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Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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Learning to Read

Arkansas Baptist

August 3, 1989

A Call for
Volunteers



In This Issue

Cover Story



BGEA photo

A Call for Volunteers . . . 11

Thousands are volunteering to serve as choir members, ushers, and counselors during Billy Graham's Arkansas Crusade in September. Still more are needed.

Editor's Page 3

Speak Up

- You'll Be Glad To Know . . . 4
- Letters to the Editor 4
- Woman's Viewpoint 4
- Today's Issues 5

Faith At Work

- Learning to Read 6

Local & State

- Youth In Crisis 8
- Arkansas All Over 12
- Petit Jean Dedication 12
- Journeyman Sent 13
- 'Mission Center' Started . . . 13
- Yellville Dedication 13
- Much-Needed Camp 14
- Holland Honored 15

Nation

- Options Offered 17
- Questions Linger 18
- Bush Considers Pressler . . . 20
- O'Brien to Head WMU 23

Lessons For Living . 21

World

- Leaders Endorse Party 24

IT'S UPLIFTING

Miracles Happen

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP)—In early June 1988, Heather Preas was near death in a Dallas hospital, while hundreds attending Summer Youth Celebration at Glorieta (N.M.) Baptist Conference Center were praying for her.

Today, Heather is a survivor of severe aplastic anemia, a rare bone marrow disease that eats away the body's immune system, and her mother, Cynthia Preas, believes the miracle is due in part to the fervent prayers of young people.

Heather was diagnosed with the disease in January 1988 after returning home from a ski trip with the youth group at her church, First Baptist of Midland, Texas. She was badly bruised, lethargic and bleeding from the gums.

Her mother rushed her to the doctor only to learn Heather had one of two illnesses—acute leukemia or aplastic anemia, a disease which infects only five out of every 1 million people.

"The doctor told us to pray for leukemia," her mother said.

In January 1988, Heather was given four months to live. "They told her she wouldn't live to see her 16th birthday," her mother continued.

When the church and community learned of Heather's illness, they rallied to her rescue, donating much-needed blood.

The church, which operates a blood bank, had to hire extra people to meet the demands of people wanting to donate blood for Heather, said Youth Minister Charlie Dodd.

Others volunteered to take bone-marrow transplant tests. To survive, Heather would need the transplant from someone whose tissue matched hers. However, each test cost \$500.

"One man from New Mexico donated enough money to take care of 200 of those tests," Mrs. Preas said.

Heather lived to her 16th birthday April 15; by May 13 she was dying and knew it.

"She had made out all her funeral plans. She wanted to have a pizza party for all the kids at church to thank them for their prayers and visits, said her mother. "At that point, I gave her to God. I had a lot of peace about it."

Thirty minutes later, in their Midland home where they had brought Heather to die, the Preases received a call from doctors at Baylor Medical Complex in Dallas saying they had located not one, but five bone-marrow donors in London.

"It wasn't until I had given Heather to God that a donor was found," Mrs. Preas said.

Heather went for her transplant in 1988, the week youth from the church were attending Summer Youth Celebration at Glorieta.

"On the night of her transplant, the whole congregation prayed for her," Dodd said.

After the successful surgery, Heather finally was released from the hospital in September 1988.

While Heather is not totally free from medical problems, her mother is "completely confident that miracles do still happen."

GOOD NEWS!

A Broader Image of God

1 Samuel 26:19-20; 27:1-28:2; 29:1-30:31

"Your God is too small!" So charged J. B. Phillips in his little book by that arresting title. He treated several misconceptions of God. Included are such false images as resident policeman, grand old man, and managing director.

Life can easily get caught in the shallow eddy of a small understanding of God, but life surges with new meaning as we allow great ideas of God to play on the horizons of our minds.

David revealed a limited understanding of God in his plea that Saul not force him into a foreign land beyond God's protection (26:19-20). But his plea was to no avail.

In desperation, David finally joined the forces of Achish, king of Gath (27:1-4).

Surprisingly, God's power was with David, even on foreign soil! Under God's guidance, he continued to move toward the throne of Israel (27:1 to 28:2; 29:1 to 30:31).

Years later, while in exile, God's people likely were encouraged by the stories of David's fugitive days among the Philistines. The stories helped them to rethink their small ideas of God. David's experiences, along with the stories of the ark among the Philistines (1 Sm. 4-6), proclaimed to them God's power and presence beyond the native land of his people.

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Devastation by Chance

J. EVERETT SNEED

A major effort is again underway to legalize the lottery in Arkansas. We believe that the overwhelming majority of Arkansans are firmly opposed to our state being directly involved in the gambling business. The best way, at present, to show our opposition to gambling is to refuse to sign the petition which will be circulated in the not to distant future. When an individual analyzes the facts, he can see just how devastating gambling and, particularly, the lottery can be.

The devastating effects of gambling and the lottery are shown in the July 10 issue of *Time* magazine. It was observed that this year Americans will spend an estimated \$278 billion on various forms of gambling. Included in these figures are everything from the lottery to church-run bingos.

One of the arguments that the proponents of the lottery will use to attempt to get signatures so that the issue can be placed on the ballot is, "Let's give the people a chance to decide whether they want the lottery or not." One might just as well argue, "Let's give the people the chance to decide whether they want prostitution, murder or larceny legalized."

When the state enters into the gambling business, all forms of gambling increase. *Time* magazine said, "Legalized gambling also prompts more illegal wagering. It was once thought that the lottery and other state run betting ventures would pull money away from ghetto numbers games, horse parlors operated behind the candy store front and the like. But the illegal games usually flourish along side the illegal ones, and sometimes even piggyback on them."

The more the government enters into the gambling business, the wider the spectrum of people who will be devastated by the cancer of gambling. Again *Time* magazine provides statistics which show the rapid increase of gambling in our nation alongside the growth of states entering into the gambling business. Christians/Cummings Associates in New York City, a leading consulting firm to the gambling industry, gives statistics on the increase of gambling in the past five years. Casino gambling took in \$164 billion and was up 57 percent in 1983. Slot machines jumped 98 percent, and legal book making jumped 103 percent. But, the greatest increase of all was a 228 percent leap in money wagered in



card rooms.

State run lotteries produce big money for multi-million dollar gambling corporations. Lotto America, an organization that many believe to be the nucleus of a national lottery, is currently operating in six states and the District of Columbia. This organization hopes to sign up two more states in the near future.

Proponents argue that people have always gambled, so the state government should just as well get in on the action. These proponents further maintain that the lottery is a painless way to raise billions of dollars for such things as education, senior citizens program and other areas where tax money is needed. Those supporters of the lottery are not selling dreams but delusions.

Those who spend the largest amount of money on the lottery are those who can

least afford to lose. For example, this editor observed an elderly lady spend all of her Social Security check on lottery tickets except the small amount required for her rent. The salesperson, in a drug store, in Boston, Mass., tried in vain to dissuade the lady from throwing her money away in this way. The elderly lady argued, "I just feel in my stomach that I'm going to win this time so I want to use all that I have to buy lottery tickets."

The odds of an individual winning the lottery are infinitesimal. For example, in one popular form of the lottery, a bettor picks six numbers out of 54. The odds of an individual picking the right six numbers are one in 12.9 million.

Worst of all in order to make the lottery go the state must use hard-sell advertising. Someone has observed, "We used to say, 'work hard, study hard, and you'll get ahead,' now we say, 'just gamble and go for the big win.'"

The lottery appears to be an easy source of revenue which will solve a state's financial problems. This simply is not true! James Smith, superintendent of the Wolf Branch School in Belleville, Ill., said of the lottery, "The real benefit is zero." Smith went on to observe that the actual benefit is less than zero since it has made it impossible to get a bond issue authorized because local officials think that schools are rolling in lottery money.

The lottery is morally wrong. The Bible clearly teaches that we are to love our neighbor and never to try to get something for nothing. Each Christian has a moral, social and economic responsibility for opposing the state lottery. Let's stop this evil before it starts. Let's keep it off from the ballot.

Arkansas Baptist

VOLUME 88 NUMBER 26

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DON MOORE

You'll Be Glad To Know



You have time to get good and ready for "Here's Hope—Jesus Loves You." This is the theme that has been chosen for the promotion of simultaneous revivals in the spring of 1990.

Despair in the home, despair in the school, despair in the work place, despair in society, despair in personal living—these characterize the age in which we live. Now you see why "Here's Hope" is such a significant theme. Here is the need of the world and the message of the gospel. God identifies himself as "the God of hope" (Ro. 15:13).

We are working and praying in hopes that all of our churches will join in simultaneous revivals sometime between March 18 and April 8, 1990. If you are, you need to plan to now. There are a dozen good reasons for doing it with your sister churches, not the least of which is that your church can benefit from thousands of dollars of radio and TV advertising that will be going on at that time.

Here are a few things that need to be done now.

(1) Get the church to vote the dates they want in the three-week period. If the church is without a pastor, a lay person should bring this up in the next business meeting.

(2) Get the evangelist committed that you believe should conduct your revival. Schedules will fill up early.

(3) Set aside money in your church for proper promotion of your meeting.

(4) Do a survey this fall to find the prospects. Work on them through loving ministry and friendship during the fall and winter.

(5) Pray! Now! The constant prayer now will not only move God, but it will move your fellow church members to begin to pray, witness and work with enthusiasm in anticipation of the "Here's Hope" revival in your church.

You have time, if you start right now!

