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Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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'A Shining Light'

Arkansas Baptist

July 27, 1989

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Nashville, Tennessee



Cardboard Church

In This Issue

Cover Story



(BP) photo / Ken Touchton

Cardboard Church 16

It may not be much to look at now, but Howell Baptist Chapel has a challenging vision to reach one of the fastest-growing areas of the nation for Christ.

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IT'S UPLIFTING

Korean Seminary

SEOUL, South Korea—Korean Baptists have broken ground for two facilities relating to world evangelization—a new 50-acre seminary campus in Taejon and a five-story Woman's Missionary Union office building in Seoul. The seminary complex will include a World Mission Center dedicated to training missionaries from Asian countries. The WMU building will replace a small office in the Seoul Baptist Center.

Honduran Goal

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras—The Honduras Baptist Convention has adopted a goal to have 200 churches by the year 2000 with a total church membership of 20,000. To meet this goal, Honduran Baptists must organize at least 12 new churches annually, according to missionary Stanley Stamps. The convention's record for new churches

was set in 1988, when 12 congregations were established. The convention consists of 68 churches and 110 mission congregations, Stamps said. For 1988, Honduran Baptist churches reported 755 baptisms and total church membership of 5,000.

New Work

CURACAO—Southern Baptist missionaries have established new Baptist work on the island of Curacao in the Netherlands Antilles, a Dutch overseas territory in the Caribbean. Believers already have outgrown the missionary home where they are meeting for Sunday School and worship, reported missionary Allan Murphy of Greenville, Ala. "Our vision is 10 Baptist churches in Papiamento (local language), and fellowships or churches in English, Dutch, Spanish and maybe Portuguese to reach the 170,000 people in Curacao," Murphy said.

GOOD NEWS!

An Enduring Friendship

1 Samuel 18:1-4; 20:1-42

Elizabeth Barrett Browning once asked Charles Kingsley: "What is the secret of your life? Tell me, that I may make mine beautiful too." His reply: "I had a friend."

Unfortunately, many people never discover Kingsley's secret. Contemporary life-styles often militate against enduring, supportive relationships. The mobility of persons within our society promotes rootlessness and anonymity. The competitive systems of our world undermine the development of close, personal relationships. For example, the perilous climb up the success ladder of corporate business is often excruciatingly lonely. One may cultivate numerous business associates yet never count another as a close friend. Moreover, husbands and wives may find themselves fatigued from the unending race to keep up socially. Neither time nor energy is left to invest in a relationship of their own.

However, strong friendships can develop in the face of great obstacles. Saul's jealousy plus David's obvious destiny as king of Israel could have easily circumvented a lasting friendship between David and Jonathan. Yet, the two young men grew an "I-Thou" relationship that planted deep roots. While in exile, David was strengthen-

ed during distressing, lonely hours by his memory of Jonathan's abiding friendship.

Two striking features of genuine friendship stand out in the stories of Jonathan and David.

True friendship is a disinterested gift.—This dimension of friendship was especially embodied by Jonathan. It is said that he loved David "as his own soul" (18:3, RSV; cf. 20:17). Such love Jonathan symbolized by his gift of clothing and weapons (18:4). Jonathan's unbiased friendship is further seen in his acceptance of David as the next king of Israel (20:13-16; cf. 23:16-18). David's magnanimous spirit toward Jonathan is evident in his elegy over Saul and Jonathan (2 Sm. 1:19-27).

True friendship is an enduring relationship.—Apparently, Jonathan and David entered into a solemn covenant of friendship before God (18:3; 20:8, 23, 42). The covenant met with severe testing. Jonathan was forced to choose between loyalty to Saul and love for David (19:1-7; 20:1-42). Jonathan chose to uphold the covenant of friendship, and years later David demonstrated "the loyal love of the Lord" (20:14, RSV) in his treatment of Mephibosheth (2 Sm. 9). Thus, the Lord stood "between Jonathan and David, as a holy bridge, for all time."

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Freedom's Holy Light

J. EVERETT SNEED

Sometime ago, while seated on a plane beside a well-dressed, middle-aged gentleman, I became aware that he was engrossed in a study of the Reformation. Striking up a conversation with him, I learned that he was a professor of history for an eastern University.

Our conversation, at length, turned to the major importance of the Reformation. The gentleman insisted that the significance of the Reformation was not so much theological as it was the development of a new freedom in government. He maintained that not only was there the inception of numerous Protestant denominations, but, also, the erosion of the old church-state relation which had made freedom for those of differing views almost impossible.

His statements were true, of course, as far as they went. But the question arises: "What produced this new openness and freedom?" Obviously, it was the outgrowth of religious convictions and theological truths renewed by the Reformation.

The old argument went as follows: (1) Only our church, the true church, is right; (2) Those outside the true church are doomed for eternal destruction; (3) Heretics are arising who are dooming men to hell; and (4) To protect the innocent we must destroy these enemies of God.

During the Reformation, a renewed emphasis began to be placed on such New Testament doctrines as salvation by grace, individual choice before God, and the individual priesthood of the believer. The greatest changes which emanated were first a matter of Christian conviction and, as a result, actions came to pass which changed the whole world.

The actions which took place are responsible for the freedom we enjoy today. As Baptists, we believe that freedom is God given and is evident in many areas of life.

Fortunately, our government provides the greatest freedom of any country in the world. Each individual is free to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience. We must always defend this important truth.

Baptists have long held to the biblical principle of separation of church and state. The principle is that the state shall not exercise authority over the church, nor the church over the state. The biblical base for this doctrine is founded in the teachings



of Jesus as recorded in Mark 12:13-17. The Pharisees (meaning separatists), who held to the letter of the law or Torah, came to Jesus along with the Herodians, the friends of Herod.

The two groups came to Jesus asking, "Is it lawful to give tribute to Caesar, or not?" If Jesus answered in the affirmative, the tax money should be paid to the Roman government, the Pharisees would have said, "This man is recommending the overthrow of our ancient traditions and under the Old Testament law should be stoned. On the other hand, if Jesus said, "No, it is not wrong to give money to Caesar," the Herodians would go immediately to Herod saying, "This man is recommending insurrection against the Roman government."

Either way it appeared that Jesus would lose. But to their amazement he said,

Arkansas Baptist

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Letters to the editor are invited. Letters should be typed double-spaced and may not contain more than 350 words. Letters must be signed and marked "for publication." A complete policy statement is available on request.

"Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." From this has developed the important doctrine of separation of church and state and freedom of choice.

Christians long to see every individual come to Christ. But God has given the right to accept or reject him to each individual. A person can accept Christ and become a child of God, or he can reject the Master and remain an unregenerated sinner.

Christians have the freedom to be taught by the Holy Spirit. A preacher friend related a conversation with a young boy who came from a totally non-Christian background. The boy dropped in one Sunday morning to ask his pastor, "How can I understand the Bible?"

Almost without thought, the minister replied, "Read your Bible and ask the Holy Spirit to guide you."

As time passed the pastor began to hear reports of the boy's remarkable understanding of the Scripture. One day after school he went to visit the young fellow as well as to witness to his family. The boy was on the front porch reading his Bible. Without being aware that his pastor was approaching he raised his eyes and said, "Lord, I just don't understand this Scripture. I need your help with it."

After some time elapsed the boy spoke audibly again. "Sure, that's what it means. Thank you, Lord for helping me."

The preacher had learned the boy's secret: a fact that most of us know, but fail to apply. The foundations of freedom are in God's Word. God intends for all people to have the freedom of worship, freedom of choice, and the freedom to come before God. It is imperative that we hold high freedom's holy light.

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Letters to the Editor

Alcohol Tax

We Baptists are known for our historic concern about the role of alcohol in our society. We join other Americans in concern about the federal deficit. What do alcohol and the deficit have to do with each other? Increasing taxes on alcoholic beverages may be one way to help reduce the deficit. In addition, alcohol tax increases could be used to help pay for the cost of alcohol problems to society.

Currently alcoholic beverages are not taxed equally. The alcohol in liquor is taxed at four times the rate of alcohol in beer, and about 17 times the rate of alcohol in wine. Alcohol is a drug and regardless of its source, poses roughly the same risks. All alcohol should be taxed at least as high as the rate liquor is taxed. In addition, lower taxes (and thus lower prices) for wine and beer perpetuate the myth that they are somehow less dangerous. Higher taxes may be one way to help reduce consumption of these substances.

The excise taxes on beer and wine have not been raised since 1951. The time has come for Christians to speak louder than the beer and wine producers. Ask your congressman to substantially increase alcohol excise taxes and to designate some of the funds for programs to combat alcohol abuse and alcoholism. Exercise stewardship of your citizenship. Write your representative and senators today! (Write Senator David Pryor and Senator Dale Bumpers at: U.S. Senate, Washington D.C. 20510 and your representative at: U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515).—Vickie Willis, Russellville

Using the Hymnal

Many ministers of music hired on a part-time or volunteer basis feel inadequate in planning worship services. This attitude may be caused by limited resources or talent restrictions within the church. This attitude may be caused by limited resources or talent restrictions within the church. But, our limitations do not excuse us from exploring a creative and effective worship experience for our congregation and to God. One tool which is not used to its full extent is the *Baptist Hymnal*. Not only does our hymnal provide responsive and antiphonal Scripture readings for corporate worship in speech, a topical index for service themes, and an index of authors and composers for services which emphasize

the work of a particular hymn writer, but it also provides a Metrical Index of Tunes which may be a tool which greatly enhances a worship service.

To utilize the Metrical Index (pg. 554, 1975 edition), choose a hymn whose tune is familiar to the congregation. After this, look up the tune name (found in bold print below the hymn) and its meter in the Alphabetical Index of Tunes (pg. 550). Then, find the meter in the Metrical Index of Tunes (e.g., C.M., Common Meter) and observe the other hymns listed under the same meter classification. Now, sing the test of an unused hymn to the familiar tune found in the same meter classification. For example, I placed "The Head That Once Was Crowned" (pg. 125) in the order of

worship, and we sang it to the tune of "Amazing Grace." The minister needs to check the hymn out before he places it in the worship service; some rhythms in hymn tunes are incompatible to syllabic emphasis in another's text.

Though many ministers of music are aware of the Metrical Index, few know its purpose or simply don't use it. It really works! This method may be used in providing a choir anthem or a congregational hymn in small and large churches. This process provides fresh text to familiar tunes which increases effectiveness and provides creativity to worship services, even when a music ministry cannot afford materials or is limited in talent.—Timothy J. Fowler, Arkadelphia

'PROCLAIM PEACE'

Day of Prayer for World Peace Aug. 6

by Larry Braidfoot
SBC Christian Life Commission

God is love and truth and peace. In a broken world, where nations set themselves against each other in postures of war, we need reminding that God is a God of peace. The hope, the good news he extends to nations, is one not of war but of peace (Dt. 20:10).

We find it easier to talk of peace in times when we do not feel threatened. This may be in the absence of conflict or when the conflict is almost over.

But the call of God is to proclaim peace when the world would proclaim words of war. God, indeed, calls us to proclaim peace as battle nears.

The words from Deuteronomy are striking. God was moving the chosen people into the land where he would establish them. With God as the ultimate king and with human kings ruling as his representatives, the noblest of all political visions was before them.

Warfare was commonplace in a more barbaric time, as were slavery and other forms of inhumanity. But in the midst of warfare, in the quest for the promised land, destruction of the enemy was not

something God desired. As he did with slavery and the treatment of women and the poor, God revealed a higher way than the way practiced by the neighbors.

In the very act of conflict, the people of God were to proclaim peace. The hope of God was that peace could be established among the peoples of the land. This hope was not an idle one. It was one which God commanded his people to share and to do. No nation today is like Old Testament Israel with God as the king and with human rulers as his representatives. However, our responsibility to proclaim peace is at least as great as that of the people of Israel.

Rahab accepted the message of peace and, as a result, her family was delivered. The message of peace today, delivered by Christians working in obedience to God through the governments of the world, will deliver others from warfare and destruction. We will discover that among those delivered are our sons and daughters.

The Day of Prayer for World Peace is a day to view the world through God's eyes and to discover that prayer changes people, including ourselves.

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Drunk Driving

A Sweeping New National Campaign



by Robert Parham
SBC Christian Life Commission

More than 24,000 Americans were killed and another 534,000 were seriously injured last year in alcohol-related traffic accidents. Almost 2 million people were arrested that same year for drunk driving.

To reduce the human wreckage, Surgeon General C. Everett Koop, in his last major press conference before retiring, launched a sweeping campaign against drunk driving. His initiative is based upon recommendations made by a panel of 120 health officials, academicians, and public policy experts at a workshop in December 1988.

Among Koop's 10 recommendations were the following:

—Increase the federal excise tax on beer, wine and liquor to at least 5 cents a drink, and earmark the revenue for funding of impaired driving programs. Strong evidence exists that an increase in the price of alcoholic beverages—which would be accomplished with taxation—delays youthful drinking and reduces the amount consumed.

Koop noted that the federal excise tax rates on alcoholic beverages have remained virtually the same since 1951 and that "a six-pack of beer often sells for less than a six-pack of soda."

—Reduce sharply and immediately the legal blood-alcohol limits from 0.10 to 0.08 percent. The recommendation also calls for a reduction of 0.04 by the year 2000. Additionally, the blood-alcohol concentration for drivers under 21 years of age should be 0.00 percent.

—Provide funds for public service advertisements for pro-health and pro-safety messages to match the number of alcohol-related ads.

—Eliminate "happy hours" and other reduced-price promotions through state legislation.

—End voluntarily alcohol promotion on college campuses and at public events, as well as eliminate voluntarily the alcohol industries' official sponsorship of sports events.

—Halt voluntarily the use of celebrities who have a strong appeal to youth in

alcohol advertising and promotion which implies a link between drinking and athletic, social and sexual success.

—Form a national coalition for supporting the national campaign against drunk driving.

Opposition to Koop's recommendations has been and will be well organized and well financed. On the opening day of the Surgeon General's December 1988

Hearing Held on Drunk Driving

by Louis Moore
SBC Christian Life Commission

WASHINGTON (BP)—Sen. John Glenn, D-Ohio, said he wishes the American public could get as excited about curbing drunk driving as it has about war.

He made the statement during the second day of hearing on alcohol-impaired driving, June 21.

Every two years, as many Americans die in alcohol-related automobile accidents as died during the entire 10 years of the Vietnam war, he said.

In his opening statement on the first day of hearing held by the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs, Glenn said: "Alcohol costs this country more money, and kills more people, than all illegal drugs combined."

"Nearly 24,000 people—an average of one every 22 minutes—lost their lives in alcohol-related traffic crashes last year. An additional 534,000 people suffered injuries in alcohol-involved accidents."

The hearings were held in response to Surgeon General C. Everett Koop's recommendations to Congress on drunk driving.

In addition to Koop, 16 people testified at the hearings. Nine represented either the alcoholic beverage industry or advertising organizations, and all criticized the surgeon general's report.

James C. Sanders, president of the Beer Institute, said beer advertising does not contribute to alcohol abuse and underage drinking. "The sole purpose of advertis-

workshop on drunk driving, the National Beer Wholesalers Association filed a lawsuit to postpone or cancel the meeting. After his press conference on May 31, spokespersons for the alcohol industry criticized and belittled numerous portions of the report.

Contrary to his critics, the Surgeon General has produced a strong, balanced, reasonable and far-reaching report. The nation's chief health officer has done his job well.

Now it is our turn to act. Southern Baptists can reduce the human tragedy resulting from the combination of alcohol and motor vehicles.

