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Arkansas Baptist State Convention

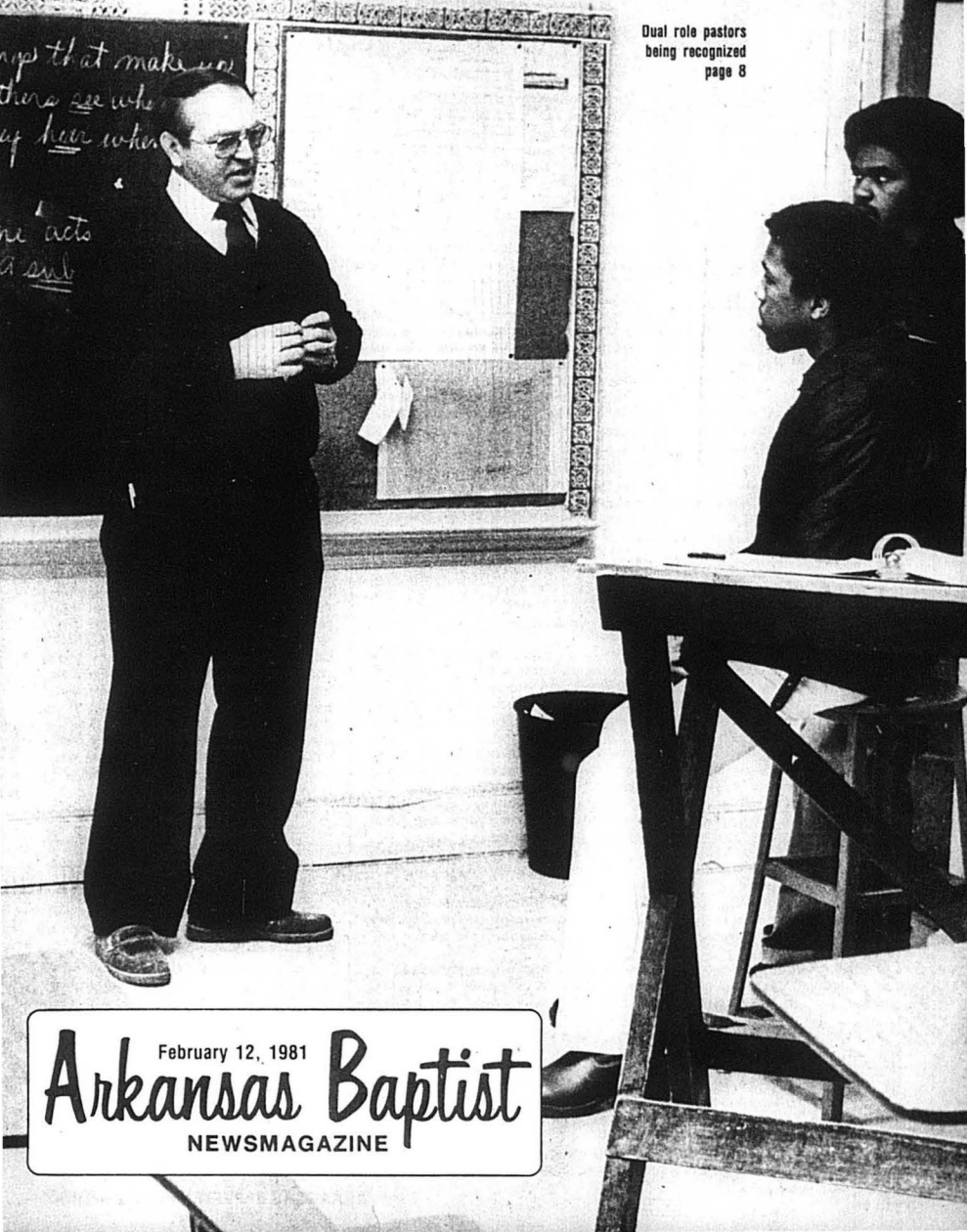
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Dual role pastors
being recognized
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February 12, 1981
Arkansas Baptist
NEWSMAGAZINE

Theologians: Conservative and Liberal

by T. B. Maston

Don't let the word "theologians" throw you. All of us have our own perspective concerning God, Christ, the Bible, man, sin, salvation, the Christian life, etc. Whether we know it or not, we are, at least to some degree and in some ways, theologians.



Maston

Do you consider yourself a conservative? a liberal? or a mixture? The terms "conservative" and "liberal" are words some of us do not like to use. They tend to become labels and most of us do not like to be labeled. It does seem necessary, however, to have some distinctive terms for different theological perspectives and positions.

