible solution to alcohol-related problems. We still do.

It is also time we required those who choose to drink to behave responsibly toward the rest of us. And that means it's time you and I joined together to get those drunks off the road!

Ronald D. Sisk is director of program development for the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission and is responsible for alcohol education and action for the Commission. He is a former Arkansas resident.

Your state convention at work

Sunday School

WEE Workshop scheduled for July 29-30

Plans are underway for the annual Weekday Early Education Workshop scheduled for July 29-30 at Markham Street Church, Little Rock. The workshop is sponsored by the Missions and Sunday School departments.

Conferences will be planned for directors and teachers of WEE ministries — kindergarten, day care, nursery school, and mother's day out.

The Church Administration department of the Baptist Sunday School Board offers help to churches involved in WEE programs in two ways.

Resources are written and produced through the Church Ad-



Ratton

ministration department. One of the newest pieces is the WEE LEARN Curriculum Guide for Five Year Olds. The guide for four-year-olds, and weekly take-home pieces for four- and five-year-olds will be available through the Baptist Book Store soon. A leaflet describing these and other resources is available upon request. Write to: Pat Ratton, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock 72203.

Seminars are also provided by the Church Administration department at the Church Program Training Center in Nashville. An Advanced Weekday Early Education Seminar is scheduled for April 14-16. Information and reservations may be obtained by writing the Church Program Training Center, P.O. Box 24001, Nashville, Tenn. 37203.

Help is available for the staff of a WEE program and for churches interested in starting WEE programs. — Pat Ratton, preschool consultant

Evangelism

Participation during the revival

Preparation has been made. The prayers have been prayed. The publicity has been displayed. The hour has arrived. Revival time is here. It is time for spectators to come down on the playing field and become participants. We are on God's team. We are laborers together with God.

We believe that God has conceived in his heart and mind a great revival meeting. It is now time for him to give the revival birth and life in the hearts and minds of his people.

It is our deep desire to experience revival as they did on Mount Carmel. Elijah, the man of God, moved to God in prayer. It was a simple prayer. "Lord God of Abraham, Isaac



Shell

and Israel, let it be known this day that thou art God." It is our desire that our people in the 20th century will know that God is God.

God then moved to the people in power. The Bible says "The fire of God fell and consumed the burning sacrifice, and the altar, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water in the trench." It is our desire to experience again the dynamic power of God upon our churches.

The people then fell on their faces, moving to God in praise and repentance. They cried out, "The Lord, he is the God. The Lord, he is the God." When they stood in their own strength, they would not commit themselves. They have now been touched of God and there is a drastic change in their attitude. Our prayer is, "O God, do it again." — Clarence Shell Jr., director

Church Training

MasterLife Workshop

Reservations are being received almost daily for the MasterLife Workshop the week of May 17-21. The workshop, the first to be conducted in Arkansas, will be held on the campus of Ouachita Baptist University beginning with a banquet on Monday at 6 p.m.

The MasterLife Workshop is designed primarily to equip pastors to lead a MasterLife group in their own churches. MasterLife is a 26 week in-depth discipleship course for adults. A MasterLife group is composed of eight to 10 persons, preferably couples, who will commit themselves to meeting two hours each week for the 26 week course.

Church staff members are also invited to attend the MasterLife Workshop in May if the pastor attends or has already attended a MasterLife Workshop. Wives of pastors and staff members are also invited to attend.

Limited accommodations are available on campus. Reservations for the MasterLife Workshop and for lodging should be sent to the Church Training Department, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, Arkansas, 72203. — Robert Holley, director



Holley



115 attend directors' retreat

The Annual Volunteer/Part-Time Music Director's Retreat at Camp Paron continues to grow. This year 115 directors, pastors, and accompanists attended the Friday-Saturday event which provides opportunities for leadership development and Bible study. A second retreat is being planned this year for Aug. 20-21 at Southern Baptist College in Walnut Ridge.

Your state convention at work

Christian Life Council

An ugly truth

Pass this on to "play boy" and "play girl" acquaintances. Even believers and practitioners of permissive philosophy should take serious heed.

Genital herpes is one form of sexually transmitted disease (new name for V.D.) for which there is no known cure. According to materials recently obtained from the Pulaski County Health Department, it is estimated there are 5 million new cases each year. This is an equal opportunity, non-discriminatory disease. One's race, education, wealth, degree of sophistication or social standing cannot prevent it. Here is another grim reminder of the truth that whatsoever one sows that shall he also reap.