Begin today with a first step. Write your U.S. Representative and Senators, asking them to give leadership to and resources for the implementation of Koop's recommendations that they have just received (U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515, and U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510).

ing is to persuade existing beer drinkers to choose one brand over another."

Sanders and several other alcohol-industry representatives criticized the call for an increased federal excise tax, arguing that it would be a heavy burden on middle- and low-income consumers.

Douglas W. Metz, executive vice president and general counsel of the Wine and Spirits Wholesalers of America Inc., called the excise tax "ineffective in curbing alcohol abuse."

Speaking in favor of excise taxes, Dan E. Beauchamp, deputy commissioner for the New York State Department of Health, said: "Alcohol behaves in the market much like any other commodity. From the public policy standpoint, taxes on alcoholic beverages cause consumption, even heavy consumption, to decline."

"Alcohol taxes save lives. Alcohol taxes save young lives. Alcohol taxes will discourage the consumption of the major illegal drug used by youth, beer."

One of the sharpest exchanges during the hearings occurred when Glenn interrupted the testimony of Harold A. Shoup, executive vice president of American Association of Advertising Agencies. Shoup said advertising agencies had spent nearly \$112 million during a three-year period on a campaign to increase public awareness about the drunk-driving problem. After repeated questions from Glenn, Shoup said the alcohol industry spends \$2 billion annually on promotions of its products.

YOUTH IN CRISIS: *Second of a Six-Part Series*

Too Young to Die

by Mark Kelly

Managing Editor, Arkansas Baptist

It was getting late when the telephone rang. The caller's message was brief: "We've got to talk. Meet me at McDonald's in 15 minutes."

She was waiting for him when he pulled onto the parking lot. He parked his car next to hers, and she got in. He could tell by the look on her face it was serious.

She sat silently in the darkness for a few moments. When she finally did speak, the words bit him hard: "I think I'm pregnant."

What were they going to do? Her parents would probably throw her out of the house. They were in no position to get married. An abortion was too frightening to even think about.

The longer they talked, the more it seemed they had nowhere to turn. After a long, desperate silence, he finally said, "There's one thing we can do. It will solve every thing."

They worked out the details of a suicide pact. The time. The place. The method. Not only would this solve the problem, they thought, but it also would show everyone just how much they really loved each other.

As she drove home, she remembered a young man who had come to her high school to talk about youth suicide. She recalled that she had been given a book, and that inside the front cover was a phone number. A local youth minister had told the assembly, "If you're ever thinking about taking your life, call me at that number. It doesn't matter what time of the day or night. Call me."

Her telephone conversation with the youth minister was almost as brief as the one with her boyfriend. He agreed to meet her, despite the lateness of the hour, and they talked about her problem. He convinced her to wait before she did anything rash.

They met regularly for the next several weeks. During that period of time, two very significant things happened. First, she decided to give Christ an opportunity to straighten her life out. Second, a medical test showed she had not been pregnant after all.

In larger numbers than ever before, America's teenagers are killing themselves. Confused by dramatic changes in their own bodies and the world around them and faced on every hand by seemingly impossible problems, teenagers by the hundreds of thousands are choosing what seems to

them the only solution.

This epidemic has assumed frightening proportions during the last three decades. Suicide rates for young persons ages 15 to 24 have increased 300 percent since 1950. In 1988, 500,000 teenagers tried to kill themselves; 6,000 succeeded.

Only alcohol kills more young Americans each year.

Randy Brantley, youth minister at Central Baptist Church in Jonesboro, knows firsthand the dimensions of the youth suicide problem.

In 1988, Brantley helped organize a Jonesboro rally for Jerry Johnston, a youth communicator from Overland Park, Kan., who specializes in the subject of teenage suicide. More than 5,000 persons attended the rally, which was held at Arkansas State University. Paperback copies of Johnston's book, *Why Suicide?* were distributed free of charge. Inside the front cover was a sticker with Brantley's name and telephone number.

After the rally, Brantley began receiving a steady stream of telephone calls. Two or three times a week for three months, he met with desperate teens, often in the middle of the night. A year later, he still gets calls from youths who were given copies of the book.

"When the phone rings in the middle of the night, it always makes my heart pound, because I know how serious those calls are," Brantley confides. "I try to get them talking about their thoughts and feelings and what they are going to do.

"Often I find that the teenager simply feels rejected or unloved," he continues. "Many times the feelings are related to a break-up with a boyfriend or girlfriend.

"Young people are searching for meaning and significance in life," he adds. "They try materialism, but they don't find it there. They try a relationship, thinking they will find it there, but the break-up leads to depression."

Johnston says several circumstances lead teenagers to attempt suicide. In *Why*

Suicide? (Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1987), he lists those "fatal factors" as including:

— Soured romantic relationships. A teenage boy or girl who sees sex in a relationship as an expression of commitment can be overwhelmed by the rejection which comes when he or she is "dumped" in favor of another.

— Alcohol and drug abuse. Teenagers are the only age group in America for which the mortality rate has gone up during the last two decades. The U.S. Surgeon General's office attributes that rise in part to suicide brought on by alcohol- or drug-induced depression.

— Family breakdown. The teenager must

Photo illustration / Jim Veneman



cope with tremendous pressures: divorce, remarriage, blended families, single parent families, undeclared divorce homes, unreasonable expectations, the trauma of mobility, the death of a loved one, physical or sexual abuse.

— Rock music role models. The lifestyles, philosophies, and even the lyrics of rock stars such as AC/DC, Black Sabbath, Blue Oyster Cult, and Ozzy Osbourne have a "damaging influence" on teenagers who immerse themselves in the rock culture.

— Fantasy games. Role-playing games, such as Dungeons & Dragons, can drive a teenager to the point of desperation when he fails to complete an assignment.

In *Ministry with Youth in Crisis*, published by Convention Press, Texas pastor Bill Blackburn adds to the list:

— The nature of adolescence. Embarrassment, awkwardness, rejection, and loneliness affect emotionally immature teenagers in extreme ways.

— A romantic view of death. To teenagers, death seems remote and unreal. Young people have "little sense of how fragile life is or how quickly it can end."

— Radical futurelessness. Threats to human existence, like nuclear holocaust or ecological disaster, can convince a pessimistic teen that death is imminent anyway.

Brantley, who authored the material on teen suicide for Arkansas' Youth Issues Institute, says that, contrary to much popular opinion, persons contemplating suicide do give out warning signs. He identifies nine major symptoms of impending suicide:

— Expressing suicidal thoughts or being preoccupied with death.

— Making preparations for death, such as giving away prized possessions or making out a will.

— Dramatic changes in sleeping patterns, either sleeping too much or too little.

— Dramatic changes in eating habits or body weight.

— Sudden changes in school performance, such as a drop in grades.

(continued on next page)

Depression can tear you to pieces.

The New Hope Institute at Doctors Hospital is the state's first inpatient psychiatric program to offer an optional Christian component to treatment.

If you or someone you love suffers from depression or other emotional problems, call New Hope Institute today at 663-HOPE or 1-800-343-6571.

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You HAVE Made A Difference!



YOUTH SUICIDE PREVENTION CONFERENCE

Youth suicides in Arkansas have dropped over 18% in the four-year period the Youth Suicide Prevention Commission has been in existence. Concerned citizens, like yourself, have helped to make this difference.

But we've only just begun. We still need your help. And we need your friends and neighbors to join us.

To increase public awareness, the 17 Roller Funeral Homes of Arkansas are again this year an underwriter of the statewide conference in cooperation with the Commission and the Lt. Governor's office.

This year's conference will be held in Little Rock October 14 in the Christian Life Center at the Pulaski Heights Methodist Church. More information on the conference will be available in August at our funeral homes and the Lt. Governor's office.

**Be informed. Learn the facts.
Look for the signs. It may save a life.**



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— Sudden changes in social activities, such as dropping friends and spending excessive amounts of time alone.

— Personality changes, such as nervousness, angry outbursts, apathy, or personal appearance.

— Self-destructive behaviors, such as alcohol or drug abuse, getting into accidents, or taking life-risking chances.

— Previous suicide attempts.

Parents, teachers, and friends who are sensitive to those signals can help a suicidal teen by getting involved, Brantley says.

First, Brantley warns one must take suicide warning signs very seriously. He suggests it is better to go directly to a teenager and ask them what he means by his comments or actions, rather than taking a chance by not asking.

Second, if the symptoms are found to be serious, the young person must not be left alone, Brantley says. Immediate help from a pastor, youth worker, or professional counselor must be sought.

Third, the teenager must be encouraged to tell his parents. Suicide symptoms must never be kept in confidence, he cautions. One should go with the teen to tell his parents, both to lend encouragement and

to ensure that the parents are told.

Fourth, one should get the young person to talk about his feelings. He suggests that the opposite of "depression" is "expression" and points out that helping a teen get his feelings out in the open makes the problems seem less overwhelming.

Finally, Brantley asks teenagers he counsels to write a "life letter" giving three reasons for living. At this point, he relates Scriptures which teach the worth of the individual as a creation of God and show that God has a plan for each life.

Johnston encourages parents to be "genuinely open and interested" in their teenager's interests and activities. He observes that too many parents are not accessible and available to listen to their teenager's concerns.

In addition, he counsels parents to be accepting of teenage dress and music, except for the most bizarre and perverse extremes. Most importantly, he challenges them to be active and involved with their youngsters. Family activities increase opportunities to communicate and build parent/teen rap-

Teen Suicide Resources

The following is a partial list of materials and organizations addressing the teenage suicide issue. The list is not intended to be comprehensive, nor does it constitute an endorsement by the *Arkansas Baptist*.

Ministry with Youth in Crisis

Richard Ross and Judi Hayes, compilers
Convention Press, Nashville, 1988

Why Suicide?

Jerry Johnston
Thomas Nelson, Nashville, 1987

Jerry Johnston Evangelistic Association
P.O. Box 12193
Overland Park, KS 66212
913-492-2066

Dawson McAllister
Shepherd Ministries
P.O. Box 3512
Irving, TX 75015
214-570-7599

Youth Suicide Prevention Commission
270 State Capitol
Little Rock, AR 72201
501-682-2144

The Bridgeway
501-771-1500

A 70-bed acute-care psychiatric hospital. Free evaluation and recommendations for four programs directed toward children, youth, and adults. Offers chemical dependency/dual diagnosis treatment.

Minirth-Meier-Rice Clinic
501-225-0576

An outpatient clinic providing Christian medical and psychiatric counseling and therapy. Programs for individual and family counseling, group therapy, as well as educational programs and resources.

New Hope Institute
501-663-4673; 1-800-343-6571

A 28-bed inpatient Christian psychiatric program located at Doctor's Hospital in Little Rock. Adolescents treated on an outpatient basis or through other facilities. Evaluation and referral for hospital care and outpatient services.

New Life Counseling Service
501-664-3010

A private mental health group providing outpatient counseling and crisis intervention. Christian program for individual and family counseling and group therapy.

Teen Challenge
501-624-2446

A private, non-profit program for persons with "life-controlling problems." Fourteen-month intensive discipleship process directed toward applying biblical principles to problem areas. "Turning Point" program trains leaders to use principles in congregation.

Teen Suicide Prevention Taskforce
P.O. Box 76463
Washington, D.C. 20013
301-627-1595

Turning Point
501-370-1360

A behavioral unit located at Children's Hospital in Little Rock. Providing short-term inpatient care, followed by continuing outpatient care. Free assessment and recommendation offered 24 hours a day.

Youth Home, Inc.
501-666-1960

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port while decreasing the likelihood that parents will be unaware of the pressures teenagers are facing.

Parents and church leaders concerned about teenage suicide will want to attend the fourth annual Youth Suicide Prevention Conference to be held Saturday, Oct. 14, at Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church in Little Rock.

The day-long conference will involve 30 to 40 presenters and 10 workshops dealing with various facets of the youth suicide

problem, according to conference spokesman Mike Ross. Among the presentations will be a panel of Arkansas religious leaders who will discuss the church's role and approach to youth suicide.

Last year's conference drew more than 400 participants from 85 communities, Ross said. Reduced registration fees are expected to significantly enlarge participation in the 1989 conference.

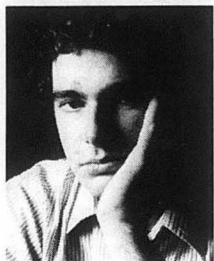
The conference is sponsored by the Arkansas Youth Suicide Prevention Commission, set up in 1985 by Arkansas Lt.

Governor Winston Bryant. The non-profit organization uses private sector contributions to address the problem of teenage suicide. It receives no state or federal funds.

Registration for the program will begin at 9 a.m., and the conference will conclude after 4 p.m. Registration fees of \$10 for adults and \$5 for students include the cost of lunch.

For more information, write the Arkansas Youth Suicide Prevention Commission, 270 State Capitol, Little Rock, AR 72201; telephone 501-682-2144.

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Next Week: Teenage Drug Abuse

Five Top CP Churches

Five Arkansas Baptist churches were among the top 100 in Cooperative Program giving during the past year. They were: Immanuel Church, Little Rock; Geyer Springs First Church, Little Rock; Grand Avenue Church, Fort Smith; Park Hill Church, North Little Rock; and First Church, Springdale.

SBC Receives Sears Honor

WALNUT RIDGE—Southern Baptist College has been selected to participate in the Sears-Roebuck Foundation's 1989-90 Teaching Excellence and Campus Leadership Award Program, according to President D. Jack Nicholas.

The awards, which are presented to more than 700 of the nation's leading private liberal arts colleges and universities, will recognize top educators on each campus for their resourcefulness and leadership. Each winning faculty member will receive \$1,000 and the institution will receive a grant ranging from \$500 to \$1,500 based on student enrollment. Institutional

grants can be used to encourage campus leadership, faculty enrichment and improved teaching. Winners will be selected by independent committees on each campus.

Revival Volunteers

An orientation session for all men wishing to volunteer to participate in Revival '89 at Cummins Unit in Grady will be held on Sept. 29 from 12 noon to 3 p.m. in the chapel. The revival will start Friday night Sept. 29, have two services on Saturday and a Sunday morning service at 8 a.m.

Those wishing to participate should contact Chaplain Herbert Holley at 479-3311 by Sept. 15.

Foundation Honors OBU

Ouachita Baptist University was among the 14 Southern Baptist colleges and universities that received honorable mention in the 1989 Templeton Foundation Honor Roll for Character Building Colleges.

Eighteen other Southern Baptist institutions were included placed on the honor roll, a listing of 92

four-year college and universities nationwide which best exemplify campuses that encourage the development of strong moral character among students.

Arthur L. Walker, Jr., executive director of the Southern Baptist Education Commission, said the fact that more than 37 percent of the 48 Southern Baptist four-year colleges and universities made the Templeton honor roll, attests to the strong commitment Southern Baptist schools have made to the integration of faith and discipline into all areas of academic life.

Baptists For Life

Baptists For Life will begin holding meetings on the last Thursday of each month, beginning on July 27, with the next meeting scheduled for Aug. 31. The meetings will take place at 7 p.m. at South Highland Church in Little Rock. For further information, call Lisa Clay at 224-6218.

The group, although composed exclusively of Southern Baptists, is not part of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention or sponsored by the Convention.

LOCAL & STATE

Arkansas All Over

MILLIE GILL

People

James Burlison, minister of music at Chicot Road Church in Mabelvale, has announced plans to enter full-time music evangelism. He may be contacted at 6809 Yorkwood, Little Rock, AR 72209; telephone 501-565-3965.

