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Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

6-15-1989

June 15, 1989

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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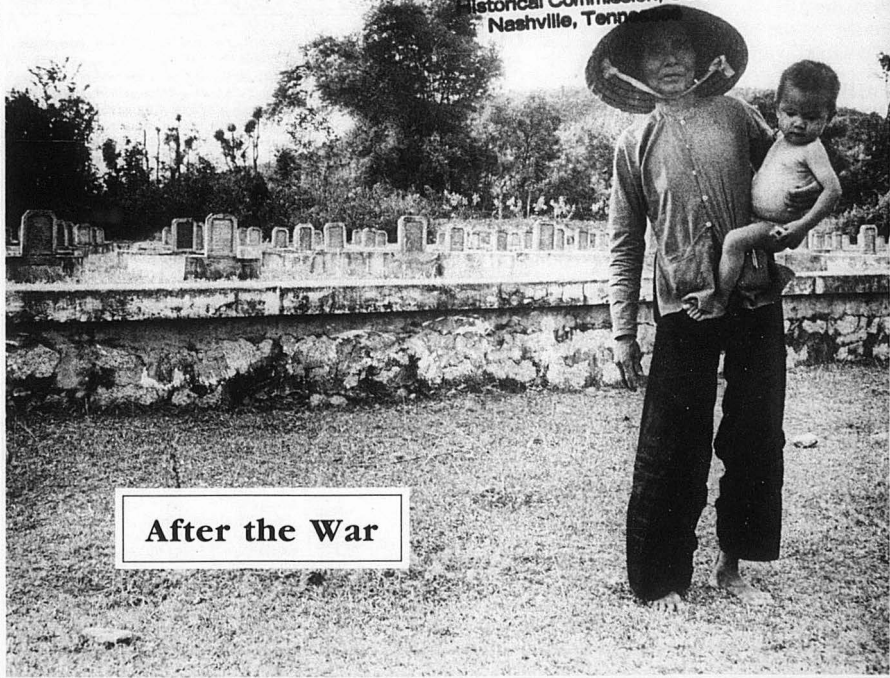
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Grand Opening

Arkansas Baptist

June 15, 1989

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After the War

Cover Story



BP photo / Erich Bridges

After The War 14-15

A war-torn past and grim present combine to make life hard for the Vietnamese people, but Baptists are trying to help.

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IT'S UPLIFTING

'Thank You' Note to God

KELLER, Texas (BP)—Missions giving is more than a denominational emphasis or budgeted line item at NorthWood Baptist Church in Keller, Texas. It's a way of saying "thank you" to God, Pastor Bob Roberts said.

NorthWood was begun a little more than three years ago as a mission of North Richland Hills Baptist Church in Fort Worth, Texas. Now a self supporting congregation, the church each year has been increasing its giving to missions through Southern Baptists' unified giving plan, the Cooperative Program, by 0.5 percent of its undesignated receipts.

However, because of continued growth in membership and stewardship, actual Cooperative Program gifts have increased more than 300 percent in three years. "God has blessed our church both in

membership and finances," Roberts said. We want to help take up some of the slack for churches that are not as well off right now."

To say the church has been blessed is not to say that it is without financial concerns, Roberts stressed. Although meeting the annual budget is a struggle and some cuts may be necessary, the church is committed to continue its missions support.

"We're not going to start cutting the Cooperative Program just to pad our own pews," he said. "Even if the budget is not met, we will still keep increasing our Cooperative Program giving."

Currently, nine percent of undesignated offerings at NorthWood is directed to missions through the Cooperative Program.

"We're a young church. We don't have a lot of money," said Roberts. "But because we have been a mission ourselves, we know the importance of giving to missions."

GOOD NEWS!

The Life of A Tragic Hero

Judges 14-16

The story of Samson is one of the saddest in all the Bible. He was gifted and nurtured to be God's man in Israel's critical hour. The Philistines threatened to invade. Israel needed a leader who could unite the people. God gave Samson special care to accomplish a special mission.

How Samson misused his privilege and failed his mission is a stern warning to every follower of Christ. It is also a reminder of the gift and gravity of the Spirit of God.

The Spirit of God stirred Samson (Jg. 13:25)—When the Spirit of God moves, events of life can defy scientific, logical, and physical rules. In creation the Spirit of God moved over a formless void of darkness, and from nothing he created all things (Gn. 1:1-2). When God stirs the nothingness of a man, miracles happen. His creative powers are loosed in us.

The Spirit of God empowered Samson (Jg. 14:5-9)—As Samson traveled toward Timnath, he was attacked by a young, roaring lion. Samson was not expecting danger. He had his mind on marriage. He was planning for the future. Danger lurks at every turn. Without God, we are defenseless. But "the Spirit of the Lord came mightily upon him" (v. 6). God had not only given Sam-

son a special task, but he also had made available the strength to accomplish it.

The Spirit of God departed from Samson (Jg. 16:20)—Samson was noted for weakness when dealing with women and for strength when fighting men. The Philistine leaders bribed Delilah to uncover the secret of Samson's extraordinary strength. After three successive failures, she discovered the secret—his hair. Samson's hair represented his last remaining contact with Nazirite vows (see Nm. 6:2-12). His other vows had long been broken. When the last vestige of his commitment to God was stripped from him, his divinely appointed strength was gone.

His weaknesses brought about his downfall. The tragic events have been reenacted in many lives since the days of Samson.

As blinded Samson served at the mill, his hair grew; and his strength returned. All hope was not gone. He cried unto the Lord; and in one last effort of strength, he demolished the temple of Dagon and all who were within it. Thus ended the life of one of the great, tragic heroes of the Bible. While God used Samson's life to serve his people, in the main Samson misused his gifts and missed his mission. His story should be an unending warning to persons who have been gifted for a special mission.

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Stop Pornography

J. EVERETT SNEED

Some argue that pornography should be legal because it doesn't harm anyone. These individuals maintain, "At worst it is a victimless crime, which keeps law enforcement officers from battling more serious crimes." The truth is, pornography harms the individual who is involved with it, the innocent bystander and our society. Christians need to take a strong stand to eliminate this sinister blight.

Pornography leads to all types of deviant acts, rape, child molesting, loss of respect for women and the general lowering of moral standards. An article printed in *Time* magazine indicated that "the weight of evidence points the clear and present danger of pornography."

A five-year study of Oklahoma (City) County, Okla., showed that, as the number of pornography outlets were closed, the number of rapes went down. For example, police found that in one neighborhood with porn businesses that there were 47 percent more property crimes, 44 percent more violent crimes and 1,035 percent more sexual crimes than a similar section of the city without those businesses.

Ted Bundy, just prior to his execution, told Dr. James Dobson that an addiction to pornography played a key role in his killing as many as 28 young women and children. He said, "Those of us who are or who have been so much influenced by violence in the media, in particular pornographic violence, are not some kind of inherent monsters. We are your sons and we are your husbands, and we grow up in regular families. And pornography can reach out and snatch a kid out of my house today. It snatched me out of my home 20, 30 years ago and as dedicated as my parents were, and they were diligent in protecting their children and as good a Christian home as we had, and we had a wonderful Christian home. There is no protection against the kind of influences that are loose in society. . . . The FBI's own study on serial homicides shows that the most common interest among serial killers is pornography."