Relative nature

One problem in labeling one as a

"conservative" or a "liberal" is the fact that those terms are relative. One might be considered a liberal in one location and at some time in the past and yet be considered a conservative at the present time and in another place.

For example, some things that may have been generally considered liberal in the past may be acceptable to most conservatives today. Let me give you one example: I think I am correct when I say that when I was a lad one who questioned the Pauline authorship of the book of Hebrews was generally considered a liberal. Today, most conservatives do not consider this an important issue.

Similarly, a scholar or a preacher in one area of our country might be considered a conservative and yet be labeled a liberal if he functioned in a different area.

A mixture

Most of us are mixtures: conservative on some issues, liberal on others. A conservative is one who seeks to conserve or

hold on to the past or at least to the present way of life and thought. In contrast, a liberal is one who approves or at least is willing to consider new or different ways. Also, many of us are unquestionably conservative in our theological position and yet we advocate changes or a new perspective concerning certain social customs and issues.

One of the most prevailing fallacies, particularly among ultra-conservatives, is to label one a "liberal" simply because that one is liberal from their perspective regarding one or more social, economic, or political issues. Really, labeling is a method frequently used in an attempt to get rid of an opponent whom we cannot or do not want to answer.

Some of us believe that in our contemporary world if we walked in the way that Jesus walked and the way he would have us to walk, we will have to be conservative in our theology but quite liberal from the viewpoint of many as we face the complex issues and problems of our world.

A perplexing question

There is a question or problem that has bothered me for many years. Why do many who are liberals theologically reveal more of the spirit of Christ in their relations to people in general and even to those who disagree with and attack them than most of us who claim to be conservatives? For example, in my theological education I had some professors, not in any of our Southern Baptist institutions, who I considered liberals. Nevertheless, two or three of those men with whom I had an opportunity to get well acquainted put me to shame in the quality of Christian life they lived.

There is a somewhat similar question that has also perplexed me: Why do many ultra-conservatives, particularly the ones who concentrate on one issue as a test of orthodoxy, tend to have a hard time getting along with one another? I think I have a partial answer but not a completely satisfactory one to the preceding questions.

It would be good if all of us would seek to incorporate in our lives the familiar lines of Edwin Markham:

He drew a circle and left me out,
Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout,
But love and I had the wit to win,
We drew a circle that left him in.

Also, we might remember John Wesley's motto: "Think, and let think."

T. B. Maston is retired professor of Christian ethics, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

Inflation uppermost concern for Americans

by Duann Kier

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Inflation—which threatens the affluent and impoverishes the elderly—will continue to be the uppermost issue on the minds of most Americans in 1981, a Southern Baptist ethics professor says.

The effects of inflation will be pervasive throughout society, writes Thomas A. Bland, professor of Christian ethics and sociology at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C.

"The consequences of inflation can be seen not only in its threats to affluent lifestyles, but especially in its cruel impoverishment of the elderly and others on fixed incomes and its untold hardship on the poor. Many such people in our society are helpless to deal with inflation," Bland wrote in a resource paper prepared for the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission, the moral concerns agency of the 13.6 million-member denomination.

The professor noted as the "pressures of our economy accelerate, the financial stewardship of individuals, churches and our denomination are subjected to many severe tests."

He called on individuals, churches and denominational agencies to examine levels of giving and spending, saying that "one of the most compelling challenges to the Christian community in the United States today is the adoption of a simpler lifestyle."

Bland said requirements on churches and denominational agencies call for careful spending. "Extravagance in mere institutional cosmetics is unworthy. Survival needs and service needs should be meticulously evaluated and interrelated."

In addition to an inflationary economy, Bland said other concerns facing Americans in the year ahead include human rights, religious liberty, hunger, energy, race relations, marriage and family and the change in national political leadership.

Each year the moral concerns agency of the SBC publishes a paper identifying the current critical issues and offers help in dealing with them, according to Foy Valentine, executive director of the CLC.

Kier is editorial assistant to the Christian Life Commission, SBC.

The problem of the non-resident member

The editor's page

J. Everett Sneed



One of the continuing problems confronting Southern Baptists is that of non-resident church members. Such persons are of little or no benefit to the kingdom of God and are of no value to the church where their membership is located. Sadly, the number of non-resident members grows larger each year. The solution lies in better training and better records.

The immensity of the problem can be seen in the fact that of our 13.4 million Southern Baptists, 8.3 million are non-resident. Arkansas has almost 130,000 non-resident members.