J.D. Webb has announced his resignation, effective Sept. 1, as associate pastor to senior adults at Beech Street First Church in Texarkana.

Dorothy Jackson recently was elected membership chairperson for when the Association for Student Development in Southern Baptist Colleges and Universities held its annual conference at Belmont College in Nashville, Tenn. Jackson serves on the staff of Southern Baptist College in Walnut Ridge.

Dean Holbrook is serving as pastor of First Church in Palestine.

James Tallant is serving as interim pastor of Widener Church.

Tommy Reed began serving July 12 as associate pastor of First Church in Glenwood. He and his wife, Vicki, moved there from Old Union Church in Monticello.

John Lawrence is serving as pastor of Cole Ridge Church near Blytheville. He and his wife, Sherric, have three children.

Tim Stanley has resigned as minister of music and youth at East End Church in Hensley.

Marty Gibson has resigned as pastor of Bethany Church, Georgetown.

Allen Elkins of North Little Rock is serving as summer youth minister at Central Church in Bald Knob.

Ralph Branum will retire July 30 as pastor of Good Hope Church in McCrory.

Lawrence L. Wilson will begin serving Aug. 1 as pastor of Cullendale First Church in Camden, coming there from Springdale Church in Fort Worth, Texas. A native of Siloam Springs, he is a graduate of Wayland Baptist University Plainview, Texas, and has attended Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is married to the former Barbara Yarbrough. They have four children, Tim Wilson of Conway, Ted Wilson of

Newton, Miss., Jim Wilson of Palm Desert, Calif., and Lori Wilson of Fort Worth.

John R. Hensley Jr. has resigned as minister of music and youth at Morrilton First Church to continue his education at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Debbie Moore, missionary to Liberia, can be addressed at 7510 Brompton No. 670, Houston, TX 77025.

Briefly

Everton Church held its first Acteens recognition service July 9. Special recognition for the Queen level was given to Kelly Mathis, Wendy Moore, and Kristina Hill. Queen with Scepter was given to Kristina Hill. Others recognized were Kim Bell, Cheryl Hankins, Cindy Hankins, Mary Popa, and Jennifer Williams. Darlene Trammell, Acteen director, and Mary Lou Hill,

WMU director, conducted the service. Special guest was Marie Hogan, WMU director for North Arkansas Association. Dan Hill is pastor.

Walnut Street Church in Jonesboro Missionaries on Mission team has returned from working with New Hope Church in Rose City, Mich.

Community Chapel Church at Crossett recently licensed Gary Carpenter to the preaching ministry.

Sardis Church at Montrose will observe homecoming Aug. 6.

Forest Tower Church in Little Rock voted July 12 to pay \$9,200 borrowed from the ABCS Missions Department revolving loan fund. A check was mailed July 16, according to Pastor Brad Rogge.

Russellville First Church 35-member mission team left July 22 for Muncie, Ind., to conduct a vacation Bible school and a religious survey for Community Chapel.

Higginson First Church mission team left July 20 for Montana to work with the Livingston and Big Timber churches.



Immanuel Church in Little Rock dedicated its newly acquired and renovated education center July 9. Participating in the ribbon-cutting ceremony were (left to right) Glenn Hickey, director of missions for Pulaski Association; Russ Harrington, deacon chairman-elect; Don Moore, executive director of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention; Bill Webb, associate pastor of education; and Pastor Brian Harbour. The five-story, 20,000 square foot structure is valued at \$570,000 and will house 10 Sunday School departments.

Converting a Theater

Jonesboro is one of the few places in the country where Christian families have an alternative to the usual menu of sex and violence at local movie houses.

At least twice each month, Jonesboro's Forum theater is converted into a Christian movie theater, thanks to the efforts of Rich and Dave Christiano.

The Christianos, who produce Christian films through their Jonesboro-based Christiano Brothers Films, rent the 690-seat community theater at least two Saturday nights each month. The Christian films they show have drawn as many as 500 persons from Jonesboro and surrounding towns.

1989 Annual Associational Meetings

Arkansas River Valley	Oct. 9-10	First, Danville; First, Hector
Arkansas Valley	Oct. 16	First, Clarendon
Ashley	Oct. 9-10	Fountain Hill, Crossett; Mt. Olive, Crossett
Bartholomew	Oct. 16-17	Calvary, Monticello; Southside, Warren
Benton	Oct. 16-17	First, Decatur
Big Creek	Oct. 12-13	Mt. Zion; Enterprise, Viola
Black River	Oct. 16-17	Diaz; Sedgwick
Buckner	Oct. 10, 12	Hartford, First; Parks
Buckville	Sept. 23-24	Rock Springs
Caddo River	Oct. 16-17	Community Bible; Norman, First
Calvary	Oct. 17	Valley, Searcy
Carey	Oct. 16-17	Sparkman, First; Hampton, First
Caroline	Oct. 17	Baugh Chapel, Austin
Centennial	Oct. 16-17	First, Dewitt; North Maple, Stuttgart
Central	Oct. 12	Benton, First
Clear Creek	Oct. 17	Lamar
Concord	Oct. 16-17	First, Greenwood
Conway-Perry	Oct. 17, 19	Union Valley, Perryville; First, Solgohachia
Current-Gains	Oct. 16-17	First, Rector; First, Success
Delta	Oct. 16-17	Dermott; Collins
Faulkner	Oct. 21	Pickles Gap
Garland	Oct. 16-17	First, Park Place; Antioch Second
Greene County	Oct. 9-10	West View, Paragould
Harmony	Oct. 16	Central, Pine Bluff; Immanuel, Pine Bluff
Independence	Oct. 16-17	Newark; First, Desha
Liberty	Oct. 16	Hillside, Camden
Little Red River	Oct. 16-17	First, Heber Springs; South Side, Heber Springs
Little River	Oct. 9-10	First, Foreman; Ridgeway, Nashville
Mississippi	Oct. 16	Calvary, Osceola
Mt. Zion	Oct. 16-17	Philadelphia; First, Black Oak
North Arkansas	Oct. 17	Southside, Lead Hill
North Central	Oct. 9-10	Leslie; Formosa
North Pulaski	Oct. 16	Bayou Meto, Jacksonville
Ouachita	Oct. 9-10	Chapel Hill, DeQueen; Dallas Avenue, Mena
Pulaski	Oct. 16-17	Archview, Little Rock; Reynolds Memorial
Red River	Oct. 16-17	Park Hill, Arkadelphia; Baughton, Prescott
Rocky Bayou	Oct. 12-13	Cherokee Village; Midway
Southwest	Oct. 19	Highland Hills, Texarkana
Tri-County	Oct. 23	Second, Forrest City
Trinity	Oct. 16-17	Corners Chapel; Pleasant Valley
Washington-Madison	Oct. 16-17	First, Springdale
White River	Oct. 16-17	East Side, Mt. Home; Flippin

Since they operate the theater as a ministry and not a business, overhead is kept to a minimum, say the Christianos. The \$350 a month needed to keep the ministry going is provided by grants from local churches, advertising income, and freewill contributions. Admission to the evening is free.

Ed Underwood, youth minister at Jonesboro's Calvary Chapel, has not missed a single movie night since the project began in October 1988. "It's a great place to assemble our youth group and enjoy godly entertainment with a message," he says. "Jonesboro needed this theater, and I'd say every other community could use one too."

Individuals interested in organizing a Christian movie night may contact Rich or Dave Christiano in Jonesboro at 501-932-7018.

Billy Graham Crusade Countdown

August

- * Youth Rally
- 3-4 Prayer Seminars with Millie Dienert
- 7-18 Nurture Group Training
- 21-27 Prayer Hosts Extend Invitations
- 22 Concert of Prayer
- 26 Leadership Breakfast with Dr. Emmanuel Scott
- 27 Support Sunday
- 28-9/22 Prayertime Broadcasts

September

- * High School Assemblies
- 5-9 Roots—One-on-One Discipleship Training
- 9 Christian Life & Witness Make-Up Class
- 9-10 Visitation
- 11-16 Rehearsals
- 17-24 CRUSADE
- 18-21 Regional Satellite Crusades
- 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.

Before the Crusade

"If I were a pastor in Arkansas I would make the Billy Graham Crusade my complete priority until September 15," declared E. V. Hill, pastor of the Mt. Zion Church, Los Angeles, Calif. Dr. Hill was in Little Rock on July 13 as the featured speaker for a Prayer Rally preceding the Billy Graham Crusade. There were more than 1,850 people present at the Agape Church, Little Rock for the meeting.

Hill, a National Baptist pastor, also spoke to a group of approximately 25 black pastors at the Oasis Retreat Center, Little Rock. In his discussion with the pastors and in his message he emphasized the importance of all churches being involved in the Billy Graham Crusade. He said, "Often people don't realize what is involved in a Billy Graham Crusade. Many are waiting until September to become a part of the effort."

Hill said that the crusade itself will be the culmination of a year long effort to reach the lost in Arkansas. Already there has been witnessing training which has touched over 5,000 people. There must also be a great deal of prayer for those who will actually be contacting the lost.

Preparation includes enlisting of choir members and ushers and planning the school of evangelism. During the week of the crusade, Sept. 17-24, a school of evangelism will be held to train pastors in becoming effective in reaching the lost. There will probably be approximately 2,000 pastors attending this school from 20 states.

The Billy Graham staff and local church leaders are also in the process of selecting personalities, other than Billy Graham, to participate in the crusade. It is essential that everyone pray that the right individuals will be enlisted so that every portion of the crusade will be effective.

Hill also emphasized that there is no doubt that the devil will be opposing the crusade. Often during a Billy Graham Crusade there are those who come with the intention of disrupting the effort. In some crusades this opposition has made the sponsors bitter and, when the crusade

started, it began on a negative note. It is essential that all committed Christians pray that their attitude will be proper as they respond to the opposition.

Second, Hill emphasized that we can solve problems through prayer. It is essential that we totally bathe the crusade and all that surrounds it in prayer. Starting with the prayer rally, the crusade leadership will strive to organize 5,000 groups of two or three people who will be praying for the crusade. In addition to these groups there will be other thousands of people who will

ABN photo / J. Everett Sneed



E.V. Hill and Dan Southern

be praying for this effort. These prayers are essential if the crusade is to be all that God wants it to be.

Hill has been a member of Graham's national Board for 16 years. Hill has been involved in most of the crusades that have been conducted by Billy Graham for approximately 25 years. In this crusade he not only was the featured speaker for the prayer rally, but also will bring the keynote address for the school of evangelism.

Hill has served the Mt. Zion Church of Los Angeles for 28 years located in south central Los Angeles. He said that he had chosen to not move the church because it was located in the middle of the problem area of Los Angeles. In many cities there is an invisible barrier which encloses all of the problems of the city. Hill's church has worked to meet all kinds of problems. He said, "We feed, clothe, counsel and get people out of jail."

In order to respond to the spiritual and physical needs, Hill has developed several responses. First, there are 59 committees that have the responsibility of witnessing and leading people to the Lord. Second, there are 80 groups that are designed to educate and mature those who have been reached for Christ. Finally, there are 40 organizations designed to meet human needs within the community.

Hill said, "The greatest need for our churches today is for individuals to get their priorities straight. Our members need to realize that just worshipping and being fed by the pastor is not enough."

Hill believes that many evangelical churches

are interested in only reaching middle class people. He said, "They want nice people who come to church in three piece suits, drive Mercedes Benz and live in four bedroom homes."

Hill emphasized that God intends for his church to reach all kinds of people. This includes the homeless, the hungry, and individuals with all kinds of sin problems.

Hill believes that there is a need for inner city churches to develop a model on evangelism and ministering. In two or three years the Mt. Zion Church will have written materials that any individual can come and study and learn techniques of working in the inner city.

The church has 4,000 members. Two thousand of these are actively involved in the congregation. The church has three services.

The only negative note that occurred was during the question period with the 25 black pastors during the noon hour. Two of the pastors raised questions concerning the lack of black employees in the crusade office. One of these individuals had sought employment with the crusade.

Contrary to information that was carried in a statewide newspaper, there were only four positions that were open for local employment. Other staff members are full time Billy Graham employees and moved to Little Rock from other locations.

Churches, both black and white, throughout the greater Little Rock area were notified of the need for staff members. Dan Southern, local crusade director, emphasized the strictness of their policies. All individuals employed must be committed Christians who are fully qualified to carry out the assigned responsibilities.

Dr. Hill observed that it was good that these questions had been raised. He gave three positive results that come from raising questions such as these: (1) the individual raising the questions feels better, (2) this makes Dan Southern aware of the feelings of those who have raised the questions and makes it possible for him in future crusades to avoid these potential difficulties, . . . and (3) it provides opportunity for Dr. Hill to stress the importance of the evangelistic effort. Hill said, "If people want to see the lost saved, they will put aside all problems and make this crusade a priority."

Dan Southern said, "When we leave for our next crusade in Long Island, N. Y., I would be pleased to have a committed, well-trained black couple to go with us to be a part of our permanent staff. Normally we use couples on our staff and both individuals need to have the ability to work in the crusade office."



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WMU photo / Sean Doyle



Glittery designs from the face-painting booth at the outdoor festival adorn Marcena Middleton, Katrina Blevins, and Danielle Collier, all of Osage Church.

'A Shining Light'

by Marv Knox & Ken Camp
Baptist Press

SAN ANTONIO, Texas—Teen-age girls from across the country have committed themselves to hold up the light of Christ in a world filled with darkness.

More than 850 girls responded to the challenge during the National Acteens conference in San Antonio, Texas, July 12-15. The conference—which attracted 13,600 teens—was conducted by the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union, which sponsors Acteens, a missions organization for girls in grades 7-12.

"You and I are the light of Christ. We have his flame in us," Esther Burroughs, national evangelism consultant for women for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, told the girls. "But if we have so much light, how come the world is so dark?"

Burroughs challenged the Acteens to "hold the light" for people stumbling in the darkness: "I want you to do only what Jesus has asked you to do. Carry the light of Christ. Be the light, dispelling the darkness in harmony with God."

The darkness of the world was displayed in a processional of "missing threads"—a parade of 38 black flags representing nations closed or hostile to Christian missionaries.

And to illustrate the effectiveness of a single light shining in harmony with other single lights, the house lights in the arena were dimmed as Acteens turned on pocket

flashlights they had received earlier in the evening.

"May we be a shining light to the nations — a shining light to the peoples of the earth," Burroughs prayed. "Till the whole world sees the glory of your name, may your pure light shine through us."

The 850-plus girls who accepted Burroughs's challenge either announced faith in Christ, recommitted faith in him, stated intention to become missionaries or expressed other personal spiritual concerns, said Jan Turrentine, editor of *Accent*, the WMU magazine for Acteens. Information on each decision will be sent to each girl's pastor.

The commitment service highlighted four days of events that centered on the convention theme, "In Harmony."

"We wanted Acteens to discover harmony with God, others and self, and as a result, to be challenged to bring others into harmony in those same ways," said Mari Solomon, the WMU's Acteens consultant.

"We wanted NAC to be a life-changing experience—a time for Acteens to come together and fellowship with one another, draw closer to God, deepen their spiritual walk, strengthen their call to missions and maybe even be willing to follow God's call into missions."

The various components of the convention illustrated the harmony theme:

—"Compositions," a series of Bible studies written by Rosalie Beck, associate professor of religion at Baylor University

in Waco, Texas, and presented by 17 leaders. The studies urged the girls to discover harmony in their lives.

A key is forming a proper relationship with God, she said: "We are made in God's image. The female is not secondary. Being woman is not accidental but deliberate. God looked at his creation and said, 'Very good.'"