What causes the problem of pornography? First, there is tremendous profit in the sale of pornographic materials. Some years ago, government committees studying the problem estimated that the filth peddlers make between \$500 and \$700 million a year. It is conservatively



estimated that a dealer makes 200 percent profit on each piece of pornography sold.

Obviously a second reason that pornography exists is that numerous people purchase it. Many of these are young people who buy it out of curiosity. Some are seeking sex information not provided to them by homes, churches or schools. Some misguided adults believe that the use of such materials liberates them from sexual inhibitions. Some maladjusted adults buy pornography, seeking thrills or desiring erotic stimulation.

Multitudes of good people who would never consider purchasing pornographic material have contributed to its wide distribution by failing to fight against it. These individuals have not sought information about the problem, nor have they lifted their voices in protest against it.

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Letters to the editor are invited. Letters should be typed
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 policy statement is available on request.

The Bible repeatedly opposes all kinds of sexual immorality. Pornography clearly contributes to sexual immorality, degrading of women, rape and even murder.

Sin of all types is terrifying in its effect. No one becomes a great sinner all at once. At first a person will regard sin with fear. When he sins he feels remorse, but if he continues, he can do the most shameful acts with no feeling of regret at all. Paul states this truth as he says, ". . . that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind. Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their hearts" (Ep. 4:17-18). The word translated "blindness" in the King James translation originally meant a stone that was harder than marble. The end result of sin is that it paralyzes the conscience of an individual.

The most important question is what can we do to stop pornography. There are several important steps that should be taken: we should (1) inform ourselves as to the disastrous effect of this filth; (2) organize groups to oppose pornography in every legal and legitimate way possible; (3) encourage our churches to educate both youth and adults with a biblical perspective of healthy sexuality; (4) encourage proper legislative action to control pornography; (5) refuse to buy from those who sell or promote pornography; and (6) assist in boycotting places of business that sell or distribute pornography.

We can stop pornography if Christians are willing to devote the time and energy to fight it. It is a blight on our society which must be eliminated for the welfare of everyone.

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DON MOORE

You'll Be Glad To Know

Siloam Springs alumni—we need to hear from you! Colleges, universities and seminaries keep the list of graduates and former students of their schools. Churches have the names of former members. High schools contact their alumni for 10 year to 50 year reunions. But, poor Siloam, we have no list of "graduates" from Siloam Springs Assembly.

Already some of your minds have raced back through the 70s or 60s, maybe back to the 40s or 50s to relive very significant experiences at Siloam Springs. You received Christ there or maybe you surrendered to a Christian calling at Siloam. Some of you met your life's companion there. Former Siloam Springs Assembly attendees are scattered to the four winds. Missionaries, teachers, preachers, youth ministers, professional people, and church leaders of every sort found that their Siloam Springs experience helped them move a step closer to the Lord and his will.

Now, the place God used to bless you needs you to bless it. Layer upon layer of tar and roll roofing have been applied to the old tabernacle. The weight and years have taken their toll on the basic structure. Trusses are having to be reinforced. Stop-gap measures have gone about as far as they can go. The old tabernacle is going to have to be rebuilt.

A feasibility study is being made by Larry Bone and Associates to see if individuals throughout the state would support the rebuilding of the tabernacle.

I just know that the alumni would do it if they could be contacted. Since we can't contact you, we do not know where you are, how about you contacting us? Let us know if you could help with such a worthy project. Write to P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203; or telephone 376-4791.

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



TESTIMONY

Traveling on Faith

On Easter Sunday morning we received a phone call from the North Little Rock Police Department. They were holding the young couple and their 18-month-old baby. They had been living at the bus station for two nights and had no money or food. They could not communicate how or why they were there. The soft-hearted policeman could read only the panic on their faces as he took them to the police station.

The only English the man knew were the six words: Fort Smith Grand Avenue Baptist Church. Their documents showed they had arrived from overseas just five days before. Our Vietnamese deacon, Do Van Le, obtained a little more information as he came to the phone. It seems that the relief organization which had sponsored them had just given them some money and turned them out on the streets of Boston to fend for themselves. Trying to find housing and jobs was almost impossible

without interpreters. They finally met another Vietnamese man on the street. They asked if there was anyone who could help them. The man they asked had lived in Fort Smith and had been saved and baptized here at Grand Avenue Baptist Church before moving to Boston.

He told them that there was a church in Arkansas which loved Vietnamese people and would help them get settled in their new homeland. With the last money they had, they bought the bus tickets as far as Little Rock. You know the rest of the story. Our Vietnamese deacon wired them a bus ticket and met them that afternoon. As I told our people that night, I knew that someday they would be won to Christ and baptized into the fellowship of our church. On May 7, 1989 Hua Do and his young wife, Bich, made their professions of faith and were baptized.—**James Bryant, pastor, Grand Avenue Church, Fort Smith**

CHRISTIAN CITIZENSHIP SUNDAY JULY 2

Pray for All in Authority

Mention citizenship to the average American and the first duty that comes to mind is voting. When political or social issues threaten to overwhelm us, prayer is often mentioned as a last resort. Some are even heard describing how bad things are by saying, "We don't have a prayer."

The biblical message about citizenship, however, is just the reverse. The first responsibility of Christian citizens is to pray. The call is to pray for all in authority.

Prayer for the authorities is to be bountiful and complete. The message about prayer is so important that four different words and phrases are used to call Christians to action: supplications, prayers, intercession, and giving of thanks.

Prayer for the authorities does not depend on personal likes or dislikes. Most of the authorities during New Testament times were pagans who were hostile to the life and mission of the early church. Many were involved in actual persecution. The biblical message, however, was to pray even for those who may persecute you.

But those authorities, like the authorities of today in the United States, in South Africa, in Lebanon, and in the Soviet Union influence lives. The attitudes and decision of authorities are crucial in order for people to live in peace and quiet. Peaceable living is the key to living in godliness.

Prayer for authorities in New Testament times was urgent. Christians were exhorted to pray for "all men," and authorities "first of all." Before they were taught about public worship or about the qualifications for church leaders, these early Christians were exhorted to pray for authorities. These biblical exhortations hold true for Christians today.

Government is ordained of God, and those who are in authority are servants of God, whether they know it or not. Newly elected officials have joined many authorities who continue in positions of power. Prayer is urgently needed that these servants of God discharge their duties responsibly so that all humans may live in peace and with honesty.—**Larry Braidfoot, SBC Christian Life Commission**

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Letters to the Editor

Mend Our Ways

The Pharisees and Sadducees were the religious authorities in power during the public ministry of our Lord. Pharisees were the self-appointed guardians of orthodoxy, while the Sadducees were the political figures who always managed to put the High Priest in office. Jesus ignored the orthodoxy of the Pharisees who hated him for flouting their traditions with his ministry of mercy to the sick, lame, and lost. Jesus contradicted the doctrine of the Sadducees who opposed belief in angels, spirit, and the future life.

Those among us today who strive for political power within the denominations are emulating the Sadducees, while those who look with contempt on their brethren who differ with them on interpretation of Scripture are emulating the narrow spirit of the Pharisees.