Some of the saddest words in all literature are found in Jere-

miah. These may not refer directly to the above problem, but it does make one wonder. "For thus says the Lord, your wound is incurable and your injury is serious; there is no one to plead your cause, no help for your sore, no recovery for you" (Jer. 30:12-13).

Incurable V.D. is just another price paid by a society which laugs at so called "puritanical" values and promotes immoral permissiveness. Much of this promotion is accomplished greedily by magazine, movie and television moguls. More than anyone else, they will be held accountable by God for infected and innocent newborn babes who die or have neurological damage. — **Bob Parker, director**

Family & Child Care

Memorials used of the Lord

Memorials are scriptural. They are used of the Lord to keep important events before his people. When the Israelites crossed the Jordan River into Canaan the priests took stones from the dry river bed to erect a memorial of the event for all generations to come (Joshua 4:7). The death of Jesus is memorialized in the Lord's Supper.

Memorials keep pleasant memories fresh. They link the past and the present. They are influential reminders that someone has lived an influential life.

A growing number of people are making contributions in memory of deceased loved ones and friends. Many contribute to

the memorial fund of Arkansas Baptist Family and Child Care Services. The gift not only perpetuates the memory of a person but also provides for children with personal needs.

In addition to memorial gifts, many are making contributions in honor of some person. It may be a parent, child, pastor, Sunday school teacher, neighbor or someone else.

The important point is that godly influences are kept alive as challenges to the living.

If you are interested in making a memorial or "In Honor" gift send it to Arkansas Baptist Family and Child Care Services, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, Ark. 72203. — **Homer W. Shirley Jr., director of development**

UBC
HOUSING

Christian Residences for U of A Students

- Owned and operated by University Baptist Church, Fayetteville, AR
- Located two blocks from U of A Campus — Next to UBC Facilities
- Space for 44 men (housed in UBC Hall — formerly Sigma Chi Fraternity House)
- Space for 25 women (in 5 UBC-owned houses)
- Approved for freshman occupancy by U of A Housing (by petition)
- More than a residence, a UBC Collegiate Discipleship Ministry
- Complete Meal Service (17 meals per week)

Reservations now being received
for Fall, 1982

Send today for information — No
obligation. Write:

Staff Director of Housing
UBC Housing
505 West Maple Street
Fayetteville, AR 72701

Telephone (501) 442-3536

UBC Hall



International Power over matter and mind

by Lawson Hatfield, Arkansas Baptist State Sunday School director

Basic passage: Mark 4:35 - 5:20

Focal passage: Mark 5:1-15

Central truth: Jesus has power to help in all areas of life, including emergencies.

1. Jesus has power over matter (4:35-41). The force of a storm at sea is awesome. Cyclonic winds, sheets of rain and high waves often destroy those who go down to the sea in ships. Jesus said, "be muzzled" and brought calm out of chaos. Jesus, God's agent in creation, miraculously exerted power over matter (Col. 1:15-16). For us, a miracle, for him, control.

2. Jesus has power over evil spirits (5:1-10). A wild demonic met Jesus. This tomb dweller was strong like Samson and insane like Saul. Everyone feared him. But the demonic fell at Jesus' feet. The voice of demons screamed through him, "What do you want with me, don't punish us." The use of "me" and "us" is evidence of demon possession, a shattered personality. Jesus who spoke to calm a wild sea now calls out the demons to calm a wild soul.

3. Strange is the fear of sanity (5:14-15). Some people register an illogical response when helpful forces emerge in a community. People who knew this man were frightened by his sanity and Jesus his healer. A TV documentary "Why Your Kid Is On Drugs" was recently aired. Also shown was the response of kids who saw it. They erroneously applauded a strange conclusion. The conclusion was: since both alcohol and marijuana are destructive, habit forming drugs and since alcohol is legal; therefore marijuana should be made legal. Isn't there only one logical, sane, and constructive conclusion? Both alcohol and marijuana are destructive and habit forming drugs; therefore both should be legally controlled. Are we too, afraid of sanity?

4. Go tell us our commission (5:16). Love points the way. The ex-demonic was instructed to share the good news.

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.

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

Life and Work What about speaking in tongues?

by Earl R. Humble, Southern Baptist College, Walnut Ridge

Basic passage: I Corinthians 14:1-9

Focal passage: I Corinthians 14:1-5; 16-19

Central truth: The scriptures teach that tongues-speaking is a legitimate gift of the Spirit.