Beck noted the "image of God" does not refer to a physical likeness but to the moral, religious, rational and emotional image of the creator. The image of God in humanity includes the capability to choose right or wrong, to give loyalty and love to others and to be responsible for decisions and actions, she said.

"He made us to do his will," she added. "We are not accidents but are deliberate, purposeful and loved creations, unique in our personhood and abilities. We reflect God to the world as his images."

—"Collages," general sessions built around theme interpretations, missionary testimonies, music and other presentations.

"Sometimes it's not fun being a missionary: when people are hurting and I can't make it go away, when they ask tough questions and I don't have any answers, when there's not enough time or money or people or energy to meet all the needs we see every day," confessed D.P. Smith, a Southern Baptist missionary to the Ivory Coast.

"Those aren't my favorite times. But you know, sometimes the hard times are when I learn some very important lessons. God brings the harmony into my life. He's the source. He is the harmony."

Mildred McWhorter, a missionary in inner-city Houston, continued the theme, telling how God had enabled her to minister to people like Rachel, a Hispanic teen-ager who became a Christian after reading a Bible McWhorter had left for her family years before, and Debbie, a 16-year-old mother who came seeking a home for

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her 8-pound baby daughter.

"Acteens, the world can't do without love and get along very well," McWhorter advised.

Accent Editor Turrentine urged the girls to become missionaries themselves, even in their teen years. She told about Acteens Activators, a missions project program for teens that provides personal involvement in missions, and she encouraged the girls to pray for missionaries and learn about missions work.

"Through the Acteens organization, Acteens experience what it means to be in harmony with God as they learn to experience harmony with themselves and others," she said.

—"Synthesizer," an exhibit extravaganza featuring 41 booths that highlighted world, national and local missions.

"We tried to get some booths and activities that would teach them about Baptist missions, about the world around them, about being a Christian and how to learn things about themselves," explained Cindy McClain, WMU products editor and Synthesizer organizer.

The exhibit area featured booths in which the girls could talk to missionaries, learn about specific mission work, tour a mobile disaster-relief kitchen, play educational games related to missions and hear the famous Bible verse John 3:16 in more than a dozen languages.

Synthesizer also featured an area where the girls could leave canned goods for the

San Antonio Food Bank. Before the week was out, the girls had provided more than five tons of food for the bank, which feeds more than 150,000 people per month.

"We wanted to give the girls an opportunity to help people in the San Antonio area," McClain said. "The cans of food are an expression of their commitment to help others."

—"Kaleidoscope," an international festival that featured food and entertainment in San Antonio's downtown riverside park, La Villita.

The festival was designed to help the girls see the breadth and variety of the world and to confront the mix of cultures that exist around them, organizers said.

Local coordination was provided by Tom Harrell, a staff member at St. Mary's Catholic church. Kaleidoscope featured more than 150 entertainers and 57 food booths. More than 40 local organizations helped stage the event.

—Youth issues conferences, which forced the girls to confront such burdens of America's youth as suicide, sexuality, peer pressure, drugs, abuse and the occult.

The conferences were designed to help the girls cope with situations they face through their teen years, WMU leaders said.

Carolyn Jenkins, minister to college students and youth at First Baptist Church of Nashville, got to the point: "Christianity should be a lifestyle, not a label. Scripture shows us it's not what's on our lips, it's what's in our lives that matters."



Larry Boggs, missionary to the Ivory Coast, joins the fun.

WMU photo / Stanley Leary

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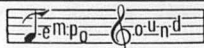
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Ski Bible Conference
February 24-28

Spring Skifest 1
March 10-14
Spring Skifest 2
March 17-21
Spring Skifest 3
March 24-28

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December 8—April 15

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Cardboard Church

HOWELL, N.J. (BP)—The only Baptist congregation in Howell, N.J., is a cardboard church meeting in a rented building with the loudest church bells in the state.

The small Howell Baptist Chapel isn't much to look at right now. All the church's possessions fit in a few cardboard boxes, which are unpacked each Sunday in the local fire station.

Each Sunday, children gather for Sunday school amid fire trucks, emergency medical units and fire hoses. Pastor Neal McGlohon has the potential to preach three-alarm sermons.

But McGlohon and his congregation intend to overcome those obstacles. They're learning to wear out kneepads and shoe leather to build a church.

Right now, more Buddhists than Baptists live in Howell, the fastest-growing township in the United States in 1987. Howell is on the leading edge of a ring of bedroom suburbs moving out from New York City.

The community gained 5,281 new homes in 1987 and another 3,000 in 1988. Schools, restaurants, gas stations, video rental shops—all the staples of suburbia—pop up as quickly as carpenters can swing hammers.

It is a challenging place to build a church because of the tremendous mobility: Twenty percent of the people living in the county this year will be gone next year. Colts Neck Baptist Church, one of Howell's sponsoring churches, recorded 40 additions and 37 transfers out in the same year.

However, Colts Neck Pastor Darwin Bacon believes change is a friend of missions. "Change is the key to openness," he says. "In these ring communities, most people experience profound change in new jobs, new homes, new communities, new schools and, maybe, a new faith."

In December 1985, Colts Neck decided to put aside its own need for a new building in order to start a mission church in Howell. Colts Neck was a missions-minded congregation from its inception, giving 10 percent to the Southern Baptist Cooperative Program unified budget from the first offering.

Even though the church needed to expand its own facilities, the congregation was burdened by the families flooding into nearby Howell Township, where no Baptist church existed, much less a building.

The work in Howell started with a two-month intensive visitation canvass by a Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary missions team and volunteers from Hebron Baptist Association in Georgia. They visited 5,000 homes and launched a Bible study leading to the first service in November 1986.

McGlohon points out the contrast with a Southern city where 90 percent of new church members actually are transfers from another church.

"Here we're dealing with people who have never heard the gospel, not the ones

who've left it behind," he says. "The percentage of people open to a full witness is a 10th of what I experienced in Texas. But those who listen really listen."

Because the investigation of faith is so difficult, the congregation's public face is important, McGlohon explains.

Last February, in a combined service with Calvary and Colts Neck churches, the 34 members of Howell Baptist Church voted to buy a \$250,000 six-acre parcel of land for their future building.

(BP) photo / Ken Touchton



Children gather for Sunday School

Even with the loan backed by Colts Neck, it was a spine-tingling decision for the young congregation. "The process was more important than the decision itself," McGlohon stresses. "We learned how to pray on

this one."

The congregation hopes to be able to use a house on the property soon. But that will only solve the growing church's space problems temporarily.

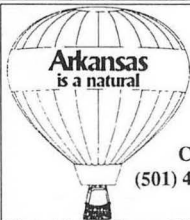
Soon Howell will fold up its cardboard church, leaving the fire station for a little building modest by Southern Baptist standards. But if the church is true to its heritage, it will help another band of Baptists in the next township pack up cardboard boxes, knock on doors and pray another church into existence.

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August Advances

by Don Moore

ABSC Executive Director

In preparation for doing "Helpline," I have reviewed the opportunities being provided in August. I was shocked! Our Executive Board programs will be bringing to you some of the most vital assistance you will ever receive. Let me highlight some of these for you. I will not attempt to place them in an order of priority. They all are so vital to so many of our churches that each should be viewed with a careful eye to providing your church the best help possible in the areas addressed.



Day Care, Nursery Schools, Kindergartens, and Mother's Day Out have become a part of many of our churches. The working mothers situation has created a tremendous need for preschool ministries. Aside from providing fine child care, many churches have found these ministries open the door to many homes where mothers and dads need a spiritual ministry. Conversions and recommitments often result. Our Weekday Early Education (WEE) Workshop helps local pastors, staff, directors and teachers to improve their ministries. This year's workshop is at Geyer Springs First Church, Aug. 3-4. Pre-registration is necessary. The cost is \$12 per person.

For those who want Sunday School Growth! No, everyone does not want Sunday School growth. The reasons are obvious. New classes would have to be started. New teachers would have to be enlisted. New space might have to be created. Someone's class might have to be moved. New expenses for literature and teaching aids might be incurred. Many church leaders would rather not face these unsettling problems. Therefore, no plans are made for Sunday School growth. This is an unbelievably tragic decision.

There are others who want growth and hope for growth, but never actually plan and prepare to make it happen. You are the ones who can profit most from our Growth Spiral Workshops. Andy Anderson, who developed the Growth Spiral, will be here to lead this workshop, Aug. 22, at Markham Street Church in Little Rock. Both a basic and an advanced workshop will be conducted.

Key Missionary Meetings are held in

August. Arkansas churches are growing in their missions awareness and involvement. One of the reasons is the growing number of missionary education units in our churches. This has come about through the ever increasing number of WMU units in our churches. Two major events in August should accelerate this good trend.

* **Associational WMU officers** will receive special training Aug. 18-19 at Camp Paron. All of the age groups will be covered plus some elective opportunities will be provided.

* **Local church officers and leaders** will be trained at one of the Impact meetings Aug. 28, 29, 31. The locations and times will be found elsewhere in this paper. Mission study, mission support and prayer group leaders will have special training along with the age group leadership.

A lot is at stake in missions today. Women, you really do make the difference!

Associational improvement—Our work and the associations work is improved through an annual meeting of the directors of missions and the Executive Board program leaders. That meeting for 1989 is Aug. 1. New and better programs and approaches should come to our churches from these joint efforts.

Few realize the great significance of the associational clerk. Through this individual comes all of the information that goes to make up our state and Southern Baptist Convention records. Those records are used to help us understand where we are and what we need to do at the association, state and national level. The associational clerk's work is crucial. Data must be accurate. To help them with this arduous task, we have planned a workshop for them here at the Baptist Building, Aug. 17. Associational secretaries, who may carry a heavy load in assisting the clerk, should plan to attend along with the clerk. The association should cover their travel costs.

Children's Choir Leader Workshops—Four of these will be held this year to try to get the help closer to the churches. It is usually a single meeting in Little Rock. Worship, witness, discipline, personal growth are a few of the benefits derived for those involved in children's choirs. To help these leaders, workshops will be held at Arkadelphia, Monticello, Wynne and Springdale. This will be a great springboard to the fall music program of your church. More information and registration forms are in the June issue of "Preschool/Children's Choir News."

Volunteer/Part-time Music Leader Retreat—A large number of our churches

use volunteer or part-time paid music leaders. Their needs are often different. Their opportunities are certainly different. Most of these are in smaller membership churches, but by no means all. Worship planning, congregational singing, new music, keyboard training are a few of the issues that will be addressed at this year's retreat. The dates are Aug. 18-19 at Southern Baptist College, Walnut Ridge. Too often the music in smaller membership churches "just happens." This is sometimes viewed as being spontaneous and spiritual. To those who suffer through it, they judge it as disorganized, unprepared and irresponsible. People in small churches deserve as much as those in larger churches. They all deserve well-planned and well-prepared experiences of worship through music, as well as preaching.

Can your Church Training be helped? It can not only survive, it can thrive. Improvements are being made in the materials and methods constantly. It goes without saying, it can't survive without the pastor. Furthermore, it can't survive and thrive by his efforts alone. He must have a lay person who helps to make it work. Together they can put life back into this program. New ideas, new materials and new inspiration will be shared at the Pastor-Director Conference, Aug. 4-5. The sessions are scheduled so that bivocational leadership can attend. The conference will be on Friday from 7-9 p.m. and on Saturday from 8:30 a.m.-12 noon. Registration is \$5. The location is the Community Room at the University Mall, Little Rock.

Associational Church Training Leadership will have their Training Conference on Aug. 18-19 at Park Hill Church, North Little Rock. All associational officers and age group leaders should attend and prepare themselves to assist their churches.

The MasterLife Workshop can equip you to lead MasterLife in your church. Guest leaders from California and Colorado have been enlisted to give you the best training possible. MasterLife is the finest tool we have for discipling people. This will address one of the most critical needs in our churches. Southern Baptist College, Walnut Ridge is the location of this year's workshop. The dates are Aug. 7-11.



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Evangelism

Here's Hope Organized

The 1990 Here's Hope Simultaneous Revival emphasis was born in the hearts and minds of the state directors of the Evangelism and Home Mission Board leadership. This planning began in the fall of 1986.

The Baptist Building 1990 Revival Task Force was organized early in 1987. This task force brought the following recommendations to the program committee:



Shell

(1) That the Arkansas Baptist State Convention participate in the Southern Baptist Convention 1990 Simultaneous Revivals, "Here's Hope, Jesus Cares for You."

(2) That the dates for Arkansas be March 18-April 8. The associations will choose their week.

(3) That the State Steering Committee be established by Fall 1987. This committee should be established according to guidelines set forth by the Home Mission Board.

The State Executive Board voted on Aug. 27, 1987, for the state convention to participate in these revivals. This makes the emphasis a convention effort and not just an Evangelism Department or Baptist Building effort.

The State Steering Committee is made up of a Coordinating Council, consisting of Baptist Building personnel and an Advisory Committee, consisting of one pastor from each district plus a member-at-large. The original committee consisted of Ben Rowell, District 1; Frank Shell, District 2; Rex Holt, District 3; James Bryant, District 4; Bill Howard, District 5; Don Dunavant, District 6; Mike Huckabee, District 7; and Mark Coppenger, District 8. Ronnie Floyd served as member-at-large. Due to the fact that Mark Coppenger moved to Indiana, Sonny Simpson has replaced him. The Advisory Committee members have been involved with the Evangelism Department personnel in promoting and involving the associations and churches in the 1990 simultaneous revivals. They have been enlisting pastors in influential churches to participate. They have been encouraging each association in the state convention to organize and participate in the 1990 revivals.

The Here's Hope Coordinating Council is made up of leaders in the Executive Board program. The following serve on this council as chairmen of important areas of preparation: Freddie Pike, evangelistic people search/distribution; Paul McClung, materials and training; Carolyn Porterfield, media publicity; Glendon Grober, prayer/spiritual preparation; Lester McCullough, music; Randy Cash, ethnic involvement; David James, BSU involvement; Jack Ramsey, follow up/planning for new churches; Ed Hinkson, involvement of vocational evangelists, co-chaired by Danny Veteto, pastor of Gravel Ridge First Church; Bill Falkner, youth/children involvement; and Bob Holley, discipleship and follow up training. Each of these have a tremendous responsibility in preparation for Here's Hope.

Each association has been asked to select a steering committee. These are as follows: general chairman, director of missions, vice-chairman/enlistment, steering committee secretary, fellowship meeting chairman, prayer chairman, and publicity chairman. The ex-officio officers are moderator, association music director, and association Sunday School director. We had steering committees represented from 28 associations March 27-28 in a training session at Camp Paron. At the present time, the evangelism staff is attempting to train other association steering committees in the state.

Has your church voted to participate in the 1990 Here's Hope Revivals? Please check with your local association and determine the week planned for simultaneous revivals. It is our hopeful prayer that each church in Arkansas will be sharing in Here's Hope, Jesus Cares for You.—Clarence Shell, director

Woman's Missionary Union Training Opportunities

Two types of training opportunities await WMU leadership beginning in August. Those who serve as associational officers will attend the Associational Officers' Retreat at Camp Paron Aug. 18-19. Reservations are due no later than Aug. 11. Age-level conferences, special interest conferences, worship times and lots of fellowship are all ingredients of the retreat. Impact '89 training for church WMU leaders will have a new look this year. The day session will be from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Age-level methods conferences will be offered from 10 a.m.-12 noon. From 1-2 p.m.

special interest conferences will be offered. Topics for these include "Yes, You Do Have Time," "What Followers Expect from Leaders," "Dealing with Stress," "Promoting and Publicizing Missions," "Tools of the Trade," "Witnessing is For You," and "Enlistment—Awareness, Invitation, Orientation."