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

Letters to the Editor

Understand Bonds

You need to be sure when your church issues bonds to know whether they are simple interest bonds with annual or semi-annual interest coupons or if the bonds bear compound interest compounded semi-annually or annually until each bond is matured. Either type of bond is legal. Bonds that earn interest compounded annually or semi-annually become very expensive even if the stated rate is less than simple interest. For example, we needed \$21,000 to retire an original corpus of \$7,000. What I am saying to trustees, finance committees, deacons and pastors is know what you are lending your churches to issue and to know to what they are obligated. Ten or 12 years after issue is too late.

Let I be misunderstood, I express my appreciation to those who assisted Lancaster Road Baptist Church to enable the congregation to raise \$26,000 to reduce service to indebtedness nearly 80 percent.

The association, state convention missions department, and individuals cooperating enabled the church to retire outstanding bonds, make necessary expenditure and continue missions contributions through the Cooperative Program and the local association.—**John S. Ashcraft, Little Rock**

Unacceptable Articles

I do not know how many readers of the *Arkansas Baptist* are also subscribers to the *Arkansas Gazette*. If they are, I am sure they are aware of the enormous coverage the *Gazette* has recently given over a period of three days i.e., Sunday, July 16, to Tuesday, July 17, covering homosexual and homosexual conduct in Arkansas. If you, as we have, found the articles on this deviant and perverted lifestyle offensive and destructive to our society, then you can do something about it. "Be ye doers of the word and not hearers only" (Ja. 1:23-25).

Woman's Viewpoint

There is a River

COLLEEN BACKUS



My grandfather died one spring Saturday a couple of years ago. He lived far away and I could not attend his funeral. I was supposed to sing my first solo at church the next day. I didn't think it was a particularly good Sunday morning. My husband called the church to let them know of my loss, and my pastor and friends were sympathetic and helpful. Another choir member quickly helped me work my solo into a duet, in case my voice failed. And then something very special happened. My pastor read his chosen scripture, which happened to be my favorite verse, Psalm 46:4: "There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the

tabernacles of the most high."

Then I knew that the Lord was with me, and my grandfather—that we were part of the river. My pastor and friends were part of it, too, gladdening my heart and praising the assurances of God.

Since that time, I've become a mother, and there have been many eddies and currents in that river. My son developed some health problems; I also had some very real conflicts that arise from be-

ing a working mom. Due to my son's health and sometimes just sheer exhaustion, I often missed church at the time when I needed its assurance the most. But the citizens of the city of God were still there for me—as were his promises.

Pastor, family, and friends stood by with prayers, phone calls, and visits during some tough times. Our church nursery worker kept assuring me that, through prayer, things would be okay. And they were. And they will be. I thank God for his promises and his people.

There is a river.

Colleen Backus, is production supervisor for the *Arkansas Baptist*, is a member of Lakeshore Drive Church in Little Rock.

We feel that the articles were totally unacceptable and irresponsible. We would ask that you prayerfully consider cancelling your subscriptions to the *Arkansas Gazette*, stating your protest against their publication of these articles and the fact that homosexuality is clearly contrary to our Lord's teaching. This kind of a voice can be heard! If there was ever a time for Christians to act on an issue it is now. Send your cancellations and reasons to Walker Lundy, editor, *Arkansas Gazette*, 112 W. 3rd, Little Rock, AR 72203. We, in Arkansas, are fortunate enough to have another choice for our daily newspaper—*Beverly Strain, Wooster*

Human Freedom

If the law is "The Separation of Church and State," why is government telling the church and its people what to do? No Bible reading, no prayers, no Bible study in school, even if it is voluntary and had been the will of the people for over 50 years. The Bill of Rights, First Amendment says,

"Congress shall make no law (1) respecting an establishment of religion, (2) or prohibiting the free exercise thereof... (3) or abridging the freedom of speech. The courts should also follow the Constitution since the courts are a branch of the government. They should rule for the free exercise of religion and including the freedom of speech of it, which includes honorable salesmanship of it to others.

January 1941, President Roosevelt listed four freedoms: freedom of speech and religion and freedom from want and fear. In 1954, "under God" was added to the Pledge of Allegiance. In 1955, Congress made "In God we trust" the United States motto. Fifty-three of the 55 delegates to the Constitutional Convention were members of churches. Congress has had a "National Day of Prayer" since 1775.

It can only be concluded that decisions against God, the Holy Bible, Bible study, and prayer are a blatant disregard of (1) the Constitution, (2) the will of the majority of the people, (3) the traditions the people have kept for 200 years, and (4) human freedom.—**Russ Curry, Bentonville**

BOB PARKER

Today's Issues

Thousands Are Waiting

As of a fairly recent report, did you know that 11,800 persons are awaiting kidney transplants due to an "end-stage" kidney disease. "End stage" means that without a transplant or medical intervention, the patient will die within a year. Five thousand persons are awaiting corneas, 900 awaiting hearts, 600 awaiting livers, 150 awaiting lungs, and 125 awaiting heart-lungs. The total is 18,575 people are awaiting someone to donate a needed organ.

We have all heard or read how people such as the above received a much needed organ from a donor. In most cases these come from the donor after death.

Becoming an organ or tissue donor is easy. Simply complete a donor card and carry it with you at all times. Then do the most important thing of all—inform your next of kin that you want to be a donor should the occasion arise. A person under age 18 may be a donor if a parent or legal guardian witnesses the donor card.

Who knows, the need to receive an organ may next be you, a loved one or

a friend.

Won't you join me in signing a card and then urging family and friends to do so?

At the 1989 Church Training Youth Convention in Little Rock, Jerry Cound, a heart transplant recipient, spoke about the way he and his family, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Cound, have been blessed by such a gift. The Counds are members of Park Hill Church in North Little Rock.

As Christians we should believe "it is more blessed than to give than to receive" (Ac. 20:35), even in cases such as the matter of sharing body tissues and organs as the needs and opportunities arise.

For additional information, call ARORA (Arkansas Regional Organ Recovery Agency) 24 hours a day for organ donation information in Arkansas telephone 1-800-7-ARORA-6 (1-800-727-6726), in Little Rock, telephone 224-2623.

Robert A. Parker is director of the Christian Life Council.



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Photo / Courier News



Literary tutor Minnie Brown (left) and her star pupil, 69-year-old Frances Howard, display a banner made in her honor by a reading class.

Learning to Read

by John Nelson
Blytheville Courier News

BLYTHEVILLE—The elderly lady made her way to the checkout line at Krogers with a smile on her face. She proudly filled out her check and was able to read the amount on the register for one of the first times in 69 years.

Frances Howard, 69, began taking reading lessons at age 67 from Minnie Browne, a private reading tutor with the Trinity Church Literacy Program.

Browne said, "When Frances first came to us, she couldn't write her own check and she could hardly read at all. Can you imagine what it would be like to have to trust other people to do these simple tasks for you? We went to work. Now it looks like Mrs. Howard will be finishing her GED degree within the next six months."

Browne said more than 30 people have learned how to read through the literacy program during the past three years. Trinity Baptist has held five training sessions and produced 40 qualified tutorial teachers for those needing to learn how to read.

"We open the training up to those interested in the public," Browne said. "There are 14 qualified trainers who are members of the church. If anyone wants to learn how to read, they can call the church secretary at 763-6041 or come by the church at 918 East Main Street."

Howard said, "I am completing this program for my own enjoyment. It is too late for me to use my skills to open a dress

shop, like I could have years ago if I would have been able to read.

"I've been a seamstress for a long time. I am telling the people about the importance of knowing how to read so maybe it won't be too late for someone else to do simple things like writing a check or reading instructions at work. I love to read."

Howard recently was honored by Carol Ross's Gosnell Junior High School Chapter I Reading Class. She was presented with a banner and given cake and punch. Ross said Howard was a good example of determination and an inspiration to others with the problem of illiteracy. Browne, who was at the ceremony, said more than 700,000 people graduate high school each year who are functionally illiterate.

When asked why she put off learning to read so long, Howard said it had to do with

family responsibility and making a living. She has worked for years as a seamstress for herself. She worked for Hugh Caffey Cleaners 12 years and M.C. Cookie Cleaners for the same amount of time.

She was married to the late Jim Howard, who worked for Arkansas Power and Light Co. Mrs. Howard took care of her husband, who had become ill, up until two years ago, when he died.

Browne said, "While Mr. Howard was sick, Frances and I were only able to meet two or three times a year" Browne said, "I say this to be an inspiration for those who want to learn to read. Even with setbacks, you can eventually find the time if you hang in there."

Howard said when she originally wanted to take reading seriously she didn't know where to turn in Mississippi County. She asked at the Mississippi County Community College and was told to call Eva Gill. Gill had an interest in literacy problems and later became the president of the Literacy Council here. Gill works closely with the Trinity Baptist program.

Howard said she reads books to her grandson, 32-year-old Randall Monard Stokes, who is a Blytheville High School graduate and has worked out-of-state for Chrysler Corp. for 13 years.

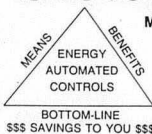
"I'm really glad Randall takes courses through his work and can take advantage of his ability to read," Howard said. "I encouraged my late son, Richard Earl Stokes, to learn also. He went to Payne College at Augusta, Ga."

Browne meets with Howard for reading roughly once a week for two and a half hours. This is a little more than most students meet with their tutors because Howard has more time for the effort.

She has nearly completed the entire program. The subject matter includes how to sound out words, reading stories, writing the stories down as others read then, spelling and comprehension skills.