1. What is the gift of tongues? At Pentecost the tongues seem to have been languages. In Acts 2:6 and 2:8 the word *dialekton* is used, normally translated language. Yet in 2:4 and 2:11 the word *glossai* is used, normally translated tongues. Whatever else was true at Pentecost, there were known languages spoken by the apostles, under the power of the Spirit.

2. Who received this gift? The apostles at Pentecost, the Gentile believers at Caesarea, and the disciples of John the Baptist were the only ones said specifically to have made use of this gift in Acts.

At Corinth evidently a good number were practicing this gift, so many, in fact, that problems and disorders arose. We certainly cannot say that all believers had this gift. Paul makes it clear that there is a divine selectivity in the Spirit's distribution of the gifts, including tongues. All believers did not receive tongues, but all believers did receive the Spirit (Rom. 8:9).

3. What was the purpose of this gift? In I Corinthians 14:2 it appears as a means of prayer. In verse 4 it is said to edify the one who speaks in a tongue. Yet when there is proper interpretation the church is edified through tongues (I Cor. 14:5).

Tongues do not have the highest place among the gifts. They, along with interpretation, are always named last in the lists. They have more restrictions placed upon them than any other gift, because they can be so readily abused. All of the gifts can be counterfeited, but tongues seem especially vulnerable, since they appear in Buddhism, Hinduism, Spiritism, Mormonism, and Islam.

4. Are tongues still being given by the Spirit today? Some say yes, some say no, but some say that the sovereign Spirit does as he will, granting or withholding as seems best to him.

Since the Spirit gives gifts as he will, it is not appropriate for us to tell him what gift we should have. Our approach must be one of humility and trust as we seek to discover what gift he has given us. We should then use it for God's glory and the edification of the church.

The 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 on trial

by Vester Wolber, Ouachita Baptist University

Background passage: Matthew 26:57-27:31
Focal passages: Matthew 26:57, 63-66; 27:1-2, 11, 20-25

Central truth: Religious leaders in Jerusalem distorted justice in concluding that Jesus must die, then exploited the weakness of Pilate in securing from him the death penalty.

1. Modern courts, like the ancient Sanhedrin, sometimes pervert justice by manipulating technicalities; but for different reasons. Caiaphas and his council made use of technicalities to condemn a man whom they knew to be innocent, while modern judges sometimes employ technicalities in freeing a criminal whom they know to be guilty.

In both instances injustice results because officials have allowed their true priorities to be dislodged. The Jerusalem council set aside its commitment to protect the rights of the accused to receive justice, and modern court officials set aside their commitment to protect the rights of society to live in peace and security.

The ultimate appraisal of a court trial should be found in determining whether or not a just verdict has been reached, not whether all technicalities have been followed in the arrest, trial, and arrival at a verdict.

2. Weak persons who hold high office sometimes do about as much damage in the world as bad persons. Pilate was such a man. He had a marvelous sense of justice, was most adept in evaluating character, and when confronted with a crisis decision did not fail for lack of wisdom. Like some twentieth century men who by making wrong decisions cover themselves with shame, Pilate failed because courage was lacking and his will was weak.

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.

LEE CLEMENTS
home phone (501) 835-2054
DAVID CLEMENTS
home phone (501) 835-9265

**MARK
CORPORATION**

6160 Getty Drive
North Little Rock, Ark. 72117
Phone 501-835-8037

*Specialists
in Church
Construction*

Financing
available

Newspaper stirs renewed Baptist peace commitment

by Larry Chesser

WASHINGTON (BP) — In a nuclear age when peace is imperative, Southern Baptists are showing signs of a renewed commitment to peacemaking.

Through sermons from Baptist pulpits to editorials in Baptist publications to resolutions from Baptist meetings, growing numbers within America's largest Protestant denomination are declaring that peace is not only a requirement for survival but also a central part of their biblical heritage.

Another important indication of increased Baptist peace emphasis is the favorable response by Baptist throughout the world to the emergence of a quarterly news publication focusing on peacemaking.

The Baptist Peacemaker, begun a year ago as a ministry of Deer Park Baptist Church in Louisville, Ky., has received hundreds of letters with written and financial support. Operating only on contributions, the publication's mailing list jumped from just over 6,200 to 23,000 between the first and third issues.

Coordinating editors C. Carman Sharp and E. Glen Hinson are pleased but not surprised by the enthusiastic reception many Southern Baptists are giving the newspaper.