The evening Impact meetings will be from 7-9 pm. Only age-level methods conferences will be offered at night.

Nursery for preschoolers is provided at both day and evening sessions. A Baptist Book Store display will have needed age-level materials for the coming year.

Choose the impact meeting closest to you: Aug. 28 (a.m./p.m.)—Grand Avenue Church, Fort Smith; Aug. 29 (p.m.)—Immanuel Church, Fayetteville; Aug. 30 (a.m.)—Immanuel Church, Fayetteville; Sept. 7 (a.m./p.m.)—Central Church, North Little Rock; Sept. 11 (a.m./p.m.)—Trinity Church, Texarkana; Sept. 12 (p.m.)—First Church, El Dorado; Sept. 13 (a.m.)—First Church, El Dorado; Sept. 14 (a.m./p.m.)—Immanuel Church, Pine Bluff; Sept. 25 (a.m./p.m.)—First Church, West Memphis; Sept. 26 (p.m.)—First Church, Jonesboro; and Sept. 27 (a.m.)—First Church, Jonesboro

For more information, contact Arkansas WMU, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203.—Carolyn Porterfield, Baptist Women/BYW director

Brotherhood Building Teams, Partnership Rally

Building churches has become a major mission thrust of Arkansas Baptist Men. Several options have developed: Nailbenders, One Day Construction Teams, associational projects, local church projects, Home Mission Board projects, and Foreign Mission Board projects.

The Nailbenders for Jesus—This group is largely made up of retired persons. They provide their own housing at construction sites by pulling in their RV units for establishing an RV Park. The Nailbenders are dedicated to building initial church units for missions or new churches. They normally remain on a job site for about 12-15 days. They do no finishing work.

They have plans to build some six to eight buildings during the remainder of this year. Two of the upcoming jobs are at New Hope Church to the south of Jonesboro and then the chapel for Jonesboro First Church's mission on Magnolia Road.

Contact with the Nailbenders can be made through the ABSC Brotherhood office (501-376-4791) or directly with Mr. Frank Allan (501-966-4982). If you are retired and have an RV, try the Nailbenders. You will love it.

One Day Construction Teams—This is a one Saturday operation. Early Saturday morning the team moves on the slab for an initial prayer and then a day of rapid construction. The goal of the One Day Construction Team depends on the size of the building. This could range from trying to put the building in the dry to doing much or all of the finish work.

Three successful projects have been carried out in the preceding months at Eudora, Alma and Greenbriar. We can use lead carpenters, helpers and "gofers" (go for materials and put where needed). Upcoming jobs are: July 22—Rogers First Church's mission near Bentonville; August—Associational Building, North Pulaski Association, North Little Rock; September—Gamaliel near Mountain Home; October—Little River Association Building, Nashville.

Contact with Chairman Russell Miller is best through our ABSC Brotherhood office at 376-4791.

The associational groups have directed their attention to projects in associational camps and to repairs done on missions and churches.

Local churches like First Church, Sheridan, are doing building painting projects in another church along with holding revival services at night.

Two areas of home missions especially needing Arkansas volunteers are Minnesota and Michigan. If you or your church are interested in a project for 1989 or 1990, please contact Ed Greathouse through our office.

As Brazilian church construction comes to a close we will direct our efforts principally to Guatemala. Preliminary indications suggest 25 or more church construction projects. Details should begin to be available in late August.

Remember to reserve the night of Oct. 27. Keith Parks, Foreign Mission Board president, and Joe Bruce, area director for Central America and Canada, will inform and challenge us as we gather at Immanuel Church in Little Rock to kick off the Guatemala-Arkansas Partnership.—**Glendon Grober, director**

Family Ministry Single Adult Day

Single Adult Day has become an important event for many Baptist churches. They celebrate Single Adult Day to focus on single adults as an important part of the church family, community, and society. The special day also helps the church recognize the significant contributions single adults provide for fellowship, outreach, discipleship, and ministry.



Sept. 10, 1989, is the date designated as Single Adult Day in the Southern Baptist Convention. "Bonded Together in Love: Singles Building Relationships" is the theme for the 1989 celebration.

A free planning brochure for Single Adult Day is available from the Church Training Department, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203. Video resources are available from the Sunday School Board's Customer Ser-

Sunday School Growth Spiral Conference

Markham Street Church, Little Rock
August 22, 1989
9:00 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.

Learn how to increase your:

- Sunday School enrollment
- Baptisms
- Offerings
- Worship attendance

by proper use of the
Growth Spiral



Andy Anderson
KSSS

- Enrolling prospects
- How to find prospects
- When and how to start new units
- Organizing units
- Space and equipment needs
- Worker training
- Worker enlistment
- Workers' meetings

Andy Anderson will lead Advanced Conference
Freddie Pike and Ed Hinkson will lead Base Conference
Reservation deadline: Friday, August 18

vice Center (1-800-458-BSSB).

The *Family Ministry Plan Book 1989-90* provides additional suggestions for Single Adult Day and other single adult activities. This plan book was distributed in the May issue of the *Baptist Program*. Additional copies are available from the Church Training Department at the above address.

Single Adult Day is observed through a variety of activities. Among the activities are: a breakfast and/or luncheon for single adults, leaders of single adult groups, and the church staff; features in Sunday School, Church Training, and the worship services. Single adults participate in the worship services by sharing testimonies, reading Scripture, presenting special music, and leading in prayer. Often, fellowship and recreation activities are planned for the afternoon.

Single adults are a large segment of today's population. In some areas almost 50 percent of the total population is made up of singles. Single adults have distinctive gifts from God and have special needs in their lives. A faithful church will plan to reach single adults and provide encouragement and support for their gifts to be used faithfully in God's service.

Plan now to observe Single Adult Day Sept. 10, 1989, or choose a date more convenient to your church calendar. It can be a significant experience for your church!—**Gerald Jackson, associate**

Stewardship/Annuity

Budget Programs Promote Budgets

The Stewardship Commission, in consultation with state stewardship directors, produces five proven and effective budget programs. Use of a budget promotion will grow Christian stewards and increase contributions for the church's ministries.

The five budget promotion programs are: (1) Challenge to Give; (2) Tithers Commitment; (3) Committed to Ministries; (4) Growth in Giving; (5) Forward Program of Church Finance.

Almost one-third of Arkansas Baptist churches use a budget promotion of some kind. Increased use of budget promotion programs will assist churches in performing their ministries.

Churches may request one of the five guidebooks listed above from the Stewardship/Annuity Department.—**James A. Walker, Director**

Sunday School

400 New Classes

October 1 is Start-A-Class Sunday in Arkansas. Our goal is to have 400 new Sunday School classes started on that day. New classes reach more new people than established classes. New classes provide more leadership for the church and win more people to Christ than do old classes. These three facts are reason enough to start new classes. However, many other benefits are also received from new classes. New classes provide for better fellowship because of the new people reached. New classes allow new members to help establish the social structure of the class rather than having to break into the already established (sometimes rigid) social structure of an existing class. New classes provide for new insights and allow fresh learning to take place as new people interact with each other in the classroom. Fresh, creative ideas for ministry are sometimes brought to the church by new members.

One of the best ways to start new adult classes is with a leadership team. Discover and enlist a teacher, class outreach leader, and one or two group leaders for each new class you need (remember, class leaders don't have to be the same age as the class). Determine the age range of the new class. Invite present members who fall into that age range to help start the class. If they choose not to be a part of the new class, don't fuss at them. Take those who want to help and start. Put together a list of pro-

spects for the class and begin to visit. The new class will grow if you visit. What you have done is start a new unit with only those who are willing. You have not "divided" a class. Those who want to remain in the old class have been allowed to do so with your blessing and smiling encouragement. Even if no one comes to help, you have three or four people in the new class (the leadership team). A host of now successful classes were started with three of four people.

Start now determining what new classes are needed in your Sunday School. The major factor is whether the present enrollment of a class when added to the prospects for the class would result in too large an enrollment. In other words, when the growth potential (enrollment + prospects) is too large for one class, then go ahead and start the new class. You will reach your prospects faster with two classes than you will with just one class.

Be sure to check your age group classes also. Do you need new youth classes? What about new preschool and children's units? Sometimes it takes new preschool units before young adults will come.

Every church that starts a new class on Oct. 1 and reports it to our department will receive a nice recognition certificate to display. We want to encourage and recognize your efforts. Start new classes. It is one good way to follow the Lord in achieving the Great Commission.—

Freddie Pike, director

Missions in Michigan

We are praying for 100 bivocational or retired pastors in the next two years:

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- For discipling
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Looking Ahead

August

- 1 Director of Missions Meeting, *Baptist Building (Ad)*
- 3-4 Weekday Early Education Workshop, *Little Rock Geyer Springs First Church (SS, M)*
- 4-5 Pastor-Director Retreat, *University Mall Community Room, Little Rock (CT)*
- 7-11 MasterLife Workshop, *Southern Baptist College, Walnut Ridge (CT)*
- 17 Associational Clerks Workshop, *Baptist Building (Ad)*
- 18-19 Associational Leadership Training Conference, *North Little Rock Park Hill Church (CT)*
- 18-19 Associational WMU Officers' Retreat, *Camp Paron (WMU)*
- 18-19 Volunteer/Part-Time Music Leader Retreat, *Southern Baptist College, Walnut Ridge (M)*
- 21 Children's Choir Leader Workshops, *Arkadelphia First Church (M)*
- 22 Children's Choir Leader Workshops, *Monticello First Church (M)*
- 22 State Growth Spiral Workshop, *Little Rock Markham Street Church (SS)*
- 28 Children's Choir Leader Workshops, *Wynne Church (M)*
- 28 IMPACT '89 Meeting, *Fort Smith Grand Avenue Church (WMU)*
- 29 Children's Choir Leader Workshops, *Springdale First Church (M)*
- 29 IMPACT '89 Meeting, *Fayetteville Immanuel Church (WMU)*
- 31 IMPACT '89 Meeting, *Harrison First Church (WMU)*

September

- 5 Church Arkansas Rally, *Springdale Elmdale Church (Mn)*
- 7 Church Arkansas Rally, *Jonesboro First*

Church (Mn)

- 7 IMPACT '89, *North Little Rock Central Church (WMU)*
- 7-10 Fall Campers on Missions Rally, *Petit Jean State Park (Mn)*
- 8 Furloughing Missionaries Orientation, *Baptist Building (SA)*
- 9 Baptist Youth Day, *Magic Springs, Hot Springs (CT)*
- 11 IMPACT '89, *Texarkana Trinity Church (WMU)*
- 11 Bi-Vocational and Small Church Evangelism Conference, *Murfreesboro First Church (Ev)*
- 12 IMPACT '89, *El Dorado First Church (WMU)*
- 12 Bi-vocational and Small Church Evangelism Conference, *Monticello Second Church (Ev)*
- 13 IMPACT '89, *El Dorado First Church (WMU)*
- 14 IMPACT '89, *Pine Bluff Immanuel Church (WMU)*
- 14 Bi-vocational and Small Church Evangelism Conference, *Colt Pine Tree Church (Ev)*
- 15-16 CPA Pastors and Wives Retreat, *Mather Lodge, Petit Jean State Park (Mn)*
- 17-24 Season of Prayer for State Missions (WMU/Mn)
- 25 IMPACT '89, *West Memphis First Church (WMU)*
- 25-26 Church Music Conference—Youth Emphasis, *Ouachita Baptist University (M)*
- 26-27 IMPACT '89, *Jonesboro First Church (WMU)*
- 29-30 State Sunday School Conference, *Little Rock Geyer Springs First Church (SS)*
- 2-5 National CWT Seminar, *Little Rock South Highland Church (Ev)*
- 6-7 Church Recreator's Retreat, (CT)
- 6-8 Baptist Student Convention, *Hot Springs First Church (BSU)*
- 7 Volunteer/Part Time Music Leader Workshop, *Smackover First Church (Mu)*

October

- 7 Northeast Arkansas Small Sunday School Workshop, *Southern Baptist College, Walnut Ridge (SS)*
- 7-14 Arkansas Senior Adult Chautauqua Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center (CT)
- 9-13 Associational Meetings (Assns.)
- 13-14 Tri-State Camp-o-ree, *Memphis (Bhd)*
- 16-20 Associational Meetings, (Assns)
- 19-20 Music Men/Singing Women Retreat, *Ouachita Baptist University (Mu)*
- 19-20 Baptist Women Retreat, *Camp Paron (WMU)*
- 20-21 Baptist Women Retreat, *Camp Paron (WMU)*
- 23-24 State Conference on Discipleship, *North Little Rock Park Hill Church (CT)*
- 26 World Mission Rally, *Little Rock Immanuel Church (Bhd)*
- 28 Volunteer/Part-Time Music Leader Workshop, *Cave Springs Lakeview Church (Mu)*

November

- 4 State Keyboard Clinic, *Little Rock Calvary Church (Mu)*
- 13 Pastors' Conference, *Little Rock First Church*
- 13 Ministers' Wives Conference, *Little Rock First Church*
- 13 ABREA Meeting, *Little Rock First Church*
- 14-15 Arkansas Baptist State Convention, *Little Rock First Church*
- 17-19 International Student Conference, *Camp Paron (BSU)*
- 19-22 Foreign Mission Study, (WMU)
- 27 "M" Night, (CT)
- 27-Dec. 1 Church Building Tour, (SS)
- 30 State January Bible Study Clinic, *Baptist Building (SS)*

Abbreviations:

Ad - Administration; Bhd - Brotherhood; CLC - Christian Life Council; CT - Church Training; Ev - Evangelism; M - Music; Mn - Missions; SS - Sunday School; S/A - Stewardship/Annuitiy; Stu - Student; WMU - Woman's Missionary Union

Arkansas Baptist State Convention CONTRIBUTIONS

Total cash contributions through the Cooperative Program received in the office of the Executive Director of the Executive Board, from January 1, 1989, through June 30, 1989. If any errors are found in this report, please notify Don Moore, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203.