It was these two mean spirits on the part of the religious authorities that caused Jesus to say, "behold, your house is left un-

to you desolate." God has used Southern Baptists in the past, perhaps more than any other religious group in history. We do not have a monopoly on God, nor do we have any promise that he will continue to use us if the string-pulling, feuding, and name-calling continues to go on among us. Just as ancient Israel was punished for idolatry, so may Baptists become a mere footnote in history unless we mend our ways.—**Walter H. Watts, Fort Smith**

Hometown Chaplain

I was pleased to read the Home Mission Board article about Chaplain Mark Fite that was in the May 11th issue of the *Arkansas Baptist News* magazine.

Chaplain Mark Fite is from Mena. He was born in the Nunaly Community and graduated from the Acorn High School. He married Miss Pat Hensley, who is a Mena girl.

I have known Chaplain Fite for almost 35 years. He had a distinguished career as

a chaplain in the United States Navy. Since his retirement he has served as a pastor, a counselor, and now has a hospital ministry.

The Fites have family and many friends in the Mena area.—**Dillard S. Miller, Mena**

Within Constitution

KATV Channel 7, and Attorney General Steve Clark did a less than professional report on the Gravette Elementary School crime last week. Gravette, to their knowledge, is the only school in our state which permits the elementary students to have a time for Bible teaching, gospel singing, and prayer. The report failed to meet acceptable standards of accuracy in three areas.

First, legal. Our constitution works on the assumption that we are innocent until proven guilty, and that we are entitled to a trial by jury of our peers. The only trial that Gravette got on the Channel 7 report was that of the reporters and Attorney General Clark. Mr. Clark made references to similar cases which had been rendered by high courts, but none which were exactly the same. He also made references to official opinions he had given to two state representatives: Mr. Jim Lendall, and Mr. Walter Day. Mr. Clark was not knowledgeable of the case *Mergens vs. The Board of Education of the Westside Community Schools* which was rendered Feb. 8, 1989. The Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals overruled a Nebraska Circuit Court ruling which forbids secondary schools to have student clubs in the school. This case has great weight, such that the ACLU doesn't want to push it too far. It presents a vague question; do the parents of elementary students of Gravette, Ark., not have the same rights as the secondary school students of Westside Community School of Omaha, Neb.? Can we begin to see what injustices prevail in the name of separation of church and state?

Space forbids addressing the other two areas: education and moral. I firmly believe that Gravette Elementary School is operating within the framework of the Constitution and the command of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Two percent of the students of the Gravette School do not attend the Bible lessons, because their parents do not want them to. I think we have reached the point where we clearly see the injustice of two percent dictating even the religion of the remaining 98 percent.—**Jim Glover, Heber Springs**

Woman's Viewpoint

Missionary Learning Centers

HOPE OVERTON

The Baker James Cauthen and Eloise Glass Cauthen Missionary Learning Center provides training for hundreds of missionaries and volunteers every year as they prepare for overseas service.

MLC, as it is called, opened in April 1984, on 238 acres of farmland in Rockville, Va. Not one cent of the monies came from Lottie Moon or the Cooperative Program. It was all donated by individuals, groups, and churches.

Experts on anthropology, world religions, communication, language, and regions of the world address the missionaries at MLC.

MLC teaches you how to



leave behind your American culture, family, friends, and church. In exchange, you learn how to prepare for entry into a new culture. You are given a glimpse of what is expected of you on the field. What you can expect of a new culture and language.

Four families stay in an apartment building, called a "quad," and share a common living room. We became a family. This relationship is vital on the field, especially with real

family members so far away. Orientation is for seven weeks.

The missionary kids attend their own school. Besides a regular curriculum, they are taught languages and cultures of their new countries. The school helps them make the transition from their U.S. environment to one of overseas. Most importantly, the school leads the children into an understanding of life as an MK.

Orientation is a necessity for all missionaries and their children. As a missionary who has been there, I thank our Lord for MLC.

Hope Overton will soon be serving as a missionary to Equatorial Brazil. She and her husband, Ken, have two children.

PARENTING OVERSEAS

The Other Side of Prayer

by Tim Scanor

SBC Brotherhood Commission

PUERTO VARAS, Chile (BP)—Missionary parents cope with stress as many Christians do—through faith and prayer. But these aspects of Christian life have special meaning to foreign missionaries Archie and Caroline Jones.

Parenting overseas presents unusual and exciting family challenges. "I feel a tremendous responsibility trying to weigh my role as a missionary and as a parent," said Mrs. Jones about raising their 5-year-old adopted Chilean daughter, Libby.

"It would be easy to be available for everybody and everything and the thousands of jobs that need to be done and not be available for Libby," Jones said. "I catch myself having to put on brakes as a missionary and go back into 'parent gear.'"

As with families everywhere, the Joneses' experience times which are valued by them as blessings from God.

"The most exciting time in our family was moving into our house because it gave us a sense of permanence," related Mrs. Jones of their home in southern Chile purchased with Southern Baptist Lottie Moon Christmas Offering money. "We lived in a downtown apartment on the fourth floor in a building with no elevator for almost four years. Libby never had a dog. She had a swing that somebody gave her but we had to attach it to our doorway."

"We moved into this house, and it was like being a real family, with a real house, with a real yard and a real dog, which was something we had never experienced."

While they have many similarities to families everywhere, foreign missionaries have unique child-rearing concerns.

"Last furlough, Libby was in the back seat of a car with a cousin who handed her

a penny," recalled Jones. "She said, 'How sweet. It has a picture of Jesus on it.' She was informed by her 4-year-old cousin that it was a picture of Abraham Lincoln."

"We want Libby to think like North Americans think, so we are beginning to work on teaching North American history and celebrating North American holidays—even though the world around us doesn't."

Missionary parents also see positive aspects in raising children overseas.

"We could put Libby in the worst school at the end of the tiniest dirt road in Chile, and still she's growing up with some super advantages that she wouldn't have if we weren't missionaries," said Mrs. Jones. "She's growing up trilingual because of speaking English in the home, Spanish as the national language and German taught in her school. She is bicultural, a world traveler, and knows more about math at age 5 than I did in the eighth grade!"

Missionary parents experience loneliness while they are isolated from their own parents and siblings. When illness strikes loved ones in the United States, missionary families must deal with feelings of helplessness, discouragement and sometimes anger. Mrs. Jones recalled her feelings when a grandmother was facing surgery: "It was one of those days when everything that could go wrong did. I found myself looking out our window at the lake and the volcanos. We had the most beautiful sunset which made the volcano turn pink. Archie was out of town, and I was standing there looking at that gorgeous sunset, tears streaming down my face."

She prayed: "I don't want to be here. Don't show me the sunset. I want to live down the street from my sister. Yes, I know the lake is gorgeous, but I'd like to be sit-



Caroline Jones and her daughter Libby purchase vegetables at an open air market near their home in southern Chile.

ting in Granny Ruth's hospital room right now because she needs us. . . ."

Later, she recalled: "I let myself have a good cry, and things started coming back to me—things I had learned from my family in childhood, like Matthew 19:29: 'Everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother. . . will receive a hundred times as much.'"