"The Baptist Peacemaker has spoken to the concerns, to the hopes and to the dreams of many people," said Sharp, pastor of Deer Park. "People are indicating that

they have been waiting for something like this."

"We're tapping into something that is a very deep concern," agreed Hinson, a church history professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, who indicated the concern is global.

The Baptist Peacemaker offers its readers sermons, prayers, worship outlines, articles and practical helps on peacemaking. The first four issues contained lead articles by Sen. Mark O. Hatfield, R-Ore.; Carolyn Weatherford, executive director of the SBC's Woman's Missionary Union; and former U.S. ambassador to Russia, George F. Keenan.

Sharp said the Louisville group hopes to expand its peace ministry in several ways, ranging from more frequent publication of the newspaper to local and state peace convocations around the country.

Hinson admits that targeting a sympathetic audience partially accounts for the positive response to the Baptist Peacemaker, but he contends there is a current revival of peace concern among Baptists which "is in line with what has happened in Baptist history."

"In times of danger, Southern Baptists have emphasized peacemaking as a good thing," he said. "But in time of war, we've joined the fray with a 'my country, right or wrong' approach. Then, after a war, we've

recovered some of the Christian perspective about establishing a stable peace."

Today, Hinson added, "We are doing more to implement peace than any generation of Baptists." He cited an activism seen in peace emphasis in local congregations and efforts to influence the peace process in the political arena as evidence Baptists are going beyond issuing statements.

Sharp predicted that as more Southern Baptists become informed on peace issues, more will become involved.

"We simply need to awaken people to what the Bible teaches about peace and awaken people to what would happen in an all-out atomic war," he said, adding it would be extremely difficult to support war-making from a biblical perspective.

The Baptist Peacemaker began as the idea of a Deer Park member, Robert Broome, who believed that Baptists needed a national peace newspaper. With some money left over from a 1979 peace convocation hosted by the church, Broome and others pushed that belief into reality. As letters poured in, it became evident that many other Baptists wanted that reality to grow.

As one Baptist — former U.S. Sen. Ralph W. Yarborough of Texas — put it in a letter to the editors: "Giant oaks from little acorns grow. This world, this nation, needs yours to grow fast."

Conferences to address citizenship issues

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Religious liberty and the crisis in public education will be the topics of Christian Life Conferences at Ridgecrest and Glorieta Baptist Conference Centers this July, according to W. David Lockard, director of organization for the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission.

James M. Dunn, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs in Washington, D.C., will lead the conference on religious liberty and separation of church and state July 3-9 at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center in North Carolina.

The conference entitled "For Freedom Set Free" will include discussions on personal morality, public schools, government intrusion, the Christian view of the world, and what it means to be the church.

Dunn will also discuss the biblical, theological, philosophical, historical, and ethical foundations and principles of freedom.

G. Willis Bennett, professor of church and community at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., will

lead the conference on "Southern Baptists and the Crisis in Public Education" July 24-30 at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center in New Mexico.

Bennett will explain why the public education crisis is a concern for Southern Baptists, and will also discuss the crisis as it relates to private schools.

"Bennett's presentation will have practical application for parents and students, and will be of special interest to educators," Lockard said.

"The conference will focus both on understanding the problem, and on solutions and citizen actions," he said.

Bennett will discuss how the public education crisis is related to educational philosophy, economics, and race. The conference will also include discussion on education and religious absolutes, case studies, and the curriculum in public schools.

The Christian Life Commission annually sponsors the week-long conferences for pastors and lay persons during Bible Preaching Week at the conference centers.

Retired missionaries send grateful thanks

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Eighty-nine letters from retired Southern Baptist missionaries expressed a grateful "thank you" for the upgraded retirement benefits the Foreign Mission Board voted for them in December.

Some of them even sent part of the money back as their personal contribution to missions. President R. Keith Parks reported at the Foreign Mission Board meeting Feb. 9.

One woman who worked 40 years in China enclosed a check for \$300 for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions though she already had contributed to the offering through her church, Parks said.

Another man wrote: "We need this money, but don't send it to me if you need it for new missionaries."

The December action increasing missionary pension benefits was possible because of increased overall giving by Southern Baptists, money saved by Congress action restoring the U.S. income tax exclusion for charitable workers overseas, and improved return from investment income.