There are three skill books, three work books, three phonics books, three readers and supplementary reading. Howard read five books on her own and tries to find

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time for newspapers and magazines now. She is a stewardess in the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church on Eighth and Roseman Streets and uses her reading skills to help with the Sunday School lesson planning. She has also taught Bible school.

Her book reading has included a biography on Helen Keller and one on Martin Luther King Jr. She also enjoys books about family life changing situations and has read three of them.

Mrs. Howard went to work in the fifth grade at Hernando, Miss. She lived out in the country and because of family hardship, only attended school four months out of the year when she did go.

"My teacher back then was an eighth grade student. It was a long time ago and I had forgotten what she did teach me," Mrs. Howard said.

At the Trinity Baptist Literacy Program, there is no background or age requirement. Browne said there are students as young as 10 and those in their late 60s. Two high school students, now both living out of Blytheville, came through the reading program and were helped.

Browne said, "There is no shame in not knowing how to read. The shame would be not to take the opportunity to learn how when it came along."

Howard said Helen Keller and all of her handicaps gave her inspiration to pursue learning to read.

"Keller started out not even being able to speak a word and through determination finally said 'water.' I thought if she could do that and then go on to be a teacher, surely I could learn to read," she said.

Browne said some people put off getting help with reading because they are afraid people will think they are dumb. She said they are not dumb, they just need the key to knowledge, reading.

Browne said society is reacting to a growing problem in illiteracy. For example, road signs have visual symbols now so that non-readers can understand. She said the answer is to teach reading.

"I truly enjoy reading," Mrs. Howard said. "This really means so much to me."



How Do You Solve A Problem Like Bob?

The fact is, *you* don't. You've tried to help him, tried to make him listen to reason, but it seems to only feed the flames. You both get burned until you finally get burned out. He just doesn't seem to realize that it's not just his life he's hurting — it's yours and your family's.

When you and a loved one are caught in this kind of ongoing trap, the first step to solving the problem is understanding that *you* can't solve it — and that you're not a failure because you can't.

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A SMILE OR TWO

An automobile engineer was asked to visualize the car of the 1990's.

"I visualize it," he said, "as still unpaid for in the year 2010." — *Just a Minute, VW Magazine*

Television has proved that people will look at anything rather than themselves.

— *Ann Landers*

YOUTH IN CRISIS: *Third in a Six-Part Series*

Chemical Crutches

by Mark Kelly

Managing Editor, Arkansas Baptist

A Connecticut woman was sentenced in April to 10 years in prison for standing by while a man raped her 10-year-old daughter.

He had given her \$50 to buy cocaine.

Very few things can match the power of drugs to control a person's life. Illegal drugs, like cocaine, can drive an addict to unimaginable lengths to satisfy his craving. And even legal drugs, like ethyl alcohol and nicotine, are able to ravage both mind and body.

There is something in the American personality which seems to make it peculiarly susceptible to drugs. Sixty percent of the world's illegal drug output is consumed in the United States, which has roughly 5 percent of the world's population. An estimated 20 million Americans use marijuana. Another 5 million use cocaine daily. And untold numbers cannot make it through the day without a cigarette or a cup of coffee.

Perhaps we use drugs to cope with our stress-filled, hyperkinetic lifestyles. Or perhaps it eases the pain of our materialistic society's spiritual emptiness. But without question, far too many adult Americans lean on drugs as a crutch for daily life.

The plain message youth read in this pervasive drug dependence is that even adults need outside help to deal with daily life, says Jay Strack, a Fort Myers, Fla., pastor and evangelist. The result is that the teenager readily turns in the same direction when he has trouble coping with the tremendous pressures of adolescence.

But teenagers use drugs for many reasons other than the desire to escape life's pressures, Strack says. In his book, *Drugs and Drinking: What Every Teen and Parent Should Know* (Thomas Nelson, 1985), he lists four other common reasons teens try drugs:

— Curiosity. A national survey showed 70 percent of American teens listed this as their primary reason for beginning to take drugs. The "desire to experience the forbidden" has been ruining lives since the dawn of creation, Strack observes.

— Pressure. The instability of the American home accentuates the young person's dependence upon peer approval, Strack says. The lack of support from home, coupled with the teenager's natural "herd instinct," makes a "new kid on the block" easy prey for others involved in

drugs.

— Availability. A wide range of drugs, especially marijuana, are readily available in school restrooms and teen hangouts.

— Emptiness. Although teens may try drugs for many reasons, Strack says that "aimless desperation and emptiness" is the reason most stay on drugs.

Other reasons for teenage drug use may include boredom, the thrill of risk-taking, and ignorance of the consequences.

Because of their emotional and social immaturity, teenagers are drawn into drug use even more easily than adults. And Ross Campbell, a family counselor from Chattanooga, Tenn., says that, once a teenager has tried a drug, he is more easily addicted to it because of his body's "neurological and metabolic immaturity."

These factors, and others besides, have combined to bring drug use to "bewildering proportions" among American teenagers, Strack says. In *Ministry with Youth in Crisis* (Convention Press, 1985), Campbell cites statistics which indicate that 40 percent of teenagers are "social" or regular drug users. The average age of first marijuana use has dropped from 19 in the 1960s to 12 in the 1980s. Sixty percent of today's teens will have experimented with illicit drugs by the time they are 18, Campbell says. That represents a 6000 percent increase in the last 20 years.

Many teenagers begin their drug abuse histories with their first cigarette, Campbell says. He observes that nicotine is so powerful that a teenager may become addicted after as few as five cigarettes. He also says that 81 percent of those who become addicted to cigarettes go on to try marijuana. Sixty-seven percent of marijuana users move on to other drugs.

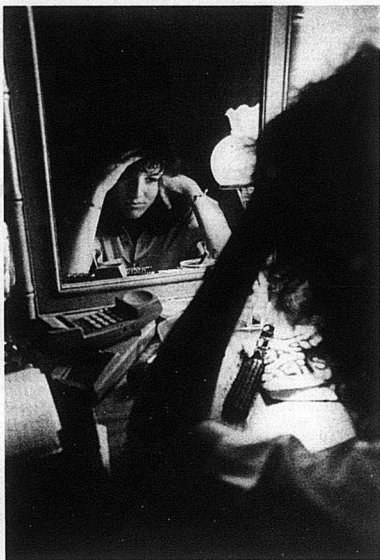
While cocaine and its derivatives are the fastest-growing drug problem in America, marijuana is by far the most pervasive illegal drug. The Youth Issues Institute material, developed by the Arkansas Baptist State Convention to assist youth workers in their ministry to teenagers, cites

statistics developed by a national survey on drug abuse which indicate that more than one American in four has at least tried the drug, and one in 10 is a regular user. The survey showed one teenager in eight smokes pot at least 20 times a month and revealed that four high school seniors in 10 stayed "stoned" an average of three hours each day.

Strack's book, *Drugs and Drinking*, offers an insider's perspective on the problem of teenage drug and alcohol abuse. Speaking from his own perspective as a drug abuser during his teens and early adult years, Strack is not only able to talk about the reasons teenagers use drugs, but he also can knowledgeably discuss the drug scene.

He divides drugs into five categories:

Photo Illustration / Jim Veneman



- Hallucinogens, like LSD and PCP.
 - Stimulants, like amphetamines, cocaine, nicotine, and caffeine.
 - Sedatives, like barbiturates and depressants.
 - Tranquilizers, like Valium and Quaaludes.
 - Narcotics, like morphine and heroin.
- Strack identifies the symptoms common to the use of each type of drug and offers advice about how concerned adults can help the teenage drug abuser. The final

chapter of Strack's book is directed toward the teenage user and how the addicted teen can find freedom from drugs through spiritual rebirth.

Stan Coleman, minister of youth at First Baptist Church in Springdale, says he finds many parents are concerned about their teenagers but do not know how to show their care.

"They wind up being too rigid with the youth, trying to force their own convictions on them," observes Coleman, who authored the Youth Issues Institute chapter on drug abuse. "Instead they need to try to guide the teenagers in the process of making their own choices."

Coleman suggests that the first thing parents should do is admit they need help. "You can't raise a teenager alone," he says. "Parents need to dovetail the efforts of the home with the church, particularly between the ages of 13 and 16, when young people need guidance the most."

He advises parents to take several steps toward helping their teenagers:

— Assume responsibility. "Too many parents are letting their kids run them," Coleman asserts. "They allow them to

make crucial decisions that keep them out of church, for example, and in the wrong kinds of company."

— Recognize you are a role model. What teenagers do has more to do with imitation than education, he says. Parents who use drugs should not be surprised when their teenagers follow their example.

— Provide the facts. Teenagers need to know the many ways drugs harm people, especially young people.

— Provide stability. Dependable relationships at home make a young person more secure and less vulnerable to outside pressures to use drugs.

— Build self-image. Many teenagers suffer from a lack of self-worth and find little meaning and purpose in life. Parents can help by expressing their love for a teen as a valuable and special person.

— Insist on accountability. Set boundary lines such as a curfew and insist that they be observed. In spite of their protests, teenagers need and want such structure and guidance. It is proof of your love for them.

— Provide alternatives. Parents who will not allow teenagers to participate in un-

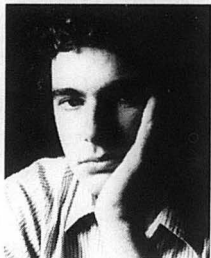


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John Finn, Executive Director

Teen Challenge of Arkansas

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Tim Culbreth, Director

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Recovery Centers of America, Inc. / A National Medical Enterprises Company

wholesome pastimes have a responsibility to provide positive alternatives. Here is one place a vital church youth program can help.