"I grew up praying, 'God bless the missionaries; And I'm finding out what it's like to live on the other side of those prayers. I don't understand it. But there are certain moments in our lives when it's almost as if you hear 'Hang in there. I am hearing thousands of prayers on your behalf, I will answer them.'"

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Arkansas All Over

MILLIE GILL

Briefly

North Arkansas Association mission team will be in Billings, Mont., June 25-29 to assist Trinity Church with construction work and backyard Bible clubs.

Diamond City Mission, sponsored by Southside Church at Lead Hill, reported an average attendance of 30 for its Thursday evening Bible studies.

Zion Light Mission, located near Gilbert and a new work of First Church of Marshall, reported an attendance of 24 for its first meeting.

Macedonia First Church of Fouke recently ordained Marvin Thomas and Royce Kinsey to the deacon ministry.

Shiloh Memorial Church of Texarkana has begun children's church for ages three through six.

Greenfield Church of Harrisburg recently celebrated its 50th anniversary.

Pleasant Grove Church near Harrisburg will dedicate its remodeled auditorium July 9.

Red Oak Church of Lepanto recently moved into its new debt-free building.

Washington-Madison and Benton County Associations will jointly sponsor a Spiritual Awakening Conference July 19-21 at First Church of Springdale.

Lonoke Church will celebrate its 120th anniversary June 25 with a full day of activities, including a Sunday afternoon musical, family activities, and a 6 p.m. catfish supper.

Fisher Street Church in Jonesboro honored Pastor Michael L. Trammell June 4 with a reception and love gift in recognition of his recently graduation from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary with a doctor of ministry degree.

Fort Smith East Side Church will constitute its mission, **Fianna Hills**, into an autonomous Southern Baptist church June 25 at 2 p.m. Don Moore, executive director of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, will be speaker. The mission currently has a membership of 205, a Sunday School enrollment of 272, and is giving 14 percent of its offerings to the Cooperative Program. Bruce Tippitt is mission pastor. Trueman Moore is sponsoring church pastor.

Sierra Estates Chapel in Fayetteville Royal Ambassadors and Girls in Action recently honored their mothers and their pastor, Homer Albright, and his wife, Kathline. The RAs and GAs have adopted the Albrights as official grandparents.

Greenbrier First Church broke ground May 28 for a new educational building and fellowship hall, for which \$20,300 already has been received toward construction.

People

Timothy L. Richardson is serving Russellville Second Church as youth director. A graduate of Atkins High School, he is the son of Rev. and Mrs. Bob Richardson. He will enroll at Arkansas Tech this fall.



Jimmy F. Perkins will begin serving June 25 as pastor of First Church in Harrison. He is a graduate of the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, Ala., Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and Reformed Theological Seminary of Jackson, Miss. He has pastored churches in Alabama and served as a church planter apprentice for the Home Mission Board. Perkins is married to the former Beverly Troup of Somerset, Penn. They have two children, Elizabeth Erin, and Benjamin.

The L.B. Atchison Family and Delores and Kimberleigh Paige from North Arkansas Association were recently in Winnemucca, Nev., where they assisted Golconda Mission with a revival and backyard Bible clubs.

Bobby Floyd is serving as pastor of Pleasant Hill Church at Harrisburg.

James Jones has resigned as pastor of Providence Church at Trumann.

Allen Quinn has resigned as pastor of Waldenburg Church.

Don Bowman has resigned as pastor of Bronway Heights Church in Texarkana.

Carol Gray of Fairfield Bay is serving Friendship Church of Clinton as music director.

Marty Harper of Brinkley is serving First Church of Clarendon as summer youth minister. She is a recent graduate of Southwestern Seminary.

Andrew M. Hall of Fayetteville is serving First Church of Van Buren as interim pastor. He has served as interim pastor of churches in Arkansas and Florida since his retirement in 1984.

Charles Chesser of Carlisle is serving as interim pastor of First Church in DeValls Bluff.

Stan Ballard recently observed his second anniversary of service as pastor of Nettleton Church in Jonesboro.

Raymond Palmer, who has been serving as pastor of Bakers Creek Church in Russellville, has announced his retirement from the full-time ministry. He and Mrs. Palmer plan to reside in Russellville.

Doug Pruitt will join the staff of Indian Springs Church in Bryant June 25 as minister of youth. He and his wife, Nancy, have a son, Sterling.

Billy Harwell is again serving as pastor of First Church of Casa.

Mitch Odum has resigned as pastor of Parks Church to serve as pastor of Ridgeview Church in Fayetteville.

Ron Nease of Hot Springs is serving as pastor of Refuge Church at Story.

Lewin Newcomb of Hot Springs is serving as pastor of Mount Gilead Church at Norman.

David Yarbrough, a student at Ouachita Baptist University, is serving Norman First Church as minister of music and youth.

Charles Kennedy is serving as pastor of Little Hope Church in Oden.

Scott Heller is serving as part-time youth minister at Park Place Church in Hot Springs.

Layne E. Smith, recent doctoral graduate of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, was presented the John and Charlotte Canning Award for outstanding effectiveness in a ministry setting during graduation exercises. Smith serves as pastor of Rolling Hills Church in Fayetteville.

Shawn Barnard, son of Rev. and Mrs. Ken Barnard of Booneville, has accepted the position of youth minister/associate pastor at Piney Church in Hot Springs. The church will license him to the ministry. He is a sophomore at Ouachita Baptist University.

ABN photo / Mark Kelly



The renovated facilities of Second Church, Little Rock

Second's Grand Opening

Torrential rains failed to dampen enthusiasm for the "Grand Opening" of the renovated facilities of Second Baptist Church in Little Rock on Sunday, May 31.

A total of 713 persons attended Bible study and the 850-seat sanctuary was filled to capacity as the century-old congregation celebrated the completion of work on their facilities downtown.

Although a scheduled "Street Picnic" lunch of barbecue and beans had to be moved indoors because of the weather, Second Church's members and guests nonetheless enjoyed an afternoon concert by Dove Award winning singer Bruce Carroll.

The day's events opened a full month of activities which will culminate in a June 25 concert by vocalist Cynthia Clawson, a former member of the congregation. Sunday, June 11, was designated "Homecoming Sunday" and featured the dedication of the renovation. On Sunday, June 18, humorist Kay DeKalb Smith will be highlighted during a 7 p.m. service.

During his message Sunday morning, Second Church Pastor Billy White congratulated the congregation on their success and praised them for their commitment to ministry in downtown Little Rock.

The church's 105-year history proves "our location is important to us," White told the assembly. "We believe God has planted us here and that he expects us to bloom where we are planted." He noted that Second Church members drive in each

Sunday from a radius of 20 miles, some from as far away as Conway, Benton, and Cabot.

The \$2 million renovation project involved an extensive reworking of both the worship and educational facilities. A highlight of the project is a new, four-story atrium, which connects the sanctuary with the educational building.

In addition to a complete redesign of the sanctuary, the worship center renovation included new pews, a new baptistry, and sophisticated new computerized lighting and sound systems.

Also renovated were classrooms, the music suite, the fellowship hall, and the church kitchen.