Jury out on America's position in midst or start of awakening

Is the United States in the midst of a spiritual awakening? Unfortunately, it's not a "yes-or-no" question with a simple consensus, and the answers fell into four categories:

Yes. The spiritual awakening, which started with the Jesus Movement, will continue for at least 20 years.

Maybe. According to how you define "spiritual awakening," especially in sociological terms.

No. Figures point to a leveling off of spiritual growth, especially with most of the mainline denominations.

Not now, BUT . . . Signs point to a coming awakening; the times are ripe for the intervention of God in a significant way in the affairs of humankind.

One thing is certain, more Southern Baptists are talking about a spiritual awakening today than at any time in the past 50 years. More than 2,000 Southern Baptist churches have groups praying for a spiritual awakening, says Glenn Sheppard of the Home Mission Board evangelism section.

Sheppard defines spiritual awakening as "the divine intervention of God in human affairs which changes the course of history." He cites sweeping national revivals in Korea, India and Africa as indications God is moving.

Leighton Ford of the Billy Graham Association also cites growing world interest in Christianity. Ford reports the Christian population may be increasing by 60,000 a day, 1,600 new churches a week. However, he lists only isolated "revivals" in the United

States.

Revivals and awakenings are not identical occurrences. Revivals alter lives of individuals; awakenings alter the world view of a whole people or culture.

William G. McLoughlin, author of "Revivals, Awakenings, and Reform," points to four previous awakenings. The first, in England, was "the Puritan Awakening, 1610-1640; the next three, in America, were the First Great Awakening, 1730-1760; the Second Great Awakening, 1800-1830; and the Third Great Awakening, 1890-1920. McLoughlin thinks the Fourth Great Awakening started in the 1960s.

John Havlik of the Home Mission Board evangelism section believes four vital characteristics herald an era of awakening: — it is a time of social stress or change; — God's people have become complacent and cold; — many people have become dissatisfied with conditions as they are in society; and — thousands of people are praying for an awakening.

Statistics point the opposite direction from a spiritual awakening, especially among mainline denominations. Last reports show a continued decline in membership for most groups. Except for some of the smaller denominations, those which are growing fall below the national birth rate.

Not reflected in these statistics is growth

of non-denominational and parachurch groups. Church yearbook statistician Constance Jaquet of the National Council of Churches estimates "about five percent" of the nation's Christians, many the results of the Jesus Movement, have never been tabulated.

Evangelism professor Roy Fish says he predicted the events of the Jesus Movement, declaring in 1969 that spiritual awakening was coming. But he doesn't "see that evidence today. We're living in a much milder sociological ferment, and this affects our churches. God often moves very rapidly, so it could happen. I see a lot of hunger, and I know many, many people are praying for it."

Southern Baptist seminaries have their largest enrollments ever. Many point to this as evidence God is calling persons in preparation for a spiritual awakening.

FIBERGLASS
BAPTISTRIES / STEEPLES

LARGE SELECTION - FACTORY DIRECT

FOR FREE CATALOGS
CALL TOLL FREE
1-800-527-8438
OR WRITE



SUPERIOR FIBERGLASS, INC.
BOX 1308 JACKSONVILLE, TX 75766

Hawaiian vacation

eight days and seven nights

departing June 1, 1982

\$799 per person
double occupancy
Little Rock to Little Rock

For further information contact
Rev. David M. Hankins Jr.
51 Broadmoor Drive, Little Rock,
72204; Phone 501-585-4123

BUILDING . . .

BUILDING . . .

Church Pews & Pulpit
Furniture, Laminated
Arches, Decking
and

Fiberglass Specialties

Stocking Distributor

BAPTISTRIES
& BAPTISTRY
HEATERS



CENTRAL

Manufacturing Co.

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

PARK HILL BAPTIST CHURCH



35th Anniversary Celebration

All former members are
invited to attend.

Sunday, April 4, 1982

201 E. "C" NORTH LITTLE ROCK, AR



Summertime, and the vacationing is easy.

There's a lot to see and do in Eureka Springs, but the pace is unhurried. For a reason, it happens to be the way people have always done things here.

So come on up and visit the incredibly beautiful Ozark Mountains. See the Great Passion Play, staged in an outdoor amphitheatre, the historic downtown shopping district, the lovingly restored Victorian homes and shops. Take in the attractions of the surrounding area, from arts and crafts to country music and comedy. Follow in the tracks of tourists a century ago behind a vintage steam locomotive.