— Know the symptoms of drug abuse. A teenager who is fidgety and hyperactive, who avoids eye contact, or who is always angry and violent probably is not just "going through a phase." Parents should be

concerned at such signs.

— Confront a problem. As hard as it may be for parents and teens to admit a problem exists, drug abusers should be confronted. Support from church leaders should be sought, and professional counseling or treatment should be obtained.

"No concerned adult needs to be an expert on drugs before he can help a

teenager," Coleman concludes. "It is far more important to be accessible and involved in a teenager's life. What he will remember is that there was someone who cared."

Next Week: Alcohol Abuse

Teenage Drug Abuse Resources

The following is a partial list of materials and organizations addressing the teenage drug abuse 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

Drugs and Drinking

Jay Strack
Thomas Nelson, Nashville, 1985

Arkansas Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention
501-682-6656

State office which provides funding and services for community-based substance abuse programs. Offers information and referral to treatment centers and community programs. Available: film and resource library, pamphlet clearinghouse, speakers bureau, training for local groups.

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.

Charter Vista Hospital
501-521-5731; 1-800-545-HOPE

A 65-bed private hospital located in Fayetteville. Provides detoxification and psychiatric services to adults and adolescents. New children's emotional and behavioral program. Follow-up "After-Care" provides group and family counseling. Outpatient services provided through Charter Counseling Centers in Fayetteville (521-1616) and Rogers (631-6907).

Central Ark. Substance Abuse Program
666-6460

A private, non-profit organization which provides education and intervention in Pulaski, Saline, Lonoke, and Prairie counties. Provides educational presentations for community groups. Offers evaluation and referral to appropriate care providers.

Christian Civic Foundation of Arkansas
501-568-0448

Private, non-profit educational organization which addresses problems of drug and alcohol abuse and pornography. Monitors progress of related legislation in General Assembly. Provides resources for community groups interested in local action.

MADD
501-376-6100; 1-800-228-7762

Non-profit organization which provides public information and awareness on drug- and alcohol-related traffic issues. Provides victim assistance and judicial and legislative review.

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.

National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information
P.O. Box 2345
Rockville, MD 20852
301-468-2600

New Beginnings
501-455-7274

A 28-bed adolescent chemical dependency program located at Southwest Hospital in Little Rock. Provides psychological assessment, individual and group

therapy, family counseling, medical detoxification unit, and school curriculum for patients. One year continuing care after discharge at no additional cost.

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.

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

Long-term residential psychiatric facility for severely emotionally-disturbed youth ages 12 to 18. Primary diagnosis must be emotional disturbance.

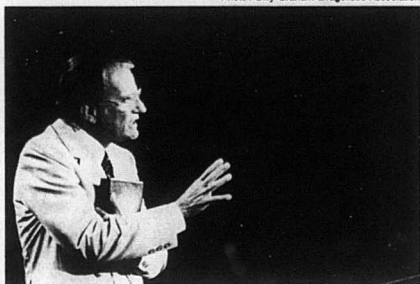
Crusade Volunteers Needed

Photo / Billy Graham Evangelistic Association

LITTLE ROCK, AR (July 17)—Thousands of Arkansans are volunteering to participate in the Arkansas Billy Graham Crusade Sept. 17-24. Three of the major areas that are recruiting the largest numbers are the choir, ushers and counselors.

Six thousand singers are expected to constitute the choir, according to choir committee chairman Robert D. Curless, area commander of the Salvation Army, and approximately 2,000 have already registered. "The best seats in the stadium and the opportunity to sing in the largest choir ever assembled in Arkansas appeals to people from all areas in the state, not to mention the pleasure of singing hymns with Myrtle Hall, George Beverly Shea and other family vocalists under the direction of Cliff Barrows."

Registration cards have been sent to churches, colleges, schools, and civic choirs, but whether or not volunteers are members of a choir, if they are 13 years or older they can register by calling the crusade office at 501-375-1989.



Billy Graham

Rehearsal will be the evening before the crusade begins and each evening before services in War Memorial Stadium, Little Rock. Sheet music and song books will be provided for the choir.

Three hundred-fifty ushers each night will carry the responsibility for a smooth and dignified flow of the audience into and out of the stadium facility. They will also distribute programs, receive the offering and direct handicapped persons to special seating sections. Already 241 persons have volunteered, but a total of 1,000 are needed since the same ushers also are not required to attend every night.

Men and women 16 years of age and

older who are interested in being ushers can call the crusade office at 501-375-1989 to register.

Crusade counselors have completed their several weeks of training to work with newly converted Christians. More than half of the 4,000 counselors who will be available to handle the follow-up have already registered their commitment. The remainder are expected to volunteer by late August. Counselors must apply for the privilege after attending preparatory classes which have already been completed.

The crusade has not been blessed by the specific support and participation of 486 Arkansas congregations, according to Dan Southern, Arkansas crusade director. But it's not too late to become involved. For more information on how you or your church congregation can be involved, call the crusade office at 501-375-1989.

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.

Make North Little Rock your headquarters for the Billy Graham Crusade

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One telephone call gives you information on North Little Rock accommodations and rates as well as where to eat and what to do in central Arkansas. Call now to reserve your dates for Mr. Graham's Little Rock Crusade September 17-24.

North Little Rock Advertising and Promotion Commission
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North Little Rock, Arkansas 72119



LOCAL & STATE

Arkansas All Over

MILLIE GILL

People

Darin Garton, interim pastor at Ro-Lynn Hills in Monte Ne, is the recipient of the Velma Bird-whistell Amis Scholarship presented by the University of Arkansas Baptist Student Union. This scholarship, established as a memorial for Velma Amis, is presented to a student planning to enter a full-time church-related ministry. Garton will be attending Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary this fall.



Max N. Gregory will begin serving in August as director of missions for Current-Gains Association, coming there from Senath, Mo., where he has served as pastor of First Church for nine years. Gregory also has served as director of missions of Central Missouri Mission Board in Columbia, Mo., directing the work of three associations and 60 churches. In addition, he has pastored Calvary Church in Columbia. A native of Arkansas, he is a graduate of Arkansas State University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Pat, are parents of two daughters, Laura and Lynn.

Gary Arnold, who recently entered the field of full-time evangelism, may be contacted at Route 2, Box 1040, Marion, AR 72364; telephone 501-735-5575.

Bobby Lamb, bi-vocational pastor of Daniel Church, Back Gate, recently graduated from Ouachita Baptist University with a master's degree in education. He teaches in the Dollarway School system at Pine Bluff.

Chester Cadwallader has resigned as pastor of Childress Church, Monette.

R.W. Goodman, who has been serving as bi-vocational pastor at Mount Pisgah Church at Jonesboro, is now serving the church as full-time pastor.

Kenneth Jackson is serving as pastor of First Church in Bay, coming there from Soda Spring, Idaho. He also served as pastor of Calvary Church in Harrisburg for nine years. Jackson is married to the former

Carmelita Hinch of Dell. They have four adult children.

Paula McGary has resigned as nursery coordinator at Jacksonville First Church to move to Conway.

Ross Burton recently observed his fifth anniversary of service as minister of education at Calvary Church in Little Rock.

Wesley J. Hodges has resigned as pastor of Freeman Heights Church in Berryville to work on his doctoral degree at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Mark Short has resigned as minister of music at First Church in Fayetteville and **Ronnie Cox** is serving the church as interim minister of music.

Briefly

Woodland Heights Church in Conway youth choir returned July 21 from a Texas

tour which included performances in churches in Eddy, Commerce, and Dallas.

Conway Second Church ordained Wright Bundrick, Denny Brown, Dwight Davis, Eddie Morris, Joe Southerland, and Kent Womack to the deacon ministry July 9.

Pickles Gap Church at Conway mission team returned July 29 from St. Louis where they conducted a vacation Bible School for the Broadway Church.

Saltlino Church at Conway observed homecoming July 9 with activities that included "dinner on the grounds" and an afternoon musical program featuring the Voyagers from Hot Springs.

Grand Avenue Church in Hot Springs observed its 40th anniversary July 23. Wayne Davis of Van Buren was guest speaker.

Twin Lakes Chapel in Hot Springs observed its first anniversary with homecoming July 16. Paul McClung, associate in the ABC Evangelism Department, was speaker.

ABN photo / J. Everett Sneed



First Church, Petit Jean, held a dedication of its new facilities July 16. The plant, valued at \$250,000, was erected at a cost of approximately \$100,000 with the use of donated materials and labor. A group from Allen, Texas, called the "Volunteer Carpenters for Christ" assisted the congregation in erecting the facilities. The 4,000 square foot facilities consist of a new auditorium which will seat 150 people, a baptistry, pastor's study, two rest rooms and five classrooms. A piano and organ also have been donated to the 45-member congregation. The dedicatory sermon was preached by Arkansas Baptist Editor J. Everett Sneed. V.L. Harris is pastor.

Geyer Springs First Church in Little Rock student choir, directed by David Oliver, recently returned from Leesburg, Fla., where they sang in "Spirit Explosion" revival services led by Rick Caldwell. They also assisted with a survey blitz of the community. The mission effort resulted in 25 professions of faith and eight young people surrendering to a full-time Christian vocation.

West Helena Second Church honored Mrs. Bert Freeman July 9 in recognition of 20 years of service as church secretary.