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Service to Be Broadcast

The ACTS Network will present a one-hour special on the Foreign Mission Appointment Service on Sunday, June 18 at 1:30 p.m. According to Mike Huckabee, president of ACTS of Arkansas, the broadcast of the April Appointment Service will be the first time the national ACTS Network has carried a program produced by a cooperative effort of statewide ACTS affiliates.

Huckabee, pastor of the Beech Street First Church, Texarkana, also emphasized that many of the affiliates will broadcast the Appointment Service several additional times. Individuals unable to view the June 18 airing should check with their local affiliates for rebroadcast schedule.

A SMILE OR TWO

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Commencement Time

New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS—Lloyd R. Humphrey from Hot Springs received the doctor of ministry degree on May 20 from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He is the son of Raymond L. Humphrey of Durham, Mo., and is married to the former Patsy Ellington of Paragould.

Humphrey is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

Golden Gate

MILL VALLEY, Calif.—An Arkansas native graduated from Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary during May commencement exercises.

Receiving the doctor of ministry degree was Tony Berry, son of Robie Berry of Walnut Ridge. Currently pastor of Capital City Church in Sacramento, Calif., Berry is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University

and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky.

Southern

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—Four Arkansas students were awarded degrees from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary during commencement May 26.

Receiving the doctor of ministry degree was Jerry L. Davis of Little Rock.

Receiving the master of divinity degree were: Kendall Dwayne Jones, Little Rock; Ray B. Van Camp Jr., Versailles, Ky.; and Mark Edward Tidsworth of Little Rock.

Boyce Bible School

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—One student from Arkansas graduated from Boyce Bible School during the school's commencement May 26. Boyce is a division of Southern Seminary.

Robert Jack Sanders of West Point received a diploma in Christian Ministry.

Four Honored at OBU Graduation

ARKADELPHIA—Ouachita Baptist University presented several awards during its May 6 commencement. OBU President Emeritus Daniel R. Grant and his wife, Betty Jo, received the Distinguished Alumni awards.

Honorary degrees were conferred upon Emil D. Williams, doctorate of divinity, and Frank D. Hickingbotham, doctorate of laws.

Emil Williams has served as pastor of First Church, Jonesboro, since 1965.

Frank Hickingbotham is founder and chairman of TCBY Enterprises, Inc., and a member of Immanuel Church, Little Rock.

Billy Graham Crusade Countdown

June

- 19-23 Follow-up Seminars
- 24 Leadership Breakfast with Dr. Lewis Drummond

July

- 4 Singles Rally
- 13 Prayer Rally with Dr. E.V. Hill
- 23 Operation Andrew Sunday

August

- * Youth Rally
- 3-4 Prayer Seminars with Millie Dienert
- 14-25 Nurture Group Training
- 21-27 Prayer Hosts Extend Invitations
- 26 Leadership Breakfast with Dr. Emmanuel Scott
- 27 Support Sunday
- 28-9/22 Prayertime Broadcasts

September

- * High School Assemblies
- 11-16 Rehearsals
- 17-24 CRUSADE
- 18-22 School of Evangelism
- 25-10/27 Follow-up Broadcasts

For more information on any of these events, contact your church's crusade coordinator or call the Crusade Office at 375-1989.

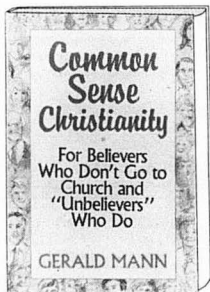
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Suits Real Danger

by Jacqueline Kersh

Stetson University

DELAND, Fla. (BP)—A caster falls off of the church piano and a five-year-old boy is injured. The result: a \$90,000 settlement against the church.

A church member is hurt in a fall on the sanctuary steps. The result: a \$78,000 judgment against the church.

A visiting evangelist is shot by a member of the congregation. The result: \$135,000 against the church.

A youngster is injured running a church-sponsored obstacle course and becomes a quadriplegic. The result: a \$2 million judgment against the church.

A litany of recent church-related liability cases was recited by attorney William Colbert of Sanford, Fla., to more than 40 Florida pastors and lay leaders participating in the Church and Law Conference May 4 at Stetson University in DeLand.

Colbert's illustrations made one point clear to conference participants—churches, pastors and staff members can be sued and can be found liable.

Speaking on the topic "Issues of the Pastorale and Liability," Colbert, chairman of deacons for First Baptist Church in Sanford, warned that pastor malpractice "is particularly in vogue."

"You need to be sensitive to it and equipped to deal with it," Colbert said, citing a California case, *Nally v. Grace Community Church of the Valley*.

In that case, a non-therapist counselor who gave advice to a suicidally inclined person was not held liable when the person killed himself. The case, just concluded after 10 years of litigation, is both a reassurance and a warning, Colbert said.

Because the case involved the issue of pastoral counseling and was decided in favor of the church, many see it as vindication, Colbert said. He warned, however, that the case was decided only on the basis of a particular set of facts. Different facts easily could result in a different decision.

Correction

In the June 8 issue of the *Arkansas Baptist*, the article entitled "WMU in Action" reported that the Benton First Church Woman's Missionary Union took hygiene items to Cass Job Cops Center. It should have read that Benton Highland Heights WMU undertook that mission effort. It also reported that Linda McGuire was included in the group and should have read Cinda McGuire.

"Do not believe there is nothing you can do in a counseling capacity for which you can be held liable," Colbert said.

He also urged participants not to assume that churches are immune from suits brought by members. "Many would never think of it, but a few may not be of the same mind," he said.

The best defense, Colbert said, may be awareness of the possibility of liability and prompt action to minimize exposure.

Howard Oleck, professor of law emeritus at Stetson's College of Law in St. Petersburg, Fla., also advocated preventive action in his overview of the law as it relates to the church.

"Bring lawyers in your congregation into your advisory groups, especially those specializing in your areas of concern," Oleck advised. "Go to law schools near you and ask for help. It's incredible what you can get by just asking.

Measures to Cut Liability

DELAND, Fla. (BP)—Church leaders are not helpless in today's lawsuit-prone society, Sanford, Fla., attorney William Colbert told participants in the Church and the Law Conference at Stetson University in DeLand, Fla.

He listed several preventive measures as examples:

—Against inadequate supervision charges, churches should have a written policy on the ratio of supervising adults to participants in any sponsored activity and follow the policy at all times, Colbert urged.

—Against grounds and building liability, be alert to hazards, such as a water hose across the walkway, drama props blocking doorways, burned-out light bulbs on stairways, missing or malfunctioning fire extinguishers, protruding bolts or jagged edges on playground equipment and lack of handrails. Ask the kind of questions lawyers would ask if someone got hurt, then do some maintenance, he said.

—Against hazardous activities, such as hayrides and obstacle courses, take extra precautions, like using an unpaved road for the hayride, following the vehicle with a car and having the vehicle owner drive it. Use common sense and consider doing something less hazardous, Colbert stressed.

Parent-consent and waiver-of-liability

"Operate like an organization as well as a religious body. Borrow the good and useful aspects of business organizations. As religious people, you consider the individual, but often you must deal with groups."

Oleck, author of the legal text *Nonprofit Corporations, Organizations and Associations*, recommended the compartmentalizing of a wide range of church activities, such as a foundation for the building fund and a corporation for fund raising. "You need not be concerned that you legally will be viewed as a business unless there is gross abuse involved."