Eureka Springs is unique. For more information, write Chamber of Commerce, Room 201-A, Box 551, Eureka Springs, Arkansas 72632. Or call (501) 253-8737.

by Walker L. Knight

Missions professor Jack Gray of Southwestern seminary, who witnessed the impact of the Jesus Movement on campus, thinks "it may be as powerful today as it was then. I see the beginning of renewal here, and I think it is more forceful than in the days of the Jesus Movement."

The new seminarians, Gray adds, "brought their own quality of faith and commitment. They didn't receive it here. In the 1970s the crowd was angry and unsettled, and they knew they had need. It was almost like being born again. Those here today are products of healthy churches more than products of a disturbing past."

The Jesus Movement gave Gray "a hope for a profound sweeping spiritual awakening. I've had a taste. I know it can happen. That gives me lots of hope. God doesn't have to work in our structures, and he will blow them away if we insist that he does."

Church historian Glenn Hinson agrees that Americans are wrestling with a new world consciousness, and this struggle is part of a spiritual awakening. It's not clear yet what direction it will take. "My own hunch is," Hinson offers, "we will see a new way Americans perceive their world; they will be more concerned about the hungry, the underprivileged. They will try to do something about the exploitation of people in the Third World. They will express this concern in simpler lifestyles."

A limited number of Christians are reassessing their lifestyles; their emerging answer is a move toward greater simplicity. A growing core of Christians, including many Southern Baptists, see the necessity of living within perimeters set by the world's limited resources; their lives reflect efforts to achieve an ecological balance, a willingness to share their abundance with others. Hunger offerings from Southern Baptist churches exceeded a record \$6 million a year.

The challenge of voluntary reduction grows clearer and louder. As author Ron Sider says, "We're not called to simple life because poverty is good. We are com-

mitted to Jesus Christ and to being faithful participants in his mission to a lost, broken world. It is because two-and-a-half billion people have never heard the gospel and because one billion are malnourished, that Western Christians must drastically simplify their lifestyles."

Unless they — we — do, the next great awakening may occur in Third World countries, while American Christianity looks on in amazement, and in fear, of what God has wrought.

900 Korean airmen accept Christ

TAJEON, Korea — At least 900 members of the Republic of Korea air force made decisions for Christ in 1981 as a result of Baptist evangelistic efforts, according to Southern Baptist missionary Rolla Bradley. Bradley oversees four military evangelism centers operated by Korean Baptists, including the Eagle House, located on an air force training base in Taejon, where 424 men received Christ during the year. Taejon Baptist pastors baptized 124; air force chaplains baptized an additional 300.



ADD COMFORT AND
BEAUTY TO YOUR
CHURCH . . . with Pad-A-Pew



By-Line Mfg. & Uphol., Inc.
1527 McGiffens Lane
Jackson, OH 45640

FREE ESTIMATES
CALL TOLL FREE 800-848-4191
IN OHIO CALL COLLECT 614/384-2109

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



Specialists
in church
construction

6920 Dahlia Drive
Little Rock, Ark. 72209

Financing available
For information call:
H. W. Roper (501) 562-4582
Irby Watson (501) 847-8565



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

Winebarger

CHURCH FURNITURE
& STAINED GLASS
LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA

America's
Foremost Name
In Church
Furniture

Area Representative
RON DODD
1745 East Lakewood
Springfield, Mo. 65807
417/883-7943
Call Toll Free: 800-446-0945

WASHINGTON (BP) — Fueled by repeated publication in church newsletters, a new rumor is sweeping the nation that Congress is about to pass a "church regulation bill" which would impose racial and sexual quotas on churches.

Editors of state Baptist newspapers and other denominational executives have been besieged in recent weeks with inquiries from concerned pastors. But other ministers, unaware of the original source of the rumor, have published it without making inquiries about the accuracy of the information.

The rumor apparently was started by a right-wing organization, the National Christian Action Coalition; which reported in the February issue of its newsletter, Alert, that

emption status of churches unless they have a certain percentage of women and minorities such as blacks and hispanics in places of leadership, and may make a certain percentage of homosexuals, possibly in ordained positions, mandatory."

Bisagno went on to declare that "it will be a cold day in August when the federal government has the right to dictate to you that your pastor must be black or white, male or female, heterosexual or homosexual."

Further, Bisagno wrote, passage of the bill would give IRS the right to collect taxes from church members on their tax-deductible contributions, retroactive to 1970.