Obviously, there is no easy answer to this difficult problem. A review of past *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazines* will reveal that the situation dates back many years and has, undoubtedly, been intensified by the frequency with which people move.

The reasons for the large number of non-resident members is basically two-fold: (1) poor records, and (2) a lack of training of our members.

Some of our so-called non-resident members actually are active members of a church in some other location. This is the result of poor record keeping. It may happen in one of several ways. When a member moves from the community and unites with another church, the new church may simply fail to write for the church letter, or, the original church may receive the request and even grant the letter but fail to remove the individual's name from the church roll. No one knows for certain how many of our members have their name on the rolls of more than one church. It is unlikely, however, that this comprises a large percentage of our non-resident church members.

The primary reason for the large number of non-resident church members is a lack of proper training of our people. Many have a very superficial knowledge of Bible doctrine. Even a larger group have little or no concept of Baptist distinctives.

The solution lies in training. It is imperative for us to teach our members Bible doctrines more effectively. The members must be taught from the pulpit, in Sunday School, in new member courses, and in Church Training. We believe that the average quality of our pulpit preaching has greatly improved over the past several years.

Our greatest weakness lies in a failure to utilize our new member training and Church Training. In both new member and Church Training, individuals are taught great doctrines of our faith. Our denomination has the curriculum, including all the materials needed to properly train our members. Proper training is the most important key to lowering the percentage of non-resident church members.

Another important element in eliminating non-resident church members is to encourage members to immediately join a church when they move. Emphasis should be placed on this from the pulpit. When members move to a pioneer area it is good to notify the executive secretary in the Convention of the new state of their move. He can send their name to the Baptist church nearest to the family.

Better training, better records and a little effort to encourage the church member to unite quickly when he moves will pay great dividends for Southern Baptists, and more importantly, for the cause of Christ.

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One layman's opinion

Daniel R. Grant

Can we bring back Christmas?

In spite of the overwhelming popular demand from my friends and acquaintances concerning my sharing all of the cute sayings of my grand-children during the Christmas holidays (the demand was not to share), I feel led to share one such saying. Actually this particular cute saying did not take place during the Christmas holidays in our home. It was reported to us by our daughter Carolyn after our four-year-old granddaughter Allison had been pampered and treated like a princess by both sets of grandparents in Arkansas and Tennessee, and was finally back home in North Carolina.

The process of coming back to reality for a four-year-old child who has had visits from Santa Claus and attention from grandparents and other relatives in two different cities, is something akin to the trauma of culture shock. Allison was

undoubtedly firmly reintroduced to some neglected ground rules for eating, sleeping, sharing, and behaving with self-discipline. It must have been in this context that she turned to her mother, plaintively, and asked, "Mommy, can we bring back Christmas?"

I suspect a good preacher could make a three-point sermon out of that. As a layman, I feel inspired to make two comments. Sad but true, it is impossible to bring back Christmas, or any other mountaintop experience, and simply treasure it and go on enjoying it on a standstill basis. God did not design human life to be placed in a deep freeze, whether at a stage of great joy or great sorrow. Human life and deep freeze are a contradiction in terms.

On the other hand, there is one sense in which we can bring back Christmas

every day. Obviously the music, the trappings, and trimmings, and especially the food, simply are not appropriate every day of the year, and would pall on us. But the spirit of Christmas (love, joy, sharing, peace, and idealism in Christ) is surely a reasonable goal as we start every new day. Perhaps a little child can lead us in this direction.

Daniel R. Grant is President of Ouachita Baptist University at Arkadelphia.

Letter to the editor

Poor start?

It is indeed sad that our new president, and our new governor, who drew wide support from Christian people because of their avowed concern for Christian morality, should begin their administrations with inaugural drinking parties. Equally sad are the televised scenes showing the president and the families of the hostages drinking to celebrate the release of the hostages. We cannot help but recall more responsible leaders of the past who, at least, refrained from drinking in public to avoid setting the wrong example before young people.

Alcohol is America's primary drug problem. It may very well be the most serious of all our problems, affecting, as it does, learning, productivity, family stability, mental health, highway safety, and crime.

I supported both the governor and the president, and still have hopes that they will bring badly needed improvements to the state and national governments. These hopes, however, are somewhat clouded by this disappointing and embarrassing start. The Christian voters deserve better than this. — Clay Hale, El Dorado

"Change for children" is the slogan of Southside Church in Gainesville, Texas. Every Sunday morning members empty all their change into the offering plates for local children in need. The practice began with the need of eye surgery by a young boy in their city.