Springdale Elmdale Church held a service July 16 to ordain Dan Esau as minister of music and Dwight Radler as minister of youth. Ruffin Snow of Eastwood Church in Tulsa, Okla., preached the ordination message. Pastor Mark Brooks was honored for six years of service.

Hope First Church youth mission team has returned from New Orleans where they led morning backyard Bible clubs and afternoon senior adult clubs, working in cooperation with the Crescent City Church in an apartment community.

Journeymen Commissioned

RICHMOND, Va.—Fifty young men and women were commissioned as Southern Baptist journeymen July 16 at First Baptist Church in Richmond, Va. They have completed five weeks of training at the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's Missionary Learning Center in Rockville, Va. They will travel overseas in a few weeks.

The three Arkansans are as follows: Joe Cathey from Mena, appointed to Tanzania; Skipper Pickle from Siloam Springs, appointed to Ecuador; and Angie Rayburn from Magnolia, appointed to Japan.

Houseparent Positions

Arkansas Baptist Family and Child Care is seeking mature Christian couples interested in working with abused, abandoned, and neglected children. Salary, benefits (medical and life insurance), and supervision. For details, call or write David W. Perry, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203; phone 501-376-4791.

NORTH PULASKI ASSOCIATION

'Mission Center' Started

The North Pulaski Association held a ground breaking for its new associational facilities on July 23. The new 3,000 square foot building will be erected at a cost of \$100,000 to \$150,000 through the use of volunteer labor.

The associational facility is to be completed before the end of August. It will be constructed by a group of volunteers called "The One Day Construction Team." This group has put up several church buildings in a single day.

Associational Director of Missions Marvin Peters observed, "The use of volunteers will assist greatly in holding down our cost." Most of the work will be done by volunteers. A few jobs will be contracted such as heating, air-conditioning, the laying of the foundation and the paving of the parking lot.

The new facility will consist of four offices, space for two secretaries, one workroom, a large conference room, a library, a separate audio-visual library, and a materials display room. Dr. Peters observed that the associational staff wanted to have current materials that are available from the state and Southern Baptist conventions on continual display for church workers. This is to assist churches in deter-

mining the kinds of materials that they need to use in the development of their weekly activities.

The association had previously purchased slightly more than an acre at a cost of \$65,000. The land cost is not included in the cost of materials and subcontracting.

A major project after the completion of the new facility will be the development of a library. It will feature books to help churches in their day to day activities as well as biblical and theological resources.

The building will also be used temporarily by a new church that is being started in the area. Currently the members of the new congregation are meeting in homes for Bible study and for a Sunday evening worship service. Park Hill, North Little Rock, is the primary sponsor while the associate sponsors are First Church, North Little Rock, First Church, Sherwood and Second Church, Jacksonville.

In reflecting on the new building Peters said, "The new facility will enhance the work of the association. We are not calling it 'an office building' but a 'mission center' because the building is designed to be a place from which we go to do mission work. It is our desire to emphasize this concept."

Photo / Jackie Scott



Yellville Dedication—Yellville First Church dedicated its new 7,000 square foot sanctuary Sunday, July 16. This is the third sanctuary to serve the congregation. The first was constructed in 1913 and the second in 1957. Dedication personalities included three former pastors, Pastor Tim Cyfert, and Associate Pastor John Harrington. Building committee members received plaques.

ABN photo / J. Everett Sneed



The all-volunteer staff of the Spring Lake Assembly's camp for abused children.

Much-Needed Camp

by J. Everett Sneed
Editor, Arkansas Baptist

Spring Lake Assembly, Lonsdale, held a camp for abused and neglected children July 5-7. This is the second time that the camp, sponsored by a number of associations and churches, has provided a week without cost. This year 26 children, ages six to 16, attended the camp.

The idea for a camp for abused and neglected children came from Spring Lake Assembly Director Charles Holcomb. A few years ago Holcomb was told by a social worker that she was unable to find any Christian camp that would minister to these kinds of underprivileged children. As a result, Holcomb asked his board of controllers if Spring Lake would sponsor such an assembly. The board of controllers voted unanimously for the camp.

Most of the children are separated from their families because of physical or sexual abuse. Some are in institutional care while others live in foster homes.

Holcomb estimated that the camp would cost approximately \$2,000. The Arkansas Baptist Missions Department provided \$500 and approximately \$250 has been given by individuals. The Spring Lake Assembly will have to absorb from other camps the balance of the cost. Holcomb said that it appeared that last year individual donations were more substantial than they were going to be this year.

The staff is composed of all volunteers. Two of the workers are summer field workers furnished through the state mis-

sions department. The use of volunteers, many of whom have had experience in working with these children, assist in keeping the cost of the camp down.

In addition to a variety of recreational activities, the daily schedule provides opportunity for Bible study, a devotional and a feature entitled "God and Your Body." The purpose of this feature is to assist the children in making right choices. It pro-

vides opportunity to talk with the campers about God's love and how an individual's decisions about his body affects his relationship with God and with other people. This feature allows the workers to discuss such topics as drugs, sex and cleanliness.

The devotional was given each evening by Charles Holcomb. During this devotional period, he provided information on how an individual becomes a Christian. However, he did not give an invitation. He said, "I feel that our campers can make better decisions when they discuss their relationship with Christ with their own counselors. Many of the young people accept Christ as Savior but it is done mostly in a one-to-one situation."

During the afternoon, a variety of recreational activities are conducted for the children. Among these are swimming, boating, fishing, volleyball, handicrafts, team sports and designing of T-shirts.

Holcomb stressed that the biggest desire of these neglected and abused children is for someone to love them. He said, "Many of these children have been physically abused while others have been sexually molested. It is difficult for an individual from a normal family to understand what these children have been through."

There are a large number of neglected, abused and battered children scattered throughout Arkansas. Holcomb believes that many other associational or area camps should conduct a week for these children. He said, "Such a week can provide a turning point in the life of a boy or girl who has never had opportunity to know love and to accept Christ as Savior."



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Aug. 29 pm - 30 am	Immanuel, Fayetteville
Aug. 31 am/pm	First, Harrison
Sept. 7 am/pm	Central, North Little Rock
Sept. 11 am/pm	Trinity, Texarkana
Sept. 12 pm - 13 am	First, El Dorado
Sept. 14 am/pm	Immanuel, Pine Bluff
Sept. 25 am/pm	First, West Memphis
Sept. 26 pm - 27 am	First, Jonesboro

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Kruschwitz and Holland

Holland Honored

A banquet was held at the Park Hill Church, North Little Rock, July 18 to honor W. T. Holland for his years of dedicated service as director and faculty member of the Little Rock division of the Boyce Bible School. There were 41 individuals in attendance, including the current director, Lehman Webb, faculty members and Boyce Bible School graduates. Two plaques were presented to Dr. Holland—one from the Missions Department of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention and the other from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky. Pictured (left to right) are Verlin Kruschwitz, assistant dean of Boyce Bible School, Louisville, Ky. and Holland.



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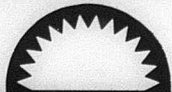
PEOPLE TO DEPEND ON

Correction

The "Helpline" calendar in the July 27 edition of the *Arkansas Baptist* should have indicated that the World Mission Rally will be held on Oct. 27 at Immanuel Church, Little Rock.

Skip Notice

The *Arkansas Baptist* will not publish an issue for Aug. 10. The Sunday School lesson commentaries for Aug. 5 and Aug. 12 are contained in this issue.



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NATION

ANNUITY BOARD

New Plan Offers Options

New *ChurchLife* plans, effective Sept. 1, will expand term life coverage and options available to Church Insurance Program participants. Increased spouse and dependent child coverage and more life protection in retirement will be available. A new option will offer up to \$100,000 in no-frills coverage at highly competitive premiums.

"For the past several years, Church Insurance Program participants have been asking for more life insurance and new options. This fall participants will get what they've requested," said Frank G. Schwall Jr., senior vice-president of Member Services.

New term life insurance premiums will also be effective on Sept. 1, according to Schwall.

"*ChurchLife* premiums will reflect the current insurance market," Schwall said. "Rates in the new plans will be lower for persons under 45 and will be higher for those 45 and over."

"The feature requested most by our middle-aged participants is more life coverage in retirement," Schwall said. "This will be available this fall."

ChurchLife Premium Plus Plan can qualify for maximum coverage of \$20,000 in retirement. *ChurchLife Economy Plan* participants will be eligible for up to \$10,000 coverage in retirement. Retirement coverages will be determined by how long the participant was in the plan prior to retirement.

The *Premium Plus Plan* and the *Economy Plan* will offer \$5,000 coverage for spouses and eligible dependent children at no extra cost. This is an increase in coverage from previous Annuity Board plans.

The new plans will also provide a premium waiver. This provision assures that if a participant becomes totally disabled and unable to work while insured before reaching age 60, coverage will continue with no additional premiums due as long as disability continues.

"For the first time, the Annuity Board will offer term-only coverage—the *ChurchLife Pure Term Plan*. The *Pure Term Plan*—for active employees only—provides up to \$100,000 protection without the cost of retirement or spouse-dependent features," said Schwall. The *Pure Term Plan* doesn't provide accidental death or dismemberment coverage either, he said.

The participant's compensation determines the amount of coverage in the *Premium Plus*, *Pure Term* and *Economy* plans.

The new *Budget Plan* will offer \$10,000 coverage with no retirement or spouse/dependent coverage. This plan offers minimum protection and meets the life insurance requirement for eligibility in Annuity Board medical and disability plans.