ARKANSAS VALLEY		WEST SIDE, WARREN		1,079.91	2,292.06	RAVENDEN 1ST	471.00	265.00
ARKANSAS VALLEY ASN		MILMAR		1,378.48	2,315.36	SEBRICK	624.00	472.20
BARTON		SOUTHSIDE		1,348.74		SMITHVILLE	1,476.16	1,289.65
BRINKLEY 1ST		SEAWARD FELLOWSHIP		2,177.04		SPRING LAKE	1,288.48	646.91
CLARENDON 1ST		DIXIEWAY SOUTHERN		4,072.20	1,924.02	SUITION	1,709.00	415.00
ELAINE		ASSOCIATION TOTALS		36,157.19	47,068.36	TUCKERWOOD 1ST	1,112.50	1,815.32
FRIENDSHIP		BENTON COUNTY				WALNUT RIDGE 1ST	15,114.28	8,819.36
HELENA 1ST		BENTON ASN				WHITE OAK	250.00	766.29
HUGHES 1ST		BELLA VISTA		31,336.44	21,895.20	WILSON, WRL RIDGE	350.66	786.24
LAMBROOK 1ST		BENTONVILLE 1ST		29,448.84	23,938.00	WILSONVILLE CHURCH	109.00	149.00
LENA		LEWISTON 1ST		6,980.76	2,436.42	ASSOCIATION TOTALS	69,640.36	31,804.82
MARIANNA 1ST		CLARKVAY BAPTIST MIS		1,072.77	87.50	BUCKNER		
MARVELL 1ST		GARFIELD 1ST		2,500.02	6,161.07	BUCKNER ASN		
MOORE		GENITY 1ST		12,883.86	7,370.26	HEBBIT	323.78	150.00
MORO		GRANVILLE 1ST		1,809.56	2,979.02	BATES	420.42	
NORTH SIDE, HELENA		GUM SPRINGS		756.70	893.92	FAULKNER, ROOSEVILLE	340.97	473.07
RETTYS CHAPEL		HARVARD AVE, SILGOM		5,711.44	3,893.14	CHATHAM		
SUNNYSIDE		HIGHLAND 1ST		2,742.69	3,577.07	ELGAR CROOK	202.68	75.00
TURNER		IMMANUEL, ROGERS		25,393.38	9,580.65	CLARKS CHAPEL-DISEA	20.00	150.00
WEST HELENA 2ND		LARKVIEW		1,766.02	1,288.70	WILSON	1,005.00	117.62
BRADPOUR		LEWELL		4,989.58	768.00	DENTON		
IMMANUEL, ELAINE		MASON VALLEY		1,202.72		FAYNING SHADE	245.28	
CLARKVAY, WEST HELENA		MONTE NE		1,823.66	710.15	FRIENDSHIP	123.00	
HOLLY GROVE 1ST SOU		OSHER DOOR		1,290.50	1,569.18	HARTFORD 1ST	7,661.28	2,161.00
BEHLEM		PAK STREET, BENTON		4,957.61	2,435.63	HORN CREEK	1,451.14	350.00
WEST ACRES BAPTIST		PVA RIDGE 1ST		2,111.11	2,435.63	HORN BAPTIST CHURCH	212.40	50.00
ASSOCIATION TOTALS		PLEASANT HILL		49,198.69	11,913.68	INDY		18.00
ASHLEY COUNTY		SILGOM SPRINGS 1ST		13,226.24	21,450.29	JONES FERRY	2,106.12	1,000.00
ASHLEY CO ASN		SILGOM SPRINGS 2ND		3,382.84	479.62	LEWIS RIVER	800.65	264.00
CLARKVAY, CROSSCOTT		SUNNY SIDE		1,538.68	875.00	MINFIELD 1ST	10,155.45	8,000.00
CLARKVAY, CROSSCOTT 1ST		TRINITY, ROGERS		190.00	63.00	NEW PROVIDENCE	657.84	
CROSSCOTT 2ND		TWELVE CORNERS		707.47	393.05	PARKS	868.11	585.92
IMMANUEL		WAL-LYAN HILLS		162.00	110.00	PLEASANT GROVE #2	501.83	800.00
ELAINE		FAITH		968.07	1,111.67	PLEASANT GROVE #3	657.31	229.85
CLARKVAY, WEST HELENA		LAKESIDE		3,612.76	1,147.90	ROCK CREEK	684.58	100.00
HOLLY GROVE 1ST SOU		CHARITY SOUTHERN BA		2,194.05	387.62	WILSON INACTIVE		
BEHLEM		HURST 1ST BAPTIST		300.93	210.00	TEMPLE, WALDRON	450.14	61.00
WEST ACRES BAPTIST		ASSOCIATION TOTALS		233,217.10	1,311,316.80	UNION HOPE		
ASSOCIATION TOTALS		BIG CREEK				UNITY	173.22	2,475.02
ASHLEY COUNTY		BIG CREEK				WALDRON 1ST	7,661.28	2,161.00
ASHLEY CO ASN		BIG CREEK ASN				WALDRON 2ND	212.40	50.00
CLARKVAY, CROSSCOTT		CLARKVAY LINE				WALDRON 3RD	1,451.14	350.00
CLARKVAY, CROSSCOTT 1ST		ELIZABETH		180.00	344.32	WALDRON 4TH	202.74	462.00
CROSSCOTT 2ND		ENTERPRISE		125.00	95.00	WILFIELD	746.82	451.62
IMMANUEL		FLORA		60.00		WILSON, WRL RIDGE	544.57	800.00
ELAINE		FRANKLIN SPRING				WOLFS SP BAPTIST CH	309.67	200.00
CLARKVAY, WEST HELENA		MT. ZION		37.50	100.00	ASSOCIATION TOTALS	46,811.23	20,172.99
HOLLY GROVE 1ST SOU		SPRING RIVER		270.00	456.23	BUCKVILLE		
BEHLEM		VIDA		1,200.00	1,372.86	BUCKVILLE ASN		
WEST ACRES BAPTIST		ASSOCIATION TOTALS		1,872.50	2,368.41	HUCK SPRINGS	592.58	16.00
ASSOCIATION TOTALS		BLACK RIVER				ASSOCIATION TOTALS	592.58	16.00
ASHLEY COUNTY		BLACK RIVER ASN				CARDON		60.00
ASHLEY CO ASN		CLARK RIVER ASN				CARDON RIVER ASN		
CLARKVAY, CROSSCOTT		CLARKVILLE BAPTIST CH		824.47	311.85	CLARK SPRINGS	1,094.52	125.00
CLARKVAY, CROSSCOTT 1ST		CLARKVILLE ASN		95.00		CROSS RIVER	10,150.00	8,000.00
CROSSCOTT 2ND		CLARKVILLE 1ST		506.65		GLENNAD 1ST	8,579.92	2,705.77
IMMANUEL		CLARKVILLE 2ND		2,025.02	617.50	HILL SIDE		
ELAINE		CLARKVILLE 3RD		360.00	100.00	LIBERTY	1,570.48	3,739.70
CLARKVAY, WEST HELENA		CLARKVILLE 4TH			50.00	LITTLE ROCK		
HOLLY GROVE 1ST SOU		CLARKVILLE 5TH				LITTLE ROCK BAPTIST CH	100.00	250.00
BEHLEM		CLARKVILLE 6TH		1,654.72	577.25	MT GILEAD BAPTIST CH	6,059.98	3,031.94
WEST ACRES BAPTIST		CLARKVILLE 7TH		935.27	500.00	MURPHY		
ASSOCIATION TOTALS		CLARKVILLE 8TH		36.00	615.78	MURPHY 1ST	470.00	545.00
ASHLEY COUNTY		CLARKVILLE 9TH		1,627.53	615.78	MURPHY 2ND	1,117.60	250.00
ASHLEY CO ASN		CLARKVILLE 10TH		3,010.75	2,392.12	PENCIL BLUFF	1,122.14	969.00
CLARKVAY, CROSSCOTT		CLARKVILLE 11TH		1,391.84	954.09	REFUGE	682.08	373.87
CLARKVAY, CROSSCOTT 1ST		CLARKVILLE 12TH				SULPHUR SPRINGS	55.46	170.00
CROSSCOTT 2ND		CLARKVILLE 13TH				TRINITY	156.00	
IMMANUEL		CLARKVILLE 14TH		234.18	35.00	UNION HOPE BAPTIST CH	70.00	50.00
ELAINE		CLARKVILLE 15TH		1,078.86	691.77	UNITY SECOND BAPT CH	120.00	155.00
CLARKVAY, WEST HELENA		CLARKVILLE 16TH		31,188.62	9,915.28	COMMUNITY BIBLE CHU		
HOLLY GROVE 1ST SOU		CLARKVILLE 17TH		192.84	20.00	ASSOCIATION TOTALS	21,418.18	12,465.28
BEHLEM		CLARKVILLE 18TH		142.63				

CHURCHES	COOPERATIVE PROGRAM	DESIGNATED GIFTS	CHURCHES	COOPERATIVE PROGRAM	DESIGNATED GIFTS	CHURCHES	COOPERATIVE PROGRAM	DESIGNATED GIFTS
SHILOH, CONNINO	140.00	224.00	WOODLAND HEIGHTS BA	16,180.15	3,802.75	ROSIE	2,346.02	1,084.75
ST FRANCIS	1,999.98	787.04	ZION BAPTIST CHURCH	299.05	443.03	MIDDLE HILL	992.96	1,150.21
SUCCESSION	1,834.93	1,219.00	BROOKSIDE BAPTIST C			WALTON	852.00	818.00
TIPPERARY			ASSOCIATION TOTALS	186,561.52	71,061.38	SULPHUR ROCK	1,231.12	750.94
WITTS CHAPEL	2,187.83	830.00	GREENE COUNTY			WEST, BATESVILLE	18,901.58	8,750.72
WINE GROVE	117.87	150.80	ALEXANDER	2,743.76	931.85	WHITNEY	1,014.23	398.18
ANTIOCH, RAYMOND SP-D			BEECH GROVE	124.00	412.00	WILSON	2,143.92	964.85
ASSOCIATION TOTALS	56,022.53	37,620.23	BETHEL STATION	178.44		NEWARK SOUTHERN	2,710.00	764.25
ARKANSAS RIVER VALLEY			BIG CREEK	60.00	261.20	STRAWBERRY SD	1,115.11	633.00
RUSSELLVILLE 1ST	62,281.74	40,778.44	BIG CREEK	60.00	261.20	FOOTHILLS BAPTIST C	1,054.18	209.85
SHERWOOD 1ST	1,511.17	616.00	BIG CREEK	60.00	261.20	ASSOCIATION TOTALS	94,330.47	58,585.34
DELMARE	2,705.79	602.00	BIG CREEK	60.00	261.20	LIBERTY		
ARK RIVER VALLEY AS			BIG CREEK	60.00	261.20	LIBERTY		
ATHENS 1ST	4,375.29	1,141.31	BIG CREEK	60.00	261.20	LIBERTY		
BANKER CREEK	1,200.00	359.50	BIG CREEK	60.00	261.20	LIBERTY		
BUFFINGTON	322.55	460.00	BIG CREEK	60.00	261.20	LIBERTY		
CENTREVILLE	166.64		BIG CREEK	60.00	261.20	LIBERTY		
ORVILLE 1ST	11,964.98	12,075.11	BIG CREEK	60.00	261.20	LIBERTY		
DARDANELLE 1ST	10,475.81	4,401.51	BIG CREEK	60.00	261.20	LIBERTY		
DOVER	6,371.68	3,550.26	BIG CREEK	60.00	261.20	LIBERTY		
FAIR POINT	887.43	318.47	BIG CREEK	60.00	261.20	LIBERTY		
FAIR PARK	378.13	326.70	BIG CREEK	60.00	261.20	LIBERTY		
GRACE MEMORIAL	125.00	185.75	BIG CREEK	60.00	261.20	LIBERTY		
HEAVEN	909.80	1,900.00	BIG CREEK	60.00	261.20	LIBERTY		
HECTOR 1ST	280.25	103.35	BIG CREEK	60.00	261.20	LIBERTY		
HORNWELL	394.24		BIG CREEK	60.00	261.20	LIBERTY		
IMMUEL, RUSSELL-DIB			BIG CREEK	60.00	261.20	LIBERTY		
KELLEY HEIGHTS	824.18	55.00	BIG CREEK	60.00	261.20	LIBERTY		
KNOXVILLE	1,771.87	599.00	BIG CREEK	60.00	261.20	LIBERTY		
KNOX 1ST	1,282.30	400.00	BIG CREEK	60.00	261.20	LIBERTY		
MORELAND 1ST	291.00	165.00	BIG CREEK	60.00	261.20	LIBERTY		
NEW HOPE	937.97	335.50	BIG CREEK	60.00	261.20	LIBERTY		
NEW 1ST	3,586.52	1,116.14	BIG CREEK	60.00	261.20	LIBERTY		
PLAINVIEW 1ST	842.78	1,642.83	BIG CREEK	60.00	261.20	LIBERTY		
PLEASANT VIEW	162.00	13.25	BIG CREEK	60.00	261.20	LIBERTY		
ROCKVILLE	274.25	1,625.00	BIG CREEK	60.00	261.20	LIBERTY		
ROVER	68.00	267.00	BIG CREEK	60.00	261.20	LIBERTY		
RUSSELLVILLE END	17,359.99	13,491.12	BIG CREEK	60.00	261.20	LIBERTY		
CALVARY, DARDANELLE	934.49	91.00	BIG CREEK	60.00	261.20	LIBERTY		
ASSOCIATION TOTALS	133,060.85	87,977.24	ASSOCIATION TOTALS	77,853.44	40,286.70	ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
DELTA			HARMONY			ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
DELTA ASBN			HARMONY ASBN			ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
ARKANSAS CITY	3,725.42	2,722.76	ALTHEIMER 1ST	2,214.20	2,194.92	ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
BANDON MCDON	1,156.89	2,137.26	ALTHEIMER 1ST	2,214.20	2,194.92	ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
BELLARE	5,954.86	3,926.00	ALTHEIMER 1ST	2,214.20	2,194.92	ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
BOYDELL			ALTHEIMER 1ST	2,214.20	2,194.92	ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
CHICKASAW	312.89	102.00	ALTHEIMER 1ST	2,214.20	2,194.92	ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
COLLINS	1,126.00	400.00	ALTHEIMER 1ST	2,214.20	2,194.92	ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
DANIEL CHAPEL			ALTHEIMER 1ST	2,214.20	2,194.92	ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
DEWITT	6,298.73	1,822.95	ALTHEIMER 1ST	2,214.20	2,194.92	ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
EUDORA	13,213.00	4,022.32	ALTHEIMER 1ST	2,214.20	2,194.92	ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
GAINES	221.62		ALTHEIMER 1ST	2,214.20	2,194.92	ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
GLADE	944.00	230.76	ALTHEIMER 1ST	2,214.20	2,194.92	ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
HELMO	1,510.00	316.45	ALTHEIMER 1ST	2,214.20	2,194.92	ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
JERUDO	210.61	869.35	ALTHEIMER 1ST	2,214.20	2,194.92	ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
KENT VILLAGE	6,049.57	4,049.57	ALTHEIMER 1ST	2,214.20	2,194.92	ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
MCGHEE 1ST	10,730.77	7,828.78	ALTHEIMER 1ST	2,214.20	2,194.92	ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
MONROE	1,012.43	1,128.48	ALTHEIMER 1ST	2,214.20	2,194.92	ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
NEW HOPE	1,746.00	331.00	ALTHEIMER 1ST	2,214.20	2,194.92	ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
NORTH SIDE, EUDORA	900.00	380.00	ALTHEIMER 1ST	2,214.20	2,194.92	ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
OMEGA	1,775.00	306.50	ALTHEIMER 1ST	2,214.20	2,194.92	ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
PARKDALE	391.29	250.00	ALTHEIMER 1ST	2,214.20	2,194.92	ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
PARKWAY	920.00	171.50	ALTHEIMER 1ST	2,214.20	2,194.92	ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
PORTLAND	3,849.38	2,047.00	ALTHEIMER 1ST	2,214.20	2,194.92	ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
RICHMOND	20.25	13.50	ALTHEIMER 1ST	2,214.20	2,194.92	ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
SHILOH	1,687.89	610.00	ALTHEIMER 1ST	2,214.20	2,194.92	ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
SOUTH MCGHEE	2,490.00	87.00	ALTHEIMER 1ST	2,214.20	2,194.92	ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
TRIPLE, DEWITT	1,836.79	615.00	ALTHEIMER 1ST	2,214.20	2,194.92	ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
TILLAR 1ST	2,474.00	110.00	ALTHEIMER 1ST	2,214.20	2,194.92	ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
WATSON	4,730.32	318.45	ALTHEIMER 1ST	2,214.20	2,194.92	ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
WYATT	805.21	305.00	ALTHEIMER 1ST	2,214.20	2,194.92	ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
ASSOCIATION TOTALS	74,188.95	39,444.50	ASSOCIATION TOTALS			ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
Faulkner County			ASSOCIATION TOTALS			ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
FAULKNER CO ASBN	2,593.74	2,253.32	ASSOCIATION TOTALS			ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
BOND	322.92	151.00	ASSOCIATION TOTALS			ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
BRAWLEY	1,416.98	1,178.00	ASSOCIATION TOTALS			ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
CRIMMIDGE	2,470.14	1,773.26	ASSOCIATION TOTALS			ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
CONWAY 1ST	27,865.50	20,966.50	ASSOCIATION TOTALS			ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
CONWAY 2ND	17,960.22	4,163.96	ASSOCIATION TOTALS			ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
EMMUEL, CONWAY	881.09	857.88	ASSOCIATION TOTALS			ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
MT ZION	416.63	363.10	ASSOCIATION TOTALS			ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
FRIENDSHIP	3,680.74	480.68	ASSOCIATION TOTALS			ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
HARVEY HOLLN	92.00	656.00	ASSOCIATION TOTALS			ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
HARLOW PARK	10,279.31	2,588.73	ASSOCIATION TOTALS			ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
HARMONY	751.68		ASSOCIATION TOTALS			ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
HOLLAND	2,439.80	1,689.00	ASSOCIATION TOTALS			ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
MAVFLOWER 1ST	2,282.13	574.45	ASSOCIATION TOTALS			ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
MT VERNON	1,376.46		ASSOCIATION TOTALS			ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
MYLOR	241.00		ASSOCIATION TOTALS			ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
BETHEL	302.03		ASSOCIATION TOTALS			ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
OK BOWERY	3,590.16		ASSOCIATION TOTALS			ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
PALMER SD	16,403.40	7,797.81	ASSOCIATION TOTALS			ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
PLEASANT GROVE	2,929.31	2,929.50	ASSOCIATION TOTALS			ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
SOUTH SIDE, DAMASCUS	2,701.36	2,963.39	ASSOCIATION TOTALS			ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
WOBBER 1ST	2,989.90	2,417.10	ASSOCIATION TOTALS			ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
GOLD CREEK			ASSOCIATION TOTALS			ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
SALT LICK HEIGHTS	685.70	171.34	ASSOCIATION TOTALS			ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
GENERATOR FIRST	2,252.52	854.09	ASSOCIATION TOTALS			ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
NEW HOPE BAPTIST CH	1,418.85	198.00	ASSOCIATION TOTALS			ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
BLANEY HILL BAPTIST	43.68	23.00	ASSOCIATION TOTALS			ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
SPRING	45.73		ASSOCIATION TOTALS			ASSOCIATION TOTALS		
VICTORY, CONWAY	455.92	189.37	ASSOCIATION TOTALS			ASSOCIATION TOTALS		