Woman's viewpoint

Mary Maynard Sneed

A demand for Christian character

The philosopher Diogenes went out into the streets of Athens in broad daylight, carrying a lighted lantern, which he held up to the faces of strangers, saying that he was searching for an honest man. In a witty attempt to move society toward a higher plane of living, the ancient Greek was making a demand for character.

Character may be defined as the sum of the qualities which distinguish a group or individual from others of its class or kind. Included are such traits as sound moral principles, uprightness, honesty, sincerity, dependability and fortitude. I believe, Foy Valentine of the Christian Life Commission has the matter in its proper perspective as he says, "Character may also be thought of as the total combination of a person's moral commitments."

The type of character which distinguishes a Christian is the evidence of the believer's commitment to the lordship of Jesus Christ in his own life. Christian character involves one's loyalty to that commitment and the way in which one reflects the commitment in one's daily life. Because his life is the evidence of his

faith, the committed Christian is the best kind of witness for Christ.

When the believer enters into a covenant relationship with Christ and Christ's church, he is prepared to develop a Christian life characterized by honesty and discipline. We are called to be Christ's disciples. Inherent to the idea of Christian discipleship is the demand for self-discipline. By denying one's own selfish desires and channeling one's energies to God, the faithful believer, as a true follower of Christ, becomes like him.

True Christian commitment, based on a personal experience with God in Christ and an understanding of the principles, is a complete commitment of one's whole being, the mind, the heart and the will, to a value system taught by Jesus Christ. Developing Christian character is learning to love God with one's whole heart and one's neighbor as oneself.

Mrs. Sneed, of North Little Rock, is the wife of the editor, a homemaker and the mother of two daughters. She is a teacher and choir member at the Park Hill Church.



Food and fellowship

Virginia Kirk and Jane Purtle



The Southern Accent

This I believe: about God the father

by Earl R. Humble

There is only one true God, maker of heaven and earth, judge of the world, sustainer of the universe, and father of all his redeemed children. He is infinite in all his attributes. He is eminently worthy of our love, reverence, and obedience. God reveals himself in three persons — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



Humble

God is sovereign — His sovereignty grows out of his being. He is sovereign because he is God. He is shown in scripture to be majestic and kingly, the one to whom all intelligent beings must give account. His sovereignty included his knowledge and foreknowledge. He knows all things from the beginning to the end (Acts 15:18). His sovereignty includes his power. Nothing is impossible with him, (Matt. 19:26). As sovereign he is everywhere. His omnipresence is everywhere in the Bible assumed (Ps. 139:7-12), being a good example.

God is love — "He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love" (I John 4:8). Because he loves mankind he wants to save our souls. He finds no delight that any souls shall perish (II Peter 3:9). His love leads him to save sinners. His sovereignty and righteousness require sinners to repent of their sins and believe in Jesus Christ in order to be saved. It is no reflection on God's love that some sinners will be forever lost. If they spurn his mercy and die in their sins, he has no other option than to consign them to hell eternally (Matt. 25:46).

God has an eternal purpose — Because God is sovereign and loving His eternal purposes for the saved will be realized (Eph. 1:7-12).

Earl R. Humble is professor of religion at Southern Baptist College at Walnut Ridge.

Assessing my stewardship of food

Last month we wrote of inventorying our personal health; this month we focus on the stewardship of food as it relates to planning, buying, and preparing food at home.

From our point-of-view, waste is the biggest single problem. Waste occurs through overprocessing of food, poor planning, poor use of time and energy, and bad table habits. Here are concrete examples of each. Hundreds of convenience foods from potato chips to cold sweetened cereals are so highly processed that they do not return comparable nutrition for the energy and raw food required to produce them. Poor planning of food purchases also results in waste. Sketching out weekly menus and buying accordingly is necessary to save food and money. A turkey bought on sale can be used for turkey and dressing for Saturday dinner, turkey salad sandwiches for Sunday lunch and frozen for pot pie on Friday night.

Good planning also saves time and energy. For example, while the turkey is cooking, other items can be baking. Enough dressing can be made and slices of turkey laid on top to be frozen for two later meals or some given to a neighbor who lives alone.

Food thrown away half eaten or allowed to spoil in the refrigerator is waste all of us are guilty of. But we can do better. We can teach our children to take only what they will eat, we can freeze leftovers for the soup pot, and we can carefully cook only what we feel will be eaten.

Prepared mixes save time and energy for the cook; making them at home can also save money. This Master Mix is wonderfully versatile; once you've grown accustomed to having it on the shelf you won't worry about buying biscuit, cookie, pancake, muffin, or cake mix. We are giving recipes using Master Mix as space allows. If you want others, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Jane Purtle, Box 157, Syria, VA 22743.