The *Premium Plus*, *Economy* and *Budget* plans will provide additional benefits in case of accidental death. Beneficiaries will receive twice the amount of coverage. Also, these plans will pay half the amount of coverage for loss of a hand, foot or eye in an accident.

No upgrading is required, but Schwall noted that thousands of participants are expected to quickly take advantage of the new plans and increase their coverage if they are not at plan maximums. Church Insurance Program participants will automatically be enrolled in the new *ChurchLife* plan. Schedule 100 participants will be in the *Premium Plus Plan* and those in Schedule 50 will be switched to the *Economy Plan*. Premiums will be adjusted to reflect new rates.

Effective Sept. 1, the Annuity Board will expand term life coverage and options available to Church Insurance Program participants.

Participants now in Schedule 5 can continue their \$5,000 coverage at the new rates. This coverage will no longer be available to new participants.

Most participants in closed schedules 30 and 60 may upgrade to the new plans. However, participants not eligible to upgrade to other plans will receive increased spouse/dependent coverage and post-retirement benefits.

Church Insurance Program participants will receive a letter on how to upgrade coverage.

To upgrade by enrolling in new plans, participants must show evidence of good health. Spouses and dependents do not have to show evidence of good health.

Churches providing life insurance for their ministers are encouraged to upgrade their present coverage. The competitive rates plus additional benefits make *ChurchLife* attractive for those churches not providing this benefit. The Annuity Board's life insurance currently covers 952 individuals in Arkansas.

Funding Questions Linger

Conflicting Information on BJCPA Creates Confusion

by **Toby Druin**
Texas Baptist Standard

DALLAS (BP)— Messengers to the 1989 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention refused to tamper with the amount of funds budgeted for the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, but conflicting statements sent them home with lingering questions about just how much support the denomination is providing for the Washington agency.

The BJC is a religious liberty - separation of church and state watchdog organization composed of nine Baptist denominations in the United States and Canada.

On one hand, Sam Currin, chairman of the SBC Public Affairs Committee, the 18-member panel which is the denomination's representation on the BJC, said, "Southern Baptists provide almost 90 percent of the funding of the Baptist Joint Committee."

On the other, James M. Dunn, executive director of the BJCPA, challenged Currin's statement, insisting the SBC will provide only 53.7 percent of Joint Committee funds in the 1990 budget, is providing only 60 percent this year and said it was 70 percent last year.

Both were right, at least after Currin later redefined his terms, changing "90 percent of the funding" to "When you look at the denominational support for the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, the Southern Baptist Convention has given something like 90 percent of the total."

Messengers approved a \$391,796 allocation for the BJC when they okayed the 1989-90 budget. However, two motions to reconsider the budget and divert funds to other agencies caused debate over SBC support before the messengers refused the reconsideration effort by a vote of 6,034 to 5,198.

Currin raised the issue and made other charges about alleged Joint Committee fund raising efforts in presenting the report of the Public Affairs Committee.

The PAC was expanded to 18 members from 15 in 1987 when membership of the BJC was expanded from 45 to 54. The PAC, which before had a voice only through the Joint Committee, was given power by the SBC to speak out "on motions and resolutions of the Southern Baptist Convention upon which the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs cannot agree and/or does not support."

Rancor between the PAC and the BJC has grown over a variety of issues, including the amount of money going to the BJC and

whether it should be channeled through the PAC. The matter of funding surfaced again in Las Vegas in questions put to Currin following his report as chairman of the PAC.

Responding to a question, Currin, who is a North Carolina Superior Court judge, said, "Southern Baptists provide almost 90 percent of the funding of the Baptist Joint Committee," but charged that the PAC is "unable to get an accounting from the Baptist Joint Committee on something as basic as where their money is coming from and how it is being spent."

Currin further charged the BJC is "circumventing the Cooperative Program in soliciting funds. We are getting reports... of anywhere from \$100,000 to \$200,000 being solicited outside the Cooperative Program from other Southern Baptist sources."

Dunn, later given three minutes to respond although it came after the convention had voted on the motion to reconsider the budget, said every meeting of the Joint Committee receives an outside certified audit of where BJC funds come from and how they are spent.

Dunn countered Currin's claim that 90 percent of funds come from the SBC, and noted that the \$391,796 to be provided by the SBC in the 1989-90 BJCPA budget of \$729,772 is 53.7 percent of the total. He

said that the SBC portion was 60 percent in 1988-89 and 70 percent in 1987-88.

Responding later, Currin changed his reference from "90 percent of the funding" in his original charge to speak of "denominational support."

Both men were correct: Dunn was correct in reporting the percentage of the SBC's support of the total budget; Currin when he referred to "denominational support," because Southern Baptists do provide 90 percent of the funds that come from the nine Baptist bodies.

Dunn provided a copy of the 1988 BJC audit to Baptist state newspaper editors. In that audit, the budget called for \$499,625 from the nine conventions and \$448,400—89.7 percent, about as Currin had stated—was to be from the 1987-88 SBC budget. But the \$448,400 was 70 percent of the \$638,210 BJCPA total budget for the year, as Dunn stated.

The 1988 BJC budget called for "contributions" of \$34,000 in addition to denominational support. This year's "contributions" were up to \$82,009 and the 1989-90 figure calls for \$144,604. (The balance of the 1989-90 BJC budget calls for the \$391,796 from the SBC, \$92,610 from the other eight conventions, \$45,862 from interest earned, \$17,900 from literature sales and \$37,000 from special projects, including the National Religious Liberty

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Conference.)

Currin's reference to "\$100,000 to \$200,000" being raised by the BJC outside the Cooperative Program from Southern Baptists apparently was aimed at the "contributions."

If all of the \$144,604 in contributions projected for 1989-90 were to come from Southern Baptists, that figure coupled with the \$391,796 from the Cooperative Program would mean 73.5 percent would be coming from Southern Baptists.

One action obviously aimed at getting at the source of those funds was Executive Committee approval in Las Vegas of a change in the SBC Business and Financial Plan requiring each SBC entity report annually to the Executive Committee "on any type of fund raising activities conducted by the entity."

Any special financial campaign would require endorsement by the convention or Executive Committee and no agency can "approach individuals or groups for special

solicitations on behalf of the agency without approval of the convention of its Executive Committee."

Dunn says that none of the contributions has come or will come because of solicitations in the SBC, forbidden by the business and financial plan except for appeals for endowment funds.

"It is a lie," to say the funds come from solicitation by him or the BJC, Dunn said.

"There are those whose mentality is so conspiratorial, so dark and so manipulatively political that they cannot imagine the groundswell of support that has come to the Baptist Joint Committee simply because our budget was cut in San Antonio last year," Dunn said.

Many times since the San Antonio action, Dunn said, pastors or church members have called him to say the Joint Committee had been placed in their budget for various amounts.

"And I didn't even know the person, the church, and didn't know it was coming," Dunn said. "They didn't ask us if they could, if they should, if we would take it. But I am just like anybody who has an agency responsibility—I haven't sent a single check back. But I have not been soliciting funds."

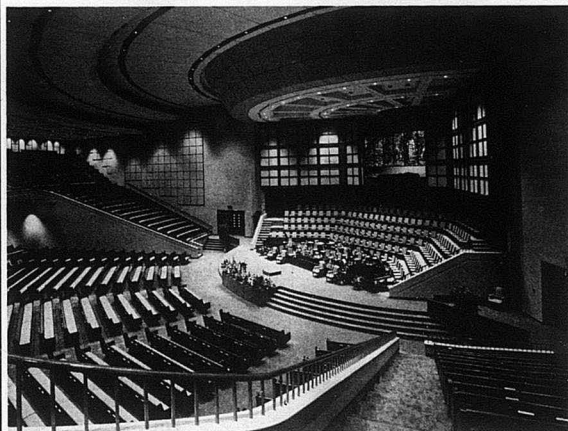
A more detailed list of contributors will be given to BJC trustees Dunn said, but it may just include categories of gifts rather than names of churches or individuals to protect them from harassment.

"I am the designated 'hittee' right now," Dunn said. "Critics of those who would offer us support would like to add them to the hit list and they want to know how much we are getting from Southern Baptist sources so they could delete that much from our Cooperative Program support."

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Bush Considers Pressler

by Mary Knox
Baptist Press

WASHINGTON (BP)—Paul Pressler, a Houston judge and vice chairman of the Southern Baptist Executive Committee, reportedly has been picked to direct the U.S. Office of Government Ethics.

Pressler, a judge on Texas' 14th Court of Civil Appeals, is being considered by the Bush administration to direct the office, according to a July 20 report in the *Houston Post*.

If nominated and confirmed, Pressler would succeed Frank Nebeker, who has been appointed chief judge of the new U.S. Veterans' Court of Appeals.

Baptist Press, the news service of the Southern Baptist Convention, attempted to contact Pressler, who was vacationing in Europe, but was unable to do so.

The Office of Government Ethics operates "the ethics program for the entire executive branch" of the federal government, Deputy Director Donald Campbell told Baptist Press.

Each executive-branch agency conducts its own ethics program, usually headed by

a person from the general counsel's office in that agency, Campbell said. The Office of Government Ethics then gives advice to those ethics officials, he added.

For example, it helps to examine and maintain standards of conduct and watch for conflict of interest within the agencies, he explained. It also reviews the nomination statements of the presidential appointees that require Senate approval, about 1,000 to 1,100 positions.