Colbert advised the adoption of and careful adherence to written procedures for various church activities and the formation of lay groups to assist the pastor. The latter he called vital to a functioning church.

"I don't want to sermonize, but remember that the law is unforgiving. As Christians, you have a tendency to forgive and forget, but we live in a society of laws. And the Scriptures teach us to be responsible stewards of our assets."

forms can be useful to ensure that a parent knows what the child is doing, but the form does not absolve the church of all responsibility, he said. Ask an attorney to draft the form, and use a new one for each activity, he added.

—Against vehicle liability, have the vehicle inspected often, keep it in top condition, be certain the driver is licensed and has a good driving record, and check insurance coverage, Colbert noted.

—Against employee negligence, be careful who is hired; check references; obtain permission to check credit and arrest records; use a written application form regardless of the position; have job descriptions for every job; get rid of any employee not doing the job, he said. Any full-time or part-time worker, if paid, is considered an employee.

In sexual harassment cases, remember it is not what is actually said or done, but how the victim perceives it, he explained.

—Against inadequate insurance coverage, know what the church assets are and what replacement costs would be; identify potential liabilities; be sure everyone—pastor, staff, members—is covered; add a rider to the church policy covering ministerial counseling liability and personal business property located on church premises; consider special coverages such as disability and accident, he said.

Gambling Bail-Out Rejected

AUSTIN, Texas (BP)—Gambling opponents scored a victory in the final days of the 71st Texas legislative session with the defeat of a proposed "pari-mutuel bail-out bill" but lost battles over offshore casino gambling and legalization of "charitable" raffles.

In spite of a last-minute show of support by Gov. Bill Clements, Sen. O.H. "Ike" Harris of Dallas abandoned efforts to pass his bill that would have lowered the state tax on pari-mutuel horserace gambling after a threatened filibuster by Sen. John Leedom of Dallas.

A last-ditch effort by Rep. Hugo Berlanga of Corpus Christi to revive the pari-mutuel "bail-out" in the House of Representatives was rejected 69-65, reconsidered, and then passed May 29. Berlanga's resolution would have allowed the tax cut provision to be tacked onto a bill amending other provisions of the racing act. Leedom's threatened filibuster prevented approval in the Senate and ultimately killed the bill.

The so-called "pari-mutuel bail-out bill" would have decreased the tax rate from a flat 5 percent to a sliding scale beginning at 1 percent and gradually increasing to 5 percent when betting at a track reached \$500 million per year.

Changes in the racing act that would have permitted telecasting of horse and dog races between tracks for the purposes of wagering and that would have allowed the tracks to operate on Sunday afternoons also were defeated when the bill failed.

The defeat of the pari-mutuel bill came

Yarbrough Named Young Men's Editor

MEMPHIS, Tenn., (BP)—Tim Yarbrough, 28, has been named Baptist Young Men's editor by the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission. He will be responsible for all missions education curriculum materials produced for young men ages 18-34, including the Baptist Young Men's edition of *World Mission Journal*.

Yarbrough worked more than six years on Arkansas and Missouri newspapers. Most recently, he was the special sections editor of the *Arkansas Democrat* in Little Rock.

A 1982 graduate of Murray State University in Kentucky, Yarbrough is a candidate for the master's degree in journalism from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

He is married to the former Pamela Freeman of North Little Rock, Ark.

Yarbrough will succeed Bill Bingham, now associate editor of *MissionsUSA*.

about two weeks after gambling opponents won another victory when a proposal calling for a non-binding referendum on a state lottery was defeated in the Texas House by an 84-59 vote.

However, in spite of opposition by the Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission, Texans Who Care and other anti-gambling citizens' groups, the legislature approved

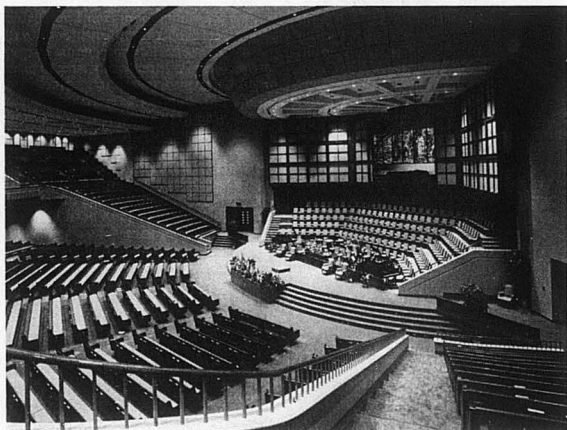
a bill legalizing casino gambling on ships offering one-day "cruises to nowhere" out of Texas ports. Previously, the law required ships with casino gambling operations to be "in the course of a bona fide voyage to or from a foreign port."

In hearings on the measure, Weston Ware, associate director of the Christian Life Commission, charged that within four years, gambling operators would apply pressure to legalize casinos on the mainland.

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LESSONS FOR LIVING

Convention Uniform

Call for Faithfulness

by Dennis W. Swanberg, Second Church, Hot Springs

Basic passage: Joshua 18:1-10; 21:43; 22:6

Focal passage: Joshua 21:43; 22:6

Central truth: God's people can trust the Lord to be faithful to his promises.

The division of territory (18:1-10). The land was surveyed and divided between the people. Joshua reaffirmed the people of their identity, both physically and spiritually, as a part of God's chosen people. The process of distribution was to remind the people of their responsibility in experiencing God's saving grace as they could possess his promises.

The deliverance unto his promises (21:43-45). The Bible clearly emphasizes that the Lord's covenant promises had been fulfilled. Israel was victorious over her enemies and had come into full possession of the land which had been promised to her. Israel had been obedient unto the Lord, and the Lord had been faithful and true to his people. The Promised Land was Israel's! Not one of the good promises which the Lord had made to the House of Israel failed; all came to pass (21:45NASV). Think about it! The Lord had brought his people from Egypt unto the Land of Promise. Likewise, Christ has brought us from darkness to light. We need to claim his promises with decisive obedience and then live in the fullness of his promises.

The desire for faithfulness (22:1-5). Joshua knew that the faithful activity the people of God used in entering the land also would be necessary for possessing the land. His desire was that they allow faith to take precedence in their lives so that they could fulfill the will of God. Likewise, the Lord honors our faith as we enter into a relationship with him unto salvation; however, we often neglect his desire for us to be faithful in living out our call with faithful living.

The desire for reflection (22:6). Joshua wanted his people to reflect on the promises of God. He understood that in claiming the land they would need to be faithful to God. An adequate time of reflection would enable his people of faith to continue being obedient people in possession of the land. God always keeps his promises, but do we realize that we have a responsibility to be faithful in times of peace and times of turmoil?

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Life and Work

Parenting for God

by L.B. Jordan, DOM, Red River Association, Arkadelphia

Basic passage: Judges 13:2-5,8,17-20

Focal passage: Judges 13:3-5,8

Central truth: Parents need guidance from the Lord in rearing children for him.

Today's lesson concerns God's method for bringing to a close a 40 year period of domination of Israel by the Philistines. Unique and wonderful are God's ways!