Master mix (for 13 cups)

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 9 cups sifted all-purpose flour | 1 teaspoon cream of tartar |
| 1/3 cup baking powder | 1/4 cup sugar |
| 1 tablespoon salt | 2 cups shortening |

Stir together dry ingredients. Cut in shortening with pastry blender or fingers until mix is consistency of cornmeal. Store at room temperature.

Biscuits (one dozen)

Stir together 3 cups Master Mix and 3/4 cup milk until well blended. Knead 15 strokes on lightly floured board. Bake at 425 degrees for 10-15 minutes.

Pancakes (one dozen)

Stir together 2 cups Master Mix, 1 egg, and 1 cup milk until well blended. Add more milk if needed. Cook on hot griddle.

Chocolate chip cookies

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 3 cups Master Mix | 1 egg |
| 1 cup sugar | 1 teaspoon vanilla |
| 1/3 cup milk | 1 cup chocolate chips |

Stir sugar into mix. Combine milk, beaten egg, vanilla. Stir into mix. Add chips. Drop on greased baking sheet. Bake at 375 degrees for 10-12 minutes.

Virginia Kirk, professor emerita at Arkansas College, is a member of Batesville First Church. Jane Purtle is on the staff of Christian Counseling and Teaching Center in Syria, Virginia. They have enjoyed cooking together for several years.

News about missionaries

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel R. Smith, missionaries to Chile since 1976, resigned from missionary service Dec. 31. They were

stationed in Concepcion, Chile, where he served as a music promoter. He is a native of Memphis, Tenn. She is the

former Cheryl Davis of Little Rock, Ark. They may be addressed at 21 Belmont, Little Rock, Ark. 72204

by Millie Gill/ABN staff writer

Roy Gean Law

resigned as pastor of Ozark First Church effective Jan. 31 due to ill health. Law, a native Arkansan, served the Ozark church for ten years, leading the church in a growth program that resulted in the addition of 362 people through baptism and transfer of membership. He also led the church in a building program that included a new adult education building and office space and a two-story cabin at Baptist Vista, the campgrounds of Clear Creek Baptist Association. He also has been a leader in both the association and the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. Law, his wife, Eleanor, and their two sons, Bryant and Barry, are now remodeling a home on Route Two, Ozark, and plan to continue living in the community where she is a teacher in the Ozark Public School System.

Don Vuncannon

is beginning his 12th year as pastor of the Jonesboro Friendly Hope Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Hughes

celebrated their 66th wedding anniversary Feb. 8. They are members of the Jonesboro Friendly Hope Church.

Herbert E. Gateley

died in Dardanelle Jan. 27 at the age of 100. He was a member and deacon of the Dardanelle First Church, a retired farmer and a Mason. Survivors are a daughter, Mrs. Frank L. Johnston of Dardanelle; a brother, Coy Gateley of Dallas, three grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Dexter Rogers

resigned as pastor of the Clinton Immanuel Church Jan. 25 due to health problems. He had pastored the church since its beginning in June of 1979, coming there from the Brightwood Church in Indianapolis, Ind., where he served for 14 years. He and his wife, Mildred, and son, Bill, will continue to reside in the Clinton area.

George H. Hink

died at the age of 74 Jan. 19. He was a



Law



Plummer

retired minister and former president of the Arkansas Choral Society. A graduate of William Jewell College, he attended Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He pastored churches in Louisiana, Missouri and Iowa before becoming pastor of the Greenwood First Church. Hink worked with the Sunday School Department of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention and after his retirement worked in the social services until retiring in 1976. Survivors are a daughter, Mrs. Charles Mayo of Ozark; a brother, a sister and four grandchildren.

Don Cagle

is serving Jacksonville First Church as interim minister of music.

John Ross

is serving Little Rock Green Memorial Church as part-time minister of music.

Steve Williams

has accepted the call to serve the Lincoln First Church as associate pastor in charge of education, music and youth. He comes there from the First Church of Del City, Okla. He is attending Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary Extension classes at Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee.

Bill Waller Jr.

has joined the staff of Glenwood First Church to serve as director of youth, music and evangelism. He is a native of Wichita, Kans., and received his master of music degree from Wichita State University in December, 1980. He and his

wife, Debbie, are parents of two children.

Carbon Sims

observed his eighth anniversary as minister of music and education at Monticello First Church Jan. 25.