All the information used in Bisagno's column came from the Billings newsletter, Baptist Press learned.

Bisagno told Baptist Press the article was based on "verbal information" given to him by a church member "who is very involved in conservative politics," who apparently got the data from the NCAC newsletter.

The Houston pastor said the article was "based on incomplete information. I based everything on the verbal information that this was a bill against churches. I was wrong because it is aimed at church schools and not at churches."

He said he continues to be concerned because "recent history reveals that this sort of thing does open the door . . . to churches. My fear is that the tax-exempt status we hold in common with private schools will be threatened."

The bill in question, S. 2024 in the Senate and H.R. 5313 in the House, was drafted by Reagan administration officials and sent to Congress Jan. 18, 10 days after an announcement that the IRS would no longer enforce regulations denying tax exemption to private schools which practice race discrimination in their admissions policies.

The Jan. 8 announcement, made jointly by the Departments of Treasury and Justice, provoked massive protests within the civil rights community, protests that apparently took the President and top advisers by surprise. Reagan, declaring he is "unalterably opposed to racial discrimination in any form," then asked Congress to pass a bill specifically forbidding the granting of tax exemptions to such schools. This is the bill Billings dubbed the "church regulation bill."

On the legal front, the Jan. 8 announcement asked the U.S. Supreme Court to allow the government to withdraw from its cases against Bob Jones University and Goldsboro Christian Schools, cases which the high court had agreed last October to hear and decide.

But the Justice Department later reversed itself again, asking the high court Feb. 15 to hear the case after all.

In Congress, the latest legal move by the government in the Bob Jones and Golds-

boro cases brought a collective sigh of relief from harried members caught in the crossfire of demands by uninformed pastors and church lay people to kill the bill and by Reagan administration officials eager to minimize political damage to the president.

According to numerous sources on Capitol Hill, the bill never stood much of a chance of passage. With the government's re-entering the Bob Jones and Goldsboro cases, by all accounts the measure is now dead.

But the rumors concerning its potential damage have not died in the churches.

O'Brien to help raise \$7 million

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board has assigned Executive Vice President Bill O'Brien the task of raising an additional \$7 million needed to build its new missionary orientation center near Richmond.

The action, announced at the board meeting Feb. 9, means O'Brien will be relieved temporarily of some of his duties but will continue as executive vice president, President R. Keith Parks said.

Ground breaking for the new orientation center is scheduled for May 11, with completion in 1984. The multiple-use facility will be used for debriefings of furloughing missionaries and for orientation of both missionaries and long-term volunteers.

The center will be built without using either Cooperative Program or Lottie Moon Christmas offering funds. So far, some \$2 million has either been pledged or received toward the estimated cost of \$9 million.

Ray Spence, chairman of the board's development council, said the group will continue to look for a full-time development director who can lead "the largest Protestant denomination and one of the wealthiest" in Bold Mission Thrust, the convention-wide program to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with all people of the world by the year 2000.

Spence said the primary job of the new development officer will be to seek "over-and-above" contributions from wealthy Southern Baptists who can be challenged to invest in Bold Missions.

In other actions, the board reported a 15.7 percent increase in overseas baptisms last year, defended its policies on use of world hunger and relief funds, and named two new associates to area directors for west Africa and Europe.

Overseas Vice President Charles Bryan reported that churches related to Southern Baptist mission work in 95 countries baptized 127,337 persons in 1981, surpassing the previous year's record of 110,032 by 15.7 percent.

Address change ????????

Two weeks before change of address send name label below and new address to:

ARKANSAS BAPTIST NEWSMAGAZINE
Little Rock, Ark. 72203
P.O. Box 552

"the most dangerous piece of legislation ever, relating to church-state separation, is on its way to passage" in Congress.

Editor William Billings accused President Reagan of bowing to pressure from U.S. Sen. Edward M. Kennedy and Speaker of the House of Representatives Thomas P. O'Neill Jr., in asking Congress to pass a bill "which would give the Internal Revenue Service broad new powers to tax, review and regulate churches which maintain Christian schools."

Billings also appealed for contributions to fight the legislation.

In Southern Baptist circles, objections to the bill apparently were started by John R. Bisagno, pastor of First Baptist Church of Houston.

In the Feb. 5 issue of the church's newsletter, The Orbit, Bisagno warned that "the purpose of the bill is to cut off the tax-ex-

C17527 COMP. SEC.
 HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 127 9TH AVE N.E.
 ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87102