Elements in the story of Manoah and his wife remind us of the experience of Zechariah and Elizabeth in the gospel accounts, or of Elkanah and Hannah in the birth of Samuel (1 S. 1). However, the real heart of this passage deals with the recognition of responsibility to rear a child in such a way as to please Jehovah.

The best possible way to approach parenting is with the view that every child is a gift of God to us. Such an approach would do much to correct abuses common in the rearing of children. How different this understanding is to the ideas that babies are simply biological accidents or the result of planned parenthood.

Viewing a child as a gift of God places parenthood in a position of holy vocation. We are in league and partnership with holy God in working out his holy purposes in his world. For such a task, we surely need heavenly direction and strength.

The present view of millions of Americans concerning babies is dreadful. Babies are seen as expendable burdens by many pregnant women. In the three most recent years in which we have data, some 1.6 million abortions have been performed each year. I praise God that there seems to be a growing sense of the wrongness of abortions.

Manoah's prayer for himself and his wife was for direction in rearing their son, Samson (vv. 8 and 12). The law of the Nazarites is found in Numbers 6. Outward signs of unshorn hair, restricted diet, and abstinence from strong drink were to be indicative of a Nazarite consecration to God.

The Word of God furnishes us with abundant insights about family and parenting. Let's rear our children for the Lord. Germane to this is the truth that every human being is to serve the Lord. While we are not called on to give our children to temple service, we are to dedicate them to God and his service.

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Bible Book

Crises Are Opportunities

by Dianne Swaim, Immanuel Church, Little Rock

Basic passage: Acts 27:13-14,21-25, 33-36; 28:7-10

Focal passage: Acts 27:21-25,33-36

Central truth: Crises are golden opportunities for ministry.

Several years ago there was a movie entitled "The Unsinkable Molly Brown." The Book of Acts could probably be subtitled "The Unsinkable Saint Paul!" In today's lesson we have even more accounts of Paul's ministry under hardship. It seems that he actually thrives on his circumstances, rather than being burdened down or paralyzed by them. Surely the greatest lesson we can learn from Paul's life is that circumstances are to be stepping stones to ministry.

In verses 21-25, Paul gives the gift of encouragement—possibly one of the greatest gifts we can give to our fellowman. Everyone on board the ship with Paul was aware that the storm was life-threatening. As a matter of fact, they had lost all hope of being saved (v. 20). Paul restored that hope with a word from the Lord. Though he was standing on the same storm-tossed ship they were, he gave them God's promise that not one of them should die. What a ministry we could have with those around us who have lost all hope. We live in the same sin-wrecked world that they live in, but we have a promise from God himself that those who believe on his name shall be saved!

After his words of encouragement, Paul took action. His next point of ministry in the midst of this storm was to see that they were physically fed. Paul reminds us of Jesus himself when in verse 35, he "took bread, and gave thanks to God in presence of them all: and when he had broken it, he began to eat." The effect of Paul's care of them was that "they were all of good cheer, and they also took some meat" (v. 36). Let us remember too that after words of hope and cheer, there must be fitting action. Paul was preparing them to live when they had lost all hope of living.

There are many today who are standing on a sinking ship of financial ruin, failing marriages, wayward children, emotional pressures, and a host of other seemingly hopeless situations. Can you reach out with an encouraging word from God and follow up with a physical action to help?

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After The War

by Erich Bridges
SBC Foreign Mission Board

DANANG, Vietnam (BP)—In a place where they once destroyed the land and killed each other, Americans and Vietnamese are building together.

Southern Baptists have supplied materials to help the people of Quangnam Danang Province in Vietnam build a dam and improve health care through a new hospital and several local clinics.

The nearly completed dam rises out of rice fields that were free-fire zones during the Vietnam War. American Marines first landed on the beaches of nearby Danang, and opposing forces clashed in the region in some of the fiercest fighting of the war.

Bomb craters still scar the countryside, like smallpox upon the earth. Unexploded bombs still kill farmers and unsuspecting children every year, perhaps 4,000 civilians since the end of the war. Defoliated hills and "white land"—soil incinerated to the color of snow by saturation bombing—still dot the landscape of the province.

In such a place, aid from a group of American Christians is a powerful symbol, a Southern Baptist delegation visiting Vietnam in late April and May discovered. Hundreds of curious and friendly onlookers surrounded the Americans at the dam site, hospital and medical clinics.

The delegation represented Cooperative Services International, the Southern Baptist organization that assists nations where missionaries do not work. The group included Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board President R. Keith Parks; CSI Director Lewis Myers and his wife, Toni; former Vietnam missionaries who once lived in Danang; and CSI's Indochina specialists, physician Marvin Raley and development worker Fred Kauffman.

The delegation inspected CSI projects in Vietnam and met with government officials and Christian leaders in Hanoi; Ho Chi Minh City, formerly called Saigon; Danang; and several other locations.

Southern Baptists began emergency food and medical assistance to poverty-stricken Vietnam four years ago through the efforts of Raley, a pediatrician from Houston who helped start and run a children's hospital in neighboring Kampeuchea, formerly called Cambodia. Now he coordinates CSI's small-scale but expanding health and development work in Vietnam, Kam-



In north Vietnam, Fred Kauffman, Marvin Raley, and Keith Parks examine plans for a Baptist-funded irrigation project with the Vietnamese design engineer.

pueha and Laos.

"When I first met Dr. Raley, he said he wanted to help end malnutrition here. The dam can help that," said Pham Si Tho, engineer and vice director of Quangnam Danang Province's hydrology service. The dam will help irrigate 27,500 acres of rice fields, he reported, and "the lives of hundreds of thousands of local inhabitants will be remarkably improved."

Quangnam Danang is one of the rice bowls of Vietnam, but even there, malnourished children are a common sight.

"People are always struggling for food," said a local official, explaining that tens of thousands of acres still produce poorly because of toxic agents used in the war.

Defoliants dropped on the area during the war, like Agent Orange, also are suspect in an infant mortality rate that averages 63.5 per thousand. Killers include mysterious cancers and deformities in newborns. But the most common health problems are hunger, intestinal parasites, malaria, respiratory infections—preventable causes of much of the suffering in the Third World.

Yet even the resistant and deadly strains of falciparum malaria found in the province—introduced by malarial soldiers treated for common strains and rushed back to the battlefield—are a leftover curse of war.

"Almost everything we're fighting can be traced directly back to the war," Raley asserted. "They talk about people being killed by unexploded bombs. I'll guarantee a lot more people are being killed by falciparum malaria."

The new district hospital and local

clinics aided by CSI are fighting to bring better health to the area, but their weapons are primitive. "These clinics don't have the equipment I would normally carry in my bag," said Raley. One clinic alone serves an area populated by 15,000 people.

CSI is providing basic medical equipment units recommended by UNICEF.

Life also is harsh in North Vietnam. Climate and terrain there are unfriendly to rice production. Decades of war, climaxed by years of American bombing, destroyed much of the land. And communist economics spanning more than a generation have failed to improve living standards, as government leaders now acknowledge.

In mountainous northern Bac Thai Province, one of the cradles of the communist revolution, the average monthly rice ration is 11-13 kilograms per capita—well below UNICEF's recommended minimum calorie requirements. In some areas, it is half that. Sick people in remote areas must walk days to reach a district hospital. Many of them don't make it.