Larry Plummer

has been called as pastor of Hot Springs Memorial Church, going there from Hot Springs Grand Avenue Church where he was minister of evangelism and outreach. He wrote a book on this program of outreach while serving the Grand Avenue Church. A native of Ft. Smith, he has served churches in both Arkansas and Missouri. He was ordained to the gospel ministry by the Grand Avenue Church in July, 1980. He and his wife, Jane, are parents of two daughters, Pam and Carrie.

briefly

Pine Bluff First Church

broke ground Feb. 1 for a \$579,637.75 Family Life Center. The building will have a regulation size basketball court, two official racquetball courts, a fire-place accented kitchenette-lounge, a games area, a multi-room ceramic and crafts area, and facilities for shuffleboard, handball, squash, skating, volleyball, badminton and tennis. The 18,000 square foot building will be connected to the existing facilities by a covered canopy providing easy access to the preschool facilities for family members.

North Little Rock Pike Avenue Church was in a Lay Evangelism study Feb. 1-4. Clarence Shell, associate in the Evangelism Department of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, was leader.

Plainview Church

ordained Randall Forrest as a deacon Feb. 8.

Floral loses education building

Floral Church is reviewing their options, according to Pastor Al Broadbent, before rebuilding the 3600 square foot education building destroyed by fire in December. The church had \$30,000 insurance coverage on the structure, but none on contents. Bystanders saved the contents of the classrooms and office, but the church lost the contents of the pastor's study, nursery and kitchen. Pastor Broadbent says the members are holding classes in the parsonage, at a member's home and in the auditorium.



Your state convention at work

Family ministry

Family enrichment conference set

"The Church Strengthening Families" is the theme of the state Family Enrichment Conference to be held at North Little Rock's Park Hill Church, March 9-10, 1981. The conference is sponsored by the Sunday School Board's Family Ministry Department and the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

Joseph Hinkle, Secretary of the Family



Jackson

Ministry Department of the Sunday School Board, will be the featured speaker. Other speakers and workshop leaders will be Harold Bergen, Gary Hauk and Richard Waggener from the Family Ministry Department and Robert Holley, Bill Falkner and Gerald Jackson of the Arkansas Church Training Department.

The program will help church staff and lay leaders prepare to lead their churches to strengthen families in a changing world in the decade of the eighties. Major addresses will highlight family opportunities and needs. Special conferences will feature marriage enrichment, parenting, single and senior adult ministries, deacon family ministry, the pastor's role in helping families, and how the church can better minister to families. Special worship services featuring the Christian

home are planned for Monday and Tuesday nights.

Conference sessions are Monday afternoon and evening and Tuesday morning, afternoon and evening. The conference will be the most extensive family ministry project yet planned for Arkansas Baptists. Church leaders and members interested in their church improving its ministry to families will want to attend each session.

More detailed information about the conference will be released in upcoming issues of the *Arkansas Baptist News Magazine* and direct mailings to churches and associations. Contact the Church Training Department of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention if you need additional information. — Gerald Jackson

From my heart to yours Wyoming, a second land of opportunity

Wyoming may well be the counterpart of Arkansas as a second land of opportunity for Southern Baptists. During the first week of 1981, I visited Casper, Wyo., and led the six churches and two missions there in a study of Philippians at Boyd Avenue Church where Jerry Polk is pastor. Our Baptist people there are bold in their plans, and we may have the opportunity to help them.

High on Casper Mountain, just to the south of the city, is a beautiful 25-acre campground belonging to the Northern Plains Baptist Convention. The tall fir trees and abundant spring water make this a beautiful site indeed. Last summer five weeks of camping were programmed there, and many young people were saved. Electricity has been brought to the grounds, and there are connections for 16 motor homes or campers. Last year, through the help of men from First Church in Dallas, a beautiful lodge was completed with a stone fireplace and first class kitchen facilities along with the assembly area. As I went in on snowshoes in January, I thought the camp to be one of the most beautiful sites I had seen for a Baptist camp. Pastor Herb Whitten, who has been chairman of the Camp Committee, has done a great work.

In the summer of 1981 Neal Guthrie will be leading the Pioneer Boys of Arkansas to help at Casper Mountain for two weeks. Groups of Arkansas Baptist men would be welcome to assist at this or other times during the summer. Other Baptist groups outside Arkansas will help at other times, and together another building will be built, additional land cleared, sports field improved, etc. If you could pray and feel led to join in this worthy mission project, call Neal or me for additional information.