The office, which has 35 employees, also reviews the ethics programs in the agencies, looking for weaknesses and strengths, he said, giving "advice and guidance to the ethics officials."

The office can request agencies to conduct internal ethics investigations and, if they decline, advise the president, Campbell said. And when "ethics matters of high-level officials in the executive branch" are involved, the office can conduct the investigation, buttressing the efforts of the agency's own ethics official, he added, citing the investigation of former Attorney General Edwin Meese as an example.

Legislation passed last year by Congress

elevated the office—which now is under the Office of Personnel Management—to the status of an independent agency, effective Oct. 1, Campbell noted, adding: "Congress always has been concerned that the Office of Personnel Management not interfere with our actions. We assured them they did not."

Appointment to the ethics post involves "an extensive confirmation process," an aide to the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs told Baptist Press.

The process includes an FBI background check, actual nomination of the candidate, written questioning by the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs, a hearing with the committee and votes by both the committee and the full Senate, the aide said.

Attempts by Baptist Press to confirm the nomination were unsuccessful.

"I don't have anything on Mr. Pressler," said Cheryl Kienel, special assistant to the director of the White House Media Relations Office. "We don't have anything yet."

The Office of Government Ethics' Campbell told Baptist Press: "I've heard the same rumor. That is as much as I know. I've heard they have floated his name in Congress to see what the response would be."

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LESSONS FOR LIVING

Convention Uniform

God Gifts His Children

by Dennis W. Swanberg, Second Church, Hot Springs

Basic passage: Judges 16

Focal passage: Judges 16:21-31

Central truth: God gifts his children with power and grace, however, where his gifts are abused, ministry is neglected.

Sampson deliberately played with sin. It was Delilah who came into his life and led him to his death. The valley of Sorek was near his home, but Sampson was already far from God. It shocks us to see this Nazirite sleeping on the lap of a wicked woman, but this is what happens when a man chooses to go his own way and rejects the counsel of his loved ones and the Lord. Sampson yielded to sin, for he was asleep when he should have been awake!

You remember the warning Christ gave to Simon Peter in Matthew 26:20-41. How dangerous it is to play with sin. The rest of the story shows the tragic end of the believer who will not let God have his way in his life. From now on Sampson does nothing but lose. He loses his hair, the symbol of his Nazirite dedication, for that dedication has long since been abandoned. Then he loses his strength, but he was ignorant of it until overpowered. How futile it is for the servant of God to try to serve the Lord when out of his will. He may think he can do God's will as before, but he will fail miserably. Sampson lost his sight, for they put out his eyes. He lost his liberty for they bound him with fetters of brass. He ended up grinding corn instead of fighting God's battles.

Someone has said that verse 21 pictures the blinding, binding, and grinding results of sin; and all of this began when Sampson despised his blessings and defied his parents. Sampson also lost his testimony, for he was the laughing stock of the Philistines. Apparently, Sampson repented of his sin, for God gave him one more chance to act by faith. His hair began to grow and Sampson asked God for strength to win one more victory over the enemy. God answered his prayer, but in defeating others, Sampson lost his life. Sampson is remembered for what he destroyed, not for what he built up. He lacked discipline and direction; without these, his strength was of no use. He had failed to check the impulses that began early in his career, and 20 years later they killed him.

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Life and Work

True Confession

by David Moore, Immanuel Church, Pine Bluff

Basic passage: Psalm 51:1-4,10,16-17; 32:1-5

Focal passage: Psalm 51:1-4,10,17; 32:1-4

Central truth: God wants our honest confession of sin.

In developing our relationship to God, we must deal with sin. David pours out his heart in Psalm 51. He had sinned with Bathsheba. His guilt includes adultery and murder.

In the justice of God, David deserved the death penalty. Yet in Psalm 51, he falls on God's mercy (v. 1a). It is mercy that David needs, not justice. In mercy God can wipe away sins.

David falls on mercy and begs God for cleansing (v. 2). He is indeed at the point of repentance and confession. He is not blaming his circumstances on anyone else. It is as if David is saying that he committed adultery while God was watching (v. 4).

His only recourse is a new, clean heart (v. 10). So he asks God for a new and loyal spirit. That is the only hope for a sinner. The heart is at the same time, he is willing to use his experiences to help others (v. 13).

David comes to realize that God wants an honest and humble confession of sin. God's purposes are best served not with "burnt offerings" or with offerings of time or money. What God is looking for is an humble and repentant heart (v. 17b).

David knows that God will not reject us when we come with an open and honest confession. The affirmation is plain—happy are those whose sins are forgiven, whose wrongs are pardoned. These folks are "happy" and "free from all deceit," because "the Lord does not accuse of doing wrong" (32:1-2 TEV).

Contrast that joy in forgiveness with the time before confession. David recalls his reluctance to confess his sins. When he did not confess, he was "worn out from crying all day long" (v. 3). God punished him and his strength was lost (v. 4a).

Do you think David learned his lesson? I can imagine that the next time he sinned, he would be more conscious of the need for confession and forgiveness.

That is the lesson for us. When we sin, let us come humbly in repentance as we seek his forgiveness and grace.

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Bible Book

The Obedient Life

by Robert O. Pruett, University Church, Fayetteville

Basic passage: Leviticus 17:1 to 27:34

Focal passage: Leviticus 26:3-6,14-16, 40-42; 27:30-32

Central truth: Followers to God are to be obedient to God, which brings them into the center of God's will for their lives.

God has your best interest at heart all of the time. The "just God" that we have studied in our previous lessons desires and urges all believers to be truly obedient. God states that he blesses those who are obedient to him in all things. This brings questions to mind such as, why do followers of God suffer, why do unbelievers prosper, and why doesn't God punish evil people?

Have you ever been around a truly obedient, God-fearing person who is going through turmoil? You can really see how God gives peace by observing such a person. One can see how God can and does give the ability to sleep without fear. The need to worry vanishes when one is truly obedient to God. To that obedient saint in our Lord who has been stricken with cancer, the response comes, "Praise the Lord for a wonderful life and now I can just continue to live each day for Christ until he calls me home."

May we never be caught up in trying to speculate on what a person has done to deserve hard times. . . remember Job! God allows some hard times, knowing we have the God-given strength to not only get through the hard times, but to be a witness and grow while doing so.

The Bible teaches there is hope. The disobedient must fall prostrate on the altar before God and confess their lack of true fellowship with God. The confession must be one of admitting they have taken ownership of their lives and tried to run their lives themselves. Then God will renew the relationship of peace, love, and joy.

The obedient follower of God realizes all of their possessions and lives belong to God. Sin comes from man taking possession of something one does not and can never own or control. Christian stewardship of all we are and have is one way the follower of God can truly express the complete obedient lifestyle. God's promise "If you obey all my commandments I will truly bless you." Let us obey him for what he has done, not what he will do.

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Convention Uniform

Decisions, Decisions

by Dennis W. Swanberg, Second Church, Hot Springs

Basic passage: Ruth 1:1-8; 16-18

Focal passage: Ruth 1:1-8; 16-18

Central truth: God's people must make all decisions out of a sincere commitment unto the Lord so that individuals, families, and nations might be blessed.

The circumstances of Ruth's life were recorded during the days of the judges. These were times of strife and turmoil, nevertheless, in Ruth we will witness a unique side of Israel's life. We will discover that some of the Israelites had a strong faith in the Lord. Naomi and Ruth demonstrated a special love and loyalty that resulted because of their choice to honor God and thereby, serve one another.

Naomi and Ruth's love for each other is remarkable. To see a mother-in-law and daughter-in-law express such a devotion is a testimony to the family today. Even in the loss of a husband and two sons, Naomi continued a vital relationship with Ruth. And Ruth responded with devotion—such as would be expected of a daughter. However, when one reads closely, one will find that Naomi and Ruth's relationship/fellowship was not necessitated because of family needs, but rather out of a simple trust in God to supply the daily needs in their lives (Ru. 1:1-2).

Our decisions that honor the Lord will enable him to turn our scars into stars. The Lord can turn our tragedies into his triumphs and thereby, afford his purposes to become a reality for the family of faith—that's you and me!

Now to the decisions of decisions. How many times have we heard married couples communicate the phrase, "whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge; thy people shall be my people and thy God my God" at their wedding? But seldom do young couples understand that these words were between a mother-in-law and a daughter-in-law. Not only was Ruth's decision to remain with Naomi, but it was a decision to follow the Lord. Ruth's commitment allowed her to express her faith in practical goodness.

Ruth could have returned to her native homeland of the Moabites, however, she sought after what was best for others, even if it involved a sacrifice. Her decision was to trust in the Lord and follow him in daily practical living.

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Life and Work

To Obey God

by David Moore, Immanuel Church, Pine Bluff

Basic passage: Psalm 1:1-3; 119:97-106

Focal passage: Psalm 1:1-3; 119:100-105

Central truth: We must love God's Word and obey it.

When I was a young boy, the Junior Memory Drill was important in our church. I was taught verse after verse, and I also learned basic Bible skills.

So I have been taught God's Word and have tried to put its precepts into my life. There is no way to over-estimate the importance of the Bible in the development of my life.

The psalmist emphasizes the significance of knowing God's Word and obeying it. Those who find their joy in studying the law and knowing its principles have gained a rich heritage for their lives.

We do not have to follow the way of sinners or to live like the world thinks we should live. The Word teaches us the way to live. No wonder we are called "happy" if we reject the wisdom of the world in favor of the wisdom of God (Ps. 1:1).