CHURCHES	COOPERATIVE PROGRAM	DESIGNATED GIFTS	CHURCHES	COOPERATIVE PROGRAM	DESIGNATED GIFTS	CHURCHES	COOPERATIVE PROGRAM	DESIGNATED GIFTS																	
SOUTH FORK SYCAMORE GROVE THIRD ST, ARRADELPHI UNITY WHEEL SPRINGS SOUTHSIDE, PRESCOTT BISMARCK 1ST DLARK MISSION	1,058.87 40.00 1,500.00 630.00 125.00 372.94 612.03 150.00	555.50 894.00 3,090.00 75.00 77.60 150.00 150.00	FAIR OAKS FAITH FITZGERALD FOREST CITY 1ST FOREST CITY 2ND GLADDEN GODWIN HARRIS CHAPEL HYDRICK INGRAM BOULEVARD MADISON 1ST	2,892.14 611.56 1,118.31 11,324.40 4,442.50 556.27 729.45 700.00 481.86 5,832.83 607.00	375.00 342.25 1,118.31 11,324.40 4,442.50 556.27 729.45 700.00 481.86 2,057.50 154.60 3,883.05	BLACK OAK BRUSH CREEK CALVARY, HUNTSVILLE CRADLE AVE, SPGRDL ELKINS ELKINS 1ST FARMINGTON 1ST FAVETTEVILLE 1ST COLLEGE AVENUE FRIENDSHIP GREENLAND 1ST HINDSVILLE HUNTSVILLE 1ST IMMANUEL, FAYETTEVILLE JONSON KANE FARM 1ST SOU LIBERTY LINCOLN 1ST OAK FOREK PRAIRIE GROVE PROVIDENCE RIDGEVIEW SILENT GROVE SONORA	900.00 2,621.24 2,196.38 1,771.04 100.00 144.00 27,809.71 3,682.00 43,952.87 360.00 900.00 801.55 2,151.78 2,434.70 1,127.96 318.00 1,465.22 4,261.55 1,541.57 4,493.24 1,112.85 4,708.72 1,067.04 838.35	2,470.00 1,356.66 41.00 658.46 120.00 15.00 17,580.14 1,147.56 30,902.39 80.00 873.47 1,212.81 812.51 2,452.72 2,498.18 336.00 858.50 3,035.98 1,833.24 1,844.44 224.00 441.67																	
ASSOCIATION TOTALS	105,298.69	63,352.92	ROCKY BAYOU SALM 1ST SHERKREE VILLAGE SADDLE 1ST ROCKY BAYOU ASSN RSP 1ST BELVIEW BOSHELL CARLICO ROCK 1ST DODD EVENING SHADE 1ST FAYETTE CREEK FARMLIN HARDY 1ST MELBOURNE 1ST MYRTLE OBFORD SAGE SIDNEY WINDHORE 1ST WISERMAN ZION HILL HORSESHOE BEND MIDWAY MT LEBANON MT PLEASANT SOU NORTHSIDE BAPTIST C IMMANUEL UNION HILL CALVARY BAPTIST CHA	1,006.00 4,465.10 50.00 328.74 1,351.49 30.00 1,605.56 481.74 798.83 61.66 326.23 2,185.09 4,790.37 865.00 462.11 1,751.38 1,794.85 411.56 230.00 479.82 3,327.69 1,414.62 96.30 964.00 2,468.36 94.34 30.00	1,006.00 2,765.94 50.85 105.00 408.00 933.46 249.00 1,058.91 257.00 123.93 3,087.00 313.44 548.00 678.56 2,727.10 122.00 215.00 608.07 3,224.10 1,334.57 337.93 116.00 982.00 982.00 94.34	ASSOCIATION TOTALS	211,763.02	100,033.28	TRINITY CALVARY, LEPANTO TRINITY ASSN ANDERSON TULLY BETHEL, INACTIVE BLACK OAK CALVARY, HARRISBURG CORNERS CHAPEL EASTSIDE, TRUMANN FAITH FISHER 1ST FRIER GREENFIELD HARRISBURG 1ST LEBANON LEPANTO 1ST MIDWAY MARKED TREE 1ST MCCORDIA MERCY CHAPEL NEISHANDER PLEASANT GROVE PLEASANT HILL PLEASANT VALLEY PROVIDENCE ROCK OAK RYANVILLE TRINITY TRUMANN 1ST TYNARD 1ST VALLEY VIEW WEINER 1ST WEST RIDGE WILSON WALDENBURG CENTRAL BAPTIST CHJ FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST	481.00 502.89 626.53 672.46 1,542.76 593.70 1,412.17 258.51 1,029.04 651.55 713.35 6,739.21 1,085.73 4,622.49 1,029.04 4,307.69 150.00 159.63 6,438.40 795.50 571.09 512.27 167.49 795.55 930.47 2,454.50 1,214.42 305.98 1,087.71 19.00 151.41 1,568.23	103.68 626.53 672.46 1,542.76 593.70 1,412.17 258.51 1,029.04 651.55 713.35 6,739.21 1,085.73 4,622.49 1,029.04 4,307.69 150.00 159.63 6,438.40 795.50 571.09 512.27 167.49 795.55 930.47 2,454.50 1,214.42 305.98 1,087.71 19.00 151.41 1,568.23	ASSOCIATION TOTALS	54,498.95	21,637.53	NORTH CENTRAL ASSOCIATION HALFMOON 1ST ANGORA IMMANUEL, CLINTON LESIE 1ST NORTH CENTRAL ASSN RHEA BOKINBURG CORINTH FOWKSA FRIENDSHIP LEKINGTON PEE DEE PLEASANT VALLEY RUPERT SCOTTLAND SHADY GROVE SHIRLEY BURNT RIDGE ZION-INACTIVE FAIRFIELD FAY MACEDONIA MSN-DISB	9,041.84 109.00 897.51 3,092.83 76.98 344.55 577.49 100.00 2,407.55 4,130.87 565.40 720.00 278.52 1,127.22 462.74 914.20 689.19 125.00 100.00 6,293.45	6,053.97 39.00 903.74 2,228.93 76.98 577.49 98.00 962.00 2,039.20 168.00 278.52 1,272.94 462.74 514.23 280.00 280.00 2,375.96	ASSOCIATION TOTALS	31,377.90	19,154.48	WASHINGTON-MADISON WASHINGTON-MADISON HENRY STREET, SPGRDL	2,909.35 2,745.10	MISCELLANEOUS GRAND TOTALS	42,292.42 6,299,619.82	137,256.91 3,771,135.13

HOME MISSION BOARD

Staff Cuts Proposed

by Mark Wingfield
SBC Home Mission Board

ATLANTA (BP)—A possible reduction of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's Atlanta staff will be one part of a cost-saving plan to be recommended to trustees at their August meeting, President Larry Lewis.

"No field missionaries cooperatively funded with states will be recalled by this action," Lewis said. "The number of Atlanta employees who would be negatively affected is minimal."

Positions being considered for cuts include some currently vacant and some that are currently filled, Lewis said. However, most of the current employees affected by the potential cuts would be transferred to vacant positions in Atlanta or on the field or would be offered early retirement, he said.

The proposed staff cuts are part of an \$8.2 million reduction in the agency's 1989 budget announced in March, Lewis said. Previous steps in the reduction included a \$6 million cut in the Atlanta staff's operational budget and negotiations with state conventions to cut nearly \$700,000.

The budget reduction and proposed staff cuts do not constitute a crisis but could prevent one, said Ernest Kelley, vice president of the planning section.

"On the positive side, there is no financial crisis at the Home Mission Board,"

Kelley said. "We do not have a deficit. We do have good reserves.

Good management is when you know you have a problem coming and move to address it.

"The purpose of our reductions this year is to prepare for a change in anticipated income for the next two years," said Robert Banks, executive vice president. "If we had not acted this year, we would have faced greater problems in 1990."

The number of current employees affected by any recommended cuts has not been finalized, Lewis said, explaining negotiations still are underway with section vice presidents.

"This is a painful time for all of us, and we want to be sensitive to the concerns of our employees," Lewis said. "All employees who are affected by these proposed staff cuts will be personally consulted before the final recommendation is made to the board of directors.

"It is premature for us to finalize any public announcement until our board has had time to study the situation and act. They will have the final word."

When fully staffed, the HMB employs about 380 people in Atlanta. The proposed staff cuts would result in an annual savings of about \$500,000, Lewis said.

"Decisions about the proposed reductions were based solely on the priorities of the Home Mission Board and budget con-

siderations," he added.

A preliminary report on proposed staff cuts was presented to the administrative committee of the agency's board of directors July 10. A final recommendation will be made to the full board in a scheduled meeting Aug. 9 in Atlanta.

In addition to proposed staff cuts, negotiations are underway with state conventions to reduce field budgets, Kelley said. The HMB's four regional coordinators have been negotiating budget changes with state convention leaders since March, resulting in savings of about \$650,000.

Most of those cuts have come from field positions vacant for two years or more, Kelley said. In some cases, funds originally scheduled for projects in the states also have been deleted.

All reductions in state budgets have been made with the agreement of state executive directors and state missions directors, he added.

Lewis, Banks and Kelley said reductions in the HMB's current budget are primarily due to a decrease in anticipated income for coming years. HMB funding comes from two sources: the annual Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions and the Cooperative Program.

June Cooperative Program Report

Receipts	\$996,189.75
Budget	\$1,083,333.33
Under	\$87,143.58

Year-to-date

Under	\$200,380.16
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Same time last year

Under	\$128,458.38
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Cooperative Programs receipts are \$7,631 less for the first six months of 1989 than the receipts for the first six months of 1988. That's good news! Why? In January, receipts were 25.4 percent less than 1988 receipts. In February, receipts were 10.93 percent less than 1988. Now, receipts for 1989 almost equal receipts for 1988. Our projections still indicate that we shall reach our 1989 budget.

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Plagiarism Charged

Criswell Denies Claim of 'Literary Theft'

by Ed Briggs

Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—A Dallas author alleges W.A. Criswell, patriarch of conservatism in the Southern Baptist Convention, plagiarized material in his popular book, *Why I Preach That The Bible Is Literally True*.

Criswell has denied the charge.

Gordon James, a writer of theological books cited 15 examples of what he says are plagiarism, defined as "literary theft," or to "steal or pass off as one's own the ideas or words of another." James made his research available to the Richmond (Va.) *Times-Dispatch*, which published a front page article on the matter July 11.

James, who has written a book critical of Criswell's theology and the "Criswell Study Bible," claimed Criswell's *Why I Preach That The Bible Is Literally True*, contains sections from Reuben Archer Torrey's *Difficulties and Alleged Errors and Contradictions in the Bible*, published in 1907 by Fleming H. Revell Co.

The book was reprinted in paperback by Moody Press, the publishing arm of Moody Bible Institute in Chicago where Torrey, a Congregationalist evangelist, taught until his death in 1928. Torrey was a leading opponent of biblical liberalism, the view that Southern Baptist conservatives are fighting today.

James sent a list of examples, cited line by line and page by page, to Criswell's publisher, Broadman Press, a division of the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville, and asked that the book be withdrawn from distribution.

Dessel Aderholt, director of the Broadman division, wrote to James that if the

book, first published in 1969, goes into another edition, "we would want to consult with the author and explore the possibility of making some editorial changes."

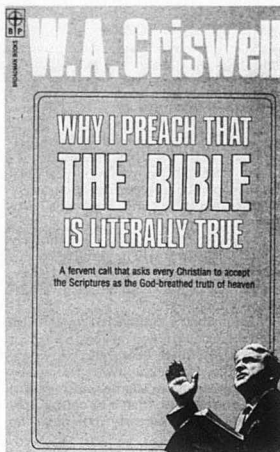
Broadman said it will not remove the book from distribution before the supply of fewer than 1,000 runs out. Aderholt added sales of the book "have reached a level at which the book would normally go out of print when the present stock is exhausted. That likely would be sometime in 1990."

The original hardcover edition of 43,000 copies sold out in 1983. Since then, more than 28,000 paperbacks of the book have been sold.

Criswell, 79, who said he has written about 50 books, is a former president of the 14.8 million-member SBC and a leader in the conservative faction. He said the book was written in longhand, something he rarely does, in 1969 when he was president of the convention.

The pastor of the 21,000 member congregation—the largest affiliated with the SBC—said, "I'm not conscious of lifting anything out of anybody's volumes, published or anything else, unless I said 'so-and-so said so-and-so.'"

Aderholt, in his letter to James, said that while Criswell does not cite each reference to Torrey's book, he does refer to the



scholar.

He added there is one other warning to the reader that the words of the book are not solely Criswell's.

"We find it significant that in his foreword, Dr. Criswell writes, 'The volume is my testimony, not a documented textbook on biblical theology. It is written with my words, with the words of others and with the words of God taken from the Holy Scriptures. . .'" Aderholt wrote.

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"If you meet me and forget me, you have lost nothing; but if you meet Jesus Christ and forget Him, you have lost everything!"