At the edge of Casper is Paradise Valley Church, in a most promising field. Ken Freemyer, who formerly pastored in Fort Smith, is pastor there. The church has purchased the most beautiful site, high on the top of a hill overlooking the valley. Presently the little congregation is meeting in a double trailer provided as cooperative effort between Concord Association (Fort Smith), the Arkansas Baptist State Convention and the Northern Plains Baptist Convention. It has no water and is poorly located. How this congregation will blossom when they can move to the new location! The Sunday before I arrived, there were 80 in Sunday School in those crowded trailers. We should pray for these fine people, and perhaps some of us could help to meet their needs.

My heart was mightily blessed by my visit to our churches in Casper. Benny Delmar has been there for more than two decades and is director of missions. Pray for him as he leads in that second land of opportunity.

Huber L. Drumwright
Executive Secretary/Treasurer

Stewardship

Barriers to giving I

Wallace Fisher in *All the Good Gifts* said motives weren't always pure and spontaneous in the New Testament churches. He pointed to the "stingy" Christians at Corinth as evidence.

Paul did not call the Corinthian believers stingy but he did encourage a quick and generous response. He didn't want to put a burden on them. He challenged: "Since you have plenty at this time, it is only fair that you should help those who are in need" (2 Cor. 8:13 TEV).

The immature Corinthians argued about the relative merit of gifts. They neglected the grace of giving. Being basically selfish, they used their resources for personal desires instead of sharing with hungry brothers in Jerusalem.

Stinginess has long plagued the church. Martin Luther complained that some of his followers begrudged four pennies a week. He preached, "You ungrateful beasts, you are not worthy of the treasures of the gospel. If you don't improve, I will stop preaching rather than cast pearls before swine."

Far worse than the inflation shadow that hovers over today's local church is the miserly attitude many have toward giving. A majority of Baptists have yet to act on Jesus' promise. "Give, and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over..." (Luke 6:38).

Stinginess is a barrier to giving. Jesus commended the generous poor widow who out-gave the rich leaders. Generous people have found what Paul wanted the Corinthians to discover, the grace of giving. — James A. Walker/Stewardship Department

Pastor's with dual roles being

by Robert Dilday

Southern Baptists have faced the last few years like the rest of Americans: Battered by an inflation wracked economy and rising unemployment. Churches have been affected in no small way. Will SBC churches in the future be able to support their pastors in the face of a worsening financial situation?

The answer may lie in a long-practiced concept that has only recently attracted convention-wide attention — the bi-vocational pastor.

According to predictions made by the Baptist Sunday School Board, by 1990 about 50 percent of Southern Baptist churches will be led by these pastors who divide their time between pulpit and secular job. Today the figure stands at 27 percent.

"Bi-vocational pastors are a very significant group," says Robert Holley, director of the Church Training Department of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention,

"They serve as pastor to a large percentage of Arkansas Baptists."

Holley estimates that about 450 of the 1,131 Southern Baptist Pastors in Arkansas are bi-vocational. That striking number has motivated him in developing a series of area conferences across the state designed to benefit this growing segment of pastoral leadership.

Beginning the week of Feb. 23, in six Arkansas locations, the workshops will address needs as varied as the bi-vocational himself.

"The bi-vocational pastor must recognize that he has a very significant ministry," says Holley in pointing out one of the essentials the conferences will provide. "We want to see his own self-image, his concept of his ministry, lifted."

Holley also hopes to raise the awareness of the associations to accept the limitations of the bi-vocational.

"It doesn't make much sense to have a

pastors' conference at 10:00 on Monday morning if 18 to 20 percent of the pastors are also employed somewhere else and can't make it," he notes.

In addition, the bi-vocational will have to become a better planner of his time and, perhaps more than the full-time pastor, utilize organization and leadership within the church to get the work done.

While there are positions in several SBC agencies that deal specifically with bi-vocationals, most are newly created. Thurman Allred, consultant in the pastoral section of the Church Administration Department at the Sunday School Board, says he is the first in that agency whose assignment is to work directly with the bi-vocational pastor.

"I've only been at it for 18 months," he says. "The Home Mission Board also has a man who has been a field consultant in the area for about two years."

And yet while convention leadership is just becoming aware of the untapped resources among bi-vocationals, Southern Baptist pastors have been involved in

Pastor Webb teaches a youth Sunday school class at Forest Tower Church. Webb's 16-year-old daughter Diana (second from left) is a member of the class.



Cecil Webb's family play an important role in his busy life. From left to right are son-in-law Ronald Wayne Nordman; daughter Martha Nordman; grandson Billy Webb; and grandson Wayne.