A young man may have infinite more wisdom than an old man if that young man holds the truth of God's Word in his heart (Ps. 119:100). The best gift we could give to God is our heart of obedience. That is the thing that God wants from us. When we are in the will of God, the instructions of the Word are like honey to us—no, the psalmist says, even sweeter than honey (Ps. 119:103).

Once King Saul sinned against God by taking some of the spoils of battle. When Samuel confronted Saul with his sin, Saul tried to deny it. Then he tried to rationalize it. He suggested that he could improve on God's plan. He claimed that he took the booty to offer as a sacrifice to God.

Samuel confronted him directly by saying that God is more interested in obedience to his Word than any sacrifice that one can imagine (1 S. 15:22).

The wise Christian spends much time meditating on the Word of God. Do you know God's law? Do you know his principles? Are you aware of his precepts? Parents soon learn that they cannot simply tell a child what the child should do. Children are much more interested in watching our actions (our obedience) than in listening to our words.

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Bible Book

Following God's Leadership

by Robert O. Pruett, University Church, Fayetteville

Basic passage: Numbers 1:1 to 21:35

Focal passage: Numbers 1:1-3; 3:5-7; 8:20-22; 9:15-17

Central truth: God makes preparation for his children even before they respond to him.

Organization is of the Lord. God has always worked in an orderly manner and has spent much time, detail, and man power to insure his commands are carried out in exactly the manner he wishes. Being a detail person, I find our study in Numbers a most exciting pilgrimage.

This unit contains four lessons, beginning with the preparation to leave Sinai and ending with the Israelites complaining about God and Moses prior to the crossing of the Jordan. We recall that Israel is at Sinai at the beginning of Numbers. This is where they had received the law, rebelled by making the golden calf, constructed the tabernacle, consecrated the priests, and offered the sacrifices as commanded. But now they must be on their way to the promised land.

God gave the people some procedures to follow, helping them prepare for the long and hard trip. The first was to take a census. God know what was ahead for his people and he knew this was necessary. A long march was before the people of God and they needed to know their own strengths and weaknesses so as to withstand the enemy. This enabled the people to organize an army. May our churches realize the importance of accountability and organization so as to fight our enemy.

God's next command was to divide jobs and assign job descriptions. God ask Moses to call the tribe of Levi out to serve him directly in the tabernacle in priestly duties. This took them out of the battles, but also took the other tribes out of the priestly role. All have gifts and must work in coordination.

From God to Moses to Aaron, the Levites were set aside, atoned, and then they set about to serve their God as commanded. The Levites began their service immediately.

The Israelites were now ready to move towards the Promised Land. God did not just set up the organization and abandon his people. His presence and guidance was with the people day and night.

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O'Brien to Head WMU

by Karen Benson
SBC Woman's Missionary Union

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Dr. Dellanna West O'Brien, a former foreign missionary who is president of International Family and Children's Educational Services in Richmond, Va., has been elected national executive director of the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union.



O'Brien

She was elected by the executive board of national WMU during a called board meeting Saturday morning, July 22, in Albuquerque, N.M.

O'Brien and her husband, Bill, executive vice-president of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, will move to Birmingham, where she will begin work Sept. 1. FMB President Keith Parks has asked Bill O'Brien to continue in his present role until the end of the year.

Dellanna O'Brien succeeds Carolyn Weatherford, who is retiring Sept. 1 after 15 years in the post, to marry Southern Baptist pastor Joe Crumpler Sr. of Cincinnati, Ohio.

"Carolyn Weatherford has done such a good job, that she is not an easy person to find someone to follow," said Christine Gregory, former national WMU president who served as chairman of the search committee.

The selection process was an in-depth, probing search, Gregory said. "We tried to hear from every single voice who would want to have input into the selection process — the national staff, state WMU presidents, state WMU executive directors and denominational leaders."

No one on the search committee "came with any preconceived notions," Gregory said. "It was just miraculous. I believe with all my heart that God was in this."

"Dellanna O'Brien has a lot of vision to get us ready to go on to the 21st century," said Marjorie J. McCullough, national WMU president. "She has the personal image of what a WMU leader needs to be in

the 1990s. We are excited about her coming and look forward to working closely with her."

O'Brien's qualifications fit so well with the profile the search committee had drawn up, McCullough said. Among them, she cited:

- She grew up in missions organizations in her local church.

- She is committed to missions and has served as a foreign missionary. O'Brien and her husband served in Indonesia from 1962-71. "The fact that she has been a missionary was very important to this committee," Gregory said.

- She has been involved in planting churches in the United States since returning from the mission field in 1971.

- Her educational background has equipped her for a leadership role in missions education.

O'Brien has a bachelor of science degree from Hardin-Simmons University; a master of education degree in elementary education from Texas Christian University; and a doctor of education degree in educational leadership from Virginia Technological Institute and State University.

— She is a businesswoman who owns her own educational testing company. International Family and Children's Educational Services is a non-profit organization providing academic evaluation and advisory services for children of American families living overseas.

- She is committed to the auxiliary status of WMU within the Southern Baptist Convention.

- She has not been involved in the denominational controversy that has plagued the SBC for a decade.

- She can relate well to pastors and to pastors' wives.

- She has a deep spiritual commitment. "She is a deeply spiritual woman and can articulate well her faith in God and his word," McCullough said.

- She is a good public speaker with experience as a workshop and seminar leader and conference speaker.

- She has been personally involved in missions-related activities in an inner-city church.

- She can relate well to working mothers. She and her husband have three children, two grandchildren, and another grandchild on the way.

O'Brien pledged strong commitment to the basics of WMU — missions education, mission support, mission action and personal witnessing, and undergirding the work of the local church in the denomination. She also cited commitment to the auxiliary status of WMU within the Southern Baptist Convention.

Setting new directions and planning for WMU's future will be high on the list, too, she said. "We're living in a new world where everybody's having to look to the future. It is certainly no less true of WMU. But it's not something you can do once and for all. We must continue to update and equip for the future."

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WORLD

CHINA

Leaders Endorse Party

by **Erich Bridges**
SBC Foreign Mission Board

NANJING, China (BP)—Chinese Protestant leaders, in their first public statement since the June government crackdown on student protests, have "resolutely endorsed" the recent decisions of the Communist Party Central Committee.

The statement, dated June 27, was released by the China Christian Council and Chinese Christian Three-Self Patriotic Movement Committee.

The Communist Party Central Committee met in late June and purged General Secretary Zhao Ziyang from party leadership, charging him with support of the turmoil created by the student protesters and attempts to split the party. The committee reaffirmed China's economic reforms and opening to the outside world, but called on the nation to "check turmoil thoroughly and quell the counterrevolutionary rebellion."

The committee's decisions echoed the policy set forth in a June 9 speech by top Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping. The speech has been circulated nationwide for study and implementation.

The Protestant leaders applauded the reaffirmation of modernization and called upon Chinese Christians to study Deng's speech "in order to raise the patriotic and socialist consciousness, and together with the broad masses of the people, struggle for the construction of a strong and prosperous motherland."

In May the Christian council issued a statement of strong support for the students' demands and asked the government to enter into a dialogue with the students. But after the June 4 crackdown in Beijing, the Protestant leaders found themselves in a difficult and dangerous position, like other Chinese who voiced support for the students, observers noted.

The Protestants remained silent for more than a month, and their June 27 statement came later than similarly worded statements from Chinese Catholics, Buddhists, Daoists and Muslims.

Protestant leader Bishop Ding Guangxun (K. H. Ting) faced a particularly precarious situation: He not only had personally backed the students' call for reforms, but had signed a petition calling for an emergency meeting of the National People's Congress Standing Committee to consider the crisis. He is a member of the standing committee. He had also become more vocal in recent months in calling on government authorities to uphold laws

allowing religious freedom.

The standing committee met in Beijing for eight days ending July 6 and endorsed the Communist Party's decisions and the government crackdown. Signers of the emergency petition were severely criticized. But a number of members, including Bishop Ding, concentrated instead on public outrage over widespread corruption.

"Deng Xiaoping stressed that we must not be softhearted in the fight against corruption, but must take real action," Ding was quoted as saying by the official People's Daily newspaper in Beijing. "I hope our media organs, as well as presenting anti-rebellion propaganda, will propagate that the party and government are strongly opposing corruption. This would satisfy the people and be upheld by them."

According to a Western observer with ties to Chinese Christians, Ding "had to make a difficult decision. He chose to find those emphases in Deng Xiaoping's speech—reaffirmation of modernization, a prosperous motherland, elimination of corruption—that he could call on Christians to support. He obviously feels that this approach will be as beneficial as any other possible approach. It's difficult to make black and white decisions when the whole world about you is gray."

In other developments:

—Zhao Fusan, a prominent Christian intellectual and Three-Self leader, has sought political asylum in France.

—The Amity Foundation, a Chinese Christian-related service organization, announced it will cut back the number of foreign teachers it sponsors at Chinese universities from 85 to about 50. However, Amity Press in Nanjing is continuing to print Bibles without hindrance, according to reports.

—The foundation denied a report that Chinese police entered the Protestant seminary campus in Nanjing June 2 and beat students who participated in democracy demonstrations. Foundation officials did say, however, that an official from the government Religious Affairs Bureau talked to the students.

—Some Chinese Christians have reported that conversions to Christianity actually have increased since the crackdown, especially among students. But a June 14 government decree reportedly outlawed foreign radio broadcasts, including Christian broadcasts, and imposed fines for anyone caught listening to them.

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