Southern Baptists are aiding a hospital and clinics and funding a planned irrigation project to improve food production in Bac Thai's Dinh Hoa District. Hoes, plows and dawn-to-dark labor constitute farm technology in Dinh Hoa; a tractor is not in sight. The irrigation project could nearly double production for 2,000 people in the area. Asked if the project is a big undertaking for the area, the Vietnamese design engineer answers, "It's big if you haven't had it before."

Bac Thai people may have little, but "one thing they've always had is their dignity," said Raley. "When you get out in the

villages, people are so honest. They talk straight. "This is where we are, and this is what we need."

And like Vietnamese everywhere else the CSI delegation went, they are friendly, despite the memories of American carpet bombing during the war, delegation members reported. "Many people in the north had never seen an American before, just the open bay of a B-52," Raley said.

Why the apparent lack of hostility? "Hate is history," and so is the war, answered Bui Thanh Tin, a Hanoi newspaper editor who fought both the French and the Americans during a 38-year military career. He lost 20 family members, including his mother, who was shot by a French soldier in 1948.

"Our situation is more difficult now than in wartime, many more times difficult," he stated. "We have a lack of assistance, a lack of money, a lack of investment. We lost all our factories, all our schools, all our bridges. The bombing killed women and children. But the character of the Vietnamese people is always for friendship, even with American veterans. Many have come here recently and been well received. The opportunity is for two peoples to understand each other."

Most Vietnamese simply want to forget a grim past as they fight to overcome a present, they have said. A common reaction to American visitors is, "Why are you here?" The CSI delegation responded by sharing its Christian motivation in providing assistance and relating the historical character of Southern Baptists.

"I think there is a special affinity between Vietnamese people and Baptist people, or should be," Raley said, "because we historically have been a poor, farming people who have had to work very hard. So we respect what the Vietnamese are trying to accomplish, and we want to work as partners."

What the Vietnamese are trying to accomplish at the moment is survival, observers have noted. More than 65 million people must be fed. Major government liberalization measures, particularly in the last two years, have opened the economy and society to the outside world but have not yet produced substantial economic progress. Vietnam remains one of the world's poorest countries.

Still, the open-door policies have produced new hope among the people for the kind of democracy and economic growth they see among their more prosperous Asian neighbors. The announced Vietnamese military withdrawal from Kampuchea this year, they hope, finally will produce normalized political and economic relations with China, the rest of Asia and the United States.

(BP) photo / Erich Bridges



Southern Baptist physician Marvin Raley examines a malnourished child at a medical clinic in central Vietnam.

"Things will change," asserted one shop clerk in Ho Chi Minh City. "They must change. If we wait, it will be too late."

Through their aid, Southern Baptists are trying to help. Future assistance may include the placement of English-language teachers in Vietnamese universities and the application of Southern Baptist agriculturist Harold Watson's innovative Sloping Agricultural Land Technology program in the north. Another possibility on the horizon is the location of a resident CSI project coordinator in Hanoi. An application soon will be submitted to the government.

CSI workers hope the credibility their assistance has gained in Vietnam so far will set the stage for effective expansion.

"Your people came early, before we applied the openness," said Nguyen Dinh An, vice president of the Quangnam Danang provincial government. "You have our high appreciation for your assistance. The tasks we have to solve are severe and our capabilities are limited, so we desire much more cooperation."



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China Update

Students, Faculty Safe But Planning to Leave

Students Safe In Beijing Hotel

BEIJING, China (BP)—Southern Baptist students Jay Templeton and Jana Clayton safely reached the Holiday Inn near Beijing's airport June 7, joining the throng of foreigners trying to leave the embattled Chinese capital. The two were marooned for several days at the Second Foreign Language Institute in Beijing, where they were studying Chinese under the sponsorship of Cooperative Services International, a Southern Baptist organization.

School officials transported the two students to the hotel complex. "It took a while to get there," reported Templeton's father, Southern Baptist missionary Logan Templeton in Hong Kong. "I guess they went a roundabout way. But there was no problem." Templeton talked to his son by telephone after the two students reached the hotel. He said they had plane tickets to Hong Kong on a June 10 flight, but might leave China sooner if they can get on an earlier plane.

The younger Templeton, of Kingsland, Texas, and Clayton, of Longmont, Colo., witnessed lines of tanks rolling past the language institute in the days following the bloody army attack on student demonstrators in Tiananmen Square. Enraged Chinese students at the institute threw rocks and erected barricades to stop the tanks, but the campus did not become a military target. Witnesses said troops entered a nearby university campus and killed some students there.

U.S. officials warned the more than 1,400 Americans in Beijing to leave as soon as possible, but the American embassy reportedly was providing little help, at least in comparison to the rapid evacuation efforts of several other foreign embassies. American diplomatic dependents were preparing to leave Beijing June 7 after gunfire aimed at a diplomatic residence compound shattered windows.

Cooperative Services International staff in Hong Kong were still trying to contact all of the Southern Baptist teachers or students sponsored by CSI on Chinese university campuses, most of whom are leaving the country or are expected to leave in the coming days.

Personnel already contacted and planning to depart include Ron and Ina Winstead of St. Peters, Mo., at the Shanghai Institute of Mechanical Engineering; their

daughter, Rhonda Winstead, at Nanjing University; Glen and Rose Davis of Frankfort, Ky., at Nanjing Pharmaceutical College; Kenneth and Lou Ann Locke of Chapel Hill, N.C., at Guaxi University in Nanning; Don and Robin Martin of Sugar Land, Texas, at Fujian Agricultural College in Fuzhou; and Buckley and Ann Qualls of Corpus Christi, Texas, at Yantai University in Shandong Province.

Samford Study Group To Leave Soon

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)—Samford University students and faculty on a study trip to Wuhu, China, will be coming home earlier than intended.

Although Anhui Normal University at Wuhu is 600 miles from Beijing, and the group is in no apparent danger, Samford officials are working to arrange transportation out of the country. The 18 students and six faculty members departed Wuhu for Hefei via bus June 6. Hefei is a three-hour bus ride from Wuhu.

The 24-member group had been at Anhui University in Wuhu on a study trip since May 31 and had planned to return home on June 29. The group includes Samford English professor Margaret Brodnax, who has been an exchange professor at Anhui during the spring semester.

All members of the group are safe and doing fine, according to Telex messages received at Samford. The university was in constant contact with the group for several days, receiving Telex messages on almost an hourly basis throughout Monday night.

Samford University president Thomas E. Corts is working with the U.S. State Department and the U.S. Consulate in Shanghai to arrange a charter flight from Hefei to Hong Kong as soon as possible. If charter arrangements cannot be made, the group will fly from Hefei to Canton on an already guaranteed flight on June 11. From Canton, they will travel to Hong Kong on train.

One Telex from faculty members Andy Rucks, Jim Brown and Bob Stiles indicated the travelers have been receiving news reports from the British Broadcast Corporation. Corts spoke with Jerry Barrett, a former Samford faculty member who is now a missionary in Hong Kong on Tuesday morning. "He said he did not believe the students to be in any danger," said Corts.

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