Criswell denied he borrowed phrases from Torrey's book without attribution, but said there was one way Torrey's words could have made it into the book. "Now what I did, of course, and I still do, is read a great deal and some of those things I'm sure could have stayed in my mind."

However, he said later he could not recall reading Torrey's book.

James told the *Times-Dispatch* he grew suspicious of Criswell in 1985 when he was doing research on his book on what he saw as inconsistencies in the theology of Criswell's preaching and in the "Criswell Study Bible."

In reading Criswell's book, James said, he got the sense he had read it in another book. He said he thumbed through some old books and "it wasn't long before I found it."

"I found one instance after another where Dr. Criswell literally stole the

material from Torrey."

James said he was reluctant to do anything about it and put the matter aside until 1987, when he returned to the research and said he found even more inconsistencies.

Based on his research, James said he found material from the first, second, third, fifth, sixth, eighth, 10th, 15th, 16th and 18th chapters of Torrey's book included in the sixth and seventh chapters of Criswell's book, with some material in the fifth.

Three examples cited by James:

— Torrey, page 27: "To one who is at all familiar with the history of critical attacks on the Bible, the confidence of those modern destructive critics who think they are going to annihilate the Bible at last, is simply amusing."

Criswell, page 46: "To one who is at all familiar with the history of critical attacks on the Bible, the confidence of the modern destructive critic who thinks he is going to annihilate this Gibraltar seems simply amusing."

— Torrey, page 27: "Do not be frightened when you find a difficulty, no matter how unanswerable, or how insurmountable, it appears at first sight. Thousands of men have found just such difficulties before you were born."

Criswell, page 46: "We are not to be frightened when we find a difficulty, no matter how unanswerable or how insur-

mountable it first appears to be. Thousands of men saw these same difficulties before we were born."

— Torrey, page 22: "It is one of the perfections of the Bible that it was not written in the terminology of modern science. If it had been, it would never have been understood until the present day. . . . Furthermore, as science and its terminology are constantly changing, the Bible, if written in the terminology of the science of to-day, would be out of date in a few years. . . ."

Criswell, page 49: "It is one of the perfections of the Bible that it was not written in the terminology of material science. If it had been, it would never have been understood, nor would it even be understood in the present day. Science and its terminology are constantly changing and if the Bible had been written in the terminology of science yesterday, it would be outmoded today and if it were written in the terminology of science today, it would be out of date a few years hence."

Criswell, in referring to James, said: "Whoever this guy is has some kind of an ax to grind. . . . And, I repeat, I'm not conscious of having lifted anything out of anybody's book and writing that. I just wrote it longhand."

Asked if it were possible he had read Torrey's book over the years and the words fell into his preaching, he said: "I do not read Torrey that much. . . . And I have several books by Torrey, but I'm not conscious of especially reading him at all."

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Hearing Sought

by Art Toalston
SBC Home Mission Board

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—The home church of a couple denied missionary appointment has requested a hearing during the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board trustees' meeting Aug. 7-9.

Northwest Baptist Church of Ardmore, Okla., in a resolution adopted unanimously July 5, "strongly urges the trustees... to reconsider" a subcommittee's action rejecting the missionary candidacy of Greg and Katrina Pennington. The church employed the couple in 1984 and ordained them to the ministry in 1986.

The congregation circulated its request for a hearing, along with a three-page open letter, to the Foreign Mission Board's 90 trustees, Baptist Press and nearly 40 newspapers published by state or regional Baptist conventions.

The church's pastor, William V. Johnson, also has written to the trustees' chairman, C. Mark Cortis, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Winston-Salem, N.C., reiterating the request for a hearing.

Mrs. Pennington's ordination cost Northwest Baptist Church its membership in the Enon Baptist Association. A month before the ordination service, the association voted to automatically remove from its membership any church that ordains women.

The association also mailed two letters to the Foreign Mission Board opposing the Penningtons' application for missionary service, one in 1987 and the other on June 7 of this year. On June 27, a trustee subcommittee voted 9-4 against the Penningtons, who had been recommended for appointment as missionaries to Scotland by mission board staff members in Richmond.

Johnson, who wrote the open letter to trustees, contended that the church "had

no opportunity to respond" to Enon Baptist Association's claim that the ordination of the Penningtons brought divisiveness to the association.

Also being mailed to trustees is a letter from the trustee subcommittee chairman, Paul Sanders, pastor of Geyer Springs First Baptist Church in Little Rock, Ark. His letter reviews the subcommittee's reasons for the decision to reject the Penningtons.

The "primary concern" was the "disunity this (the ordination of Mrs. Pennington) had created" in the church and association, Sanders wrote. "Ordination of women to the ministry is an issue among Southern Baptists but was not the primary issue in this decision."

No church has ever requested a hearing with trustees on behalf of any rejected missionary candidate, mission board officials in Richmond said. Louis Cobbs, who directed the board's personnel selection department from 1968 to 1988, said several couples turned away by trustee subcommittees in the past 10 years have asked for a review by the overall trustee personnel committee. Cobbs declined to disclose the resolution of those cases.

Trustee chairman Cortis, in a telephone interview, reaffirmed the trustees' committee process. "We talk a lot about trust in Baptist life, and we have to trust committees to do their work... even when they make hard decisions which may not please everybody," he said.

"If some member of the committee on

the prevailing side (of the 9-4 vote) wanted to reconsider, we would give it strong consideration to see if any consensus was building for some reconsideration."

Cortis did not dismiss the church's request to meet with trustees, but said, "After weighing that carefully, I would be very cautious about any kind of a 'hearing.'" Sanders, also wary of a hearing, explained, "We would open ourselves to hear everybody from now on who is not approved by the Foreign Mission Board, and that would be, I think, a dangerous precedent to set."

Pennington, who is minister of education at Northwest Baptist Church, would have done youth ministry in Scotland. Mrs. Pennington, Northwest's minister of preschool education, would have been assigned to church and home ministries. "We'd like to pursue every avenue possible to merit reconsideration for appointment," Pennington said in a telephone interview. "Our calling is still there." His wife added, "We feel we've done the right thing and we've acted with integrity, courage and a clear conscience. We've been faithful to God's call to the mission field."

Johnson said, "There are still a lot of missionaries and students and professors who are doing wonderful work that needs to be supported."

Johnson noted that some of the money Northwest Baptist Church gives through the Cooperative Program "supports missionaries with whom we would not agree on some of the things they teach. But the spirit of cooperation demands that we support them, as well as our own, for the cause of the gospel."



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Choosing Reliable Rulers

by Dennis W. Swanberg, Second Church, Hot Springs

Basic passage: Judges 9:1-57

Focal passage: Judges 9:1-3,5,52-57

Central truth: God's people must choose reliable leaders who love the Lord with all of their heart, mind, and soul.

This lesson records the story of Abimelech, the sinful and wicked son of Gideon, and his concubine. Gideon should never have had a concubine. It certainly caused trouble in the nation. Abimelech was a very ambitious young man. He had heard about the nation wanting Gideon to become ruler over them. Since he was the son of Gideon he wanted to become king, so he went to his mother's people, who were in Shechem, and got them to follow him.

Obviously, Abimelech was a wicked and brutal man. He did a horrible thing. He brutally murdered the 70 sons of Gideon and set himself up as a king. His abortive reign reveals, I feel, the truth of the statement in Daniel, "... The most high ruleth in the kingdom of men, and given it to whomsoever he will and setteth up over it the basest of men" (Dn. 4:17). Even today when a good ruler comes into office, many people say, "God raised him up." But what about the wicked ruler? God permits him to come to the throne also. Do you know why? Because the principle is, "like priests, like people." That is, people get the ruler they deserve. The people of Israel wanted this boy, Abimelech, to rule over them; and they got the caliber of man they deserved.

God judged Abimelech and the men of Shechem for making him king. Civil war ensued because there were many people who did not want Abimelech to rule over them. What a sad story. This is a very dreadful ending for the life of Gideon from a very humble position to be the delivered and judge of his people.

The Israelites, whom Gideon delivered, apostatized immediately upon his death, revealing their spiritual weakness and inability to stand firm unless they had a strong leader.

It was characteristic that when a judge died in Israel, the people apostatized. The Word of God shows us here the importance of a Godly leader. May God give us trustworthy leaders to lead out in his kingdom work.

This lesson treatment is based on the International Bible Lesson for Christian Teaching, Uniform Series. Copyright International Council of Education. Used by permission.

Life and Work

A Need for God

by David Moore, Immanuel Church, Pine Bluff

Basic passage: Psalms 63:1-8; 84:1-2,5-7

Focal passage: Psalms 63:1-2,6; 84:1-2
Central truth: We have been given a deep need for God.

Have you sensed a deep need for God in your life? That need is there in every individual, and only God can fill that void.

When God made us for fellowship with him, he designed us so that everyone would have a deep inner longing for God. Even as I write these words, I am working with a Vietnam veteran who has been running from God for 20 years. He called me early this morning to say, "I've found Jesus. It works!"

Of course, it works because he works! That deep longing of the human heart can only be satisfied by the one who created it. Thus, the psalmist begins Psalms 63 by telling us that his whole being longs to be close to God.

A beautiful illustration follows. Even as a desert longs for water, so the soul of man longs for God. There is something in each of us that is similar to thirst that can only be satisfied by the one who said, "Whoever drinks the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again" (Jn. 4:14 TEV).

There is a time when this need is more obvious than others. The psalmist alludes to this in that he met God in the sanctuary. When he went there, he saw the majesty and glory of God. He saw the one who was able to meet the deepest longing of his human heart.

God's people long to be in the house of worship. It is a joy for us to go into the house of the Lord. There we can meet God and find his power in our lives. We can find the power that is able to meet those deep longings in our heart.

Do you have a heart for God? Do you long to be near him? If so, you will find some quiet time alone with him. And you will also find your place in worship.

Perhaps you have given up on a lost friend. Please remember that God has put within him the deep longing for God. As long as your friend runs away from God, that need will never be met. So when your friend realizes the need is there, please be there to share with him the living water that can satisfy more than he or she could ever imagine! Share Jesus!

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Bible Book

The Worshipful Life

by Robert O. Pruett, University Church, Fayetteville

Basic passage: Leviticus 17:1 to 27:34

Focal passage: Leviticus 22:18-20; 23:2-3; 25:3-4,20-23,35-36

Central truth: Followers of God are to worship God in all humility, giving him all glory and honor as they celebrate his completeness and obey his every command.

"Give of your best to the Master" may be a verse out of a familiar old hymn, but it is at the very heart of the worshipful life. Moses gave great detail to instruct followers of God to always give their best to God. Just as today we are to do the same. Never should we offer our God our left overs or inferior gifts.

We see from the remainder of the lesson what we have is not ours anyway, why be selfish with what is not ours? God is in control and the more we turn loose of the purse strings the more God takes hold and manages. God's management is far better than what we can ever attempt.

How should we worship God? We are to celebrate what God has done. These celebrations are to be in addition to our regular Lord's Day worship. Moses instructs God's followers in detail how all types of worship are to be conducted. There is supposed to be a contrast between the celebration of the feast, fasts, and festivals to the solemn worship of God. May we all remember there is a place for both celebration and solemn worship.

Finally, Moses instructs the followers of God to recognize God's sovereignty over their livelihood and land. Man is a steward of what God has allowed him to have. Ultimately through death man gives up his tentative hold on his possessions. In the text God, through Moses, instructs man to demonstrate God's sovereignty and give the land a rest by not planting or harvesting anything once out of every seven years. God blessed those who obeyed by blessing their other six years of planting and harvesting. All God's creatures had freedom to eat of the volunteer crops during the seventh year. As part of this process Moses instructed God's followers to: care for all God's people, to be a people of compassion and concern, to help the poor, and to respect God and his desire to see none of his creation hungry or in need.

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WORLD

Sign of Change

by Art Toalston
SBC Foreign Mission Board

BUDAPEST, Hungary (BP)—Each day the Hungarian Parliament meets, Baptist minister Janos Viczian takes his rightful seat.

His presence in the legislative body is but one evidence of the political change that began evolving in Hungary long before President George Bush visited in July.

"I am not a politician," Viczian explained during a visit to the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board in Richmond, Va., earlier this year. Viczian became a member of parliament when the Council of Free Churches of Hungary selected him as its president last year.

Eight positions for religious leaders, including the head of the Free Church council, were added to the parliament in 1984, Viczian said. The Roman Catholic Church gets three seats; the Reformed Church, two seats; Lutherans, Jews and the Free Church council each get one seat among some 370 in parliament.

Viczian also has been president of the Baptist Union of Hungary since 1984. Baptist work in Hungary dates back to the mid-1800s. Both sets of Viczian's grandparents were Baptists.

Forty years ago the Communist Party took control of the Hungarian government—the same year the Free Church council was formed, Viczian said. Communist leaders often proclaimed the country's churches would die out within 25 years.

"We had many difficulties during the last 40 years," Viczian acknowledged. "We lost several hundred members," people who fell away from church attendance. But no evangelical, he claimed, was ever executed for spreading the gospel.

"The Word of God never lost the power," Viczian said. "Jesus Christ lives in Hungary. The church did not die out."

In fact, 52 new Baptist churches have been constructed during the past 25 years, he said. The small Baptist seminary in Budapest has continued operating, and is moving to new quarters. The seminary will house the new International Baptist Lay Academy, which will begin offering training to Baptist congregational leaders throughout Eastern Europe next summer. Two Southern Baptist representatives have been assigned to Hungary to assist the academy.

Currently 260 Baptist churches and 140 "preaching points," involving some 20,000 worshipers, exist in this country of 10.6 million people, Viczian said.

Public preaching, while legal, runs counter to Hungarian cultural norms, Vic-

zian said. The public likens street-corner preachers and choirs to drunkards or circus members, he said.

Fellow members of parliament, Viczian said, are polite and respectful to him as a minister. In "corridor talk," they sometimes ask him questions about the Bible, such as how Jonah survived three days in a fish, or they make faith-related observations. One member, noting that 100,000 Hungarian young adults have become alcoholics, told Viczian that such societal ills could have been lessened "if we did not leave the Bible as a real social ethic and if we did not forget the Ten Commandments."

Christian Books Going to Iraq

LARNACA, Cyprus (BP)—Christian believers in Iraq will receive \$12,000 worth of Christian literature through a grant from the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

Bibles, Christian books and 1,000 hymnals, all in Arabic, will be shipped from the Arab Baptist Publication Center in Beirut as soon as conditions in Lebanon allow mail service to resume.

During Iraq's war with Iran, sending literature to Iraq was impossible, said Southern Baptist representative Frances Fuller, publication center director. Now Iraqi Christians are "starved for Christian literature" and can receive books through the mail, but they are not allowed to send out money, she said.

The books are being sent free to Christian believers in Iraq through contacts made by the Bible Society of Lebanon, Fuller said. The society will pay the postage.

The possibility of displaying Christian literature at an international book fair in Iraq in 1990 also is being investigated, she said.

Only about 3 percent of Iraq's 17.6 million people are Christians.

Islam is the national religion of Iraq. More than 95 percent of Iraqis are Muslims; a slight majority of them follow the Shiite sect championed by the late Ayatollah Khomeini of Iran. Other Iraqi Muslims follow the Sunni branch of Islam, which is the predominant form of the faith worldwide.

Christianity in Iraq dates back to the first century, with the evangelization of Jewish colonies in what is now modern Iraq. Christian communities of various traditions are found in all major Iraqi cities. Freedom of worship is allowed in Iraq, but public evangelizing is not.

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