ABN photos/Millie Gill

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On the cover



Webb's responsibilities at Central High School include career counseling with students. "I think being a Christian helps in what I do with the kids," he says.

dual roles for a long time.

Cecil Webb has combined preaching and school teaching for over 20 years. Today Webb is pastor of the Forest Tower Church in Hensley and a guidance counselor at Little Rock's Central High School.

The dramatic contrast between the quiet church surrounded by pines some 30 miles from Little Rock and the bustling high school near the downtown district

ALB photo/Strued



Six pastors from Arkansas met Jan. 27 in training sessions with Bob Holley (far right) and Thurman Allred (far left) to prepare for the area bi-vocational conferences beginning Feb. 23.

of the capital might have been hard to resolve for some, but not for Webb.

"I honestly believe I wouldn't be totally satisfied doing just one of these jobs," he says. "Of course, as pastor of a church I'm kind of the authority and at school I'm a sub-authority. But I make the transition easily; I don't resent authority. I've thought a little bit about doing one of these two jobs full time, but mostly I think in terms of retiring from teaching. I don't know about retiring from preaching. That's something I haven't thought much about."

Time is limited for Webb, as it is for all bi-vocational pastors, but between preaching on Sundays and finding jobs for students during the week, there is still time for the family that he says is the center of his life, especially since the death of his wife three months ago. He worries, like all protective fathers, about his daughter Diana, 16, and looks forward to the nights with his married daughters and grandchildren. The hectic schedules at church and school don't interfere with these gatherings.

"The time element is the big thing in this type of calling," he said recently in his classroom at Central after consulting with a student about a job at the State Capitol cafeteria. "I get tired sometimes and discouraged, too. When I don't have many people at church and when our kids at school can't do the job, it bothers me. There are just so many hours in the day and there's so much to do."

As the bi-vocational pastor becomes more visible in the convention, SBC agencies, seminaries and full-time pastors will have to take stock of this segment in Southern Baptist life. Most secularly employed pastors seem satisfied with their dual calling. In fact, Holley asserts that many of them would probably not move to a full-time church if they had the opportunity, because they have discovered unique ministries in their present roles.

And though Webb feels that he could minister to 100 more people in his church than he does now without drastically changing his life style, he says, "I don't see myself in a large situation and haven't ever."

But despite the satisfaction expressed by many in bi-vocational positions, a change of attitudes within the convention is probably warranted.

Allred says, "There was a time when bi-vocational's self-image was pretty low. They even thought of themselves as something other than a regular minister. At the same time regular ministries looked upon the bi-vocational pastor as another breed."

Webb agrees to some extent. "I might feel a little insignificant in the presence of full-time pastors. But all that changes when someone who's been out of the church for five or six years stops by and I says, 'Boy, I sure did appreciate you and I just came back to see you.' And," he says, "that happens quite often."

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ARKANSAS VALLEY		Highfill	49.00	Ione	138.23	West Point	100.00
Brickers	\$ 115.00	Immanuel, Rogers	154.09	James Fork	637.50	TOTAL	\$11,538.12
Brinkley, 1st	523.37	Lakeside Chapel	60.49	Long Ridge	150.00	CANEY	
Broadmoor	106.53	Lowell	221.52	Mansfield	150.00	Boarden, 1st	\$ 759.85
Calvary, West Helena	38.82	Mason Valley	156.67	Midland	100.00	Bethesda	50.00
Chatfield	200.00	Monte Ne	\$ 102.02	New Providence	40.00	Calvary, Camden	452.00
Clarendon	200.00	Park Street	66.44	Parks	128.40	Faith	291.90
Elaine	425.00	Pea Ridge, 1st	62.94	Pleasant Grove #2, Abbott	240.00	Forcyde, 1st	544.00
Friendship	692.52	Rogers, 1st	325.31	Rock Creek	47.57	Hampton	381.86
Helena, 1st	272.88	Ro-Lynn, Rogers	47.00	Southside, Waldron	56.00	Harmony	37.00
Holly Grove, 1st So.	37.00	Siloam Springs, 1st	2,396.86	Temple, Waldron	100.00	Holly Springs	200.00
Hughes	825.00	Sugar Creek	100.00	Union Hope	75.00	Nanning	124.00
Immanuel, Elaine	258.00	Sulphur Springs	44.28	Unity	277.00	New Hope	169.90
Landbrook	111.95	Sunny Side	68.80	Waldron, 1st	\$ 938.00	Quachita	50.00
Lesa	564.00	Trinity, Rogers	161.17	West Hartford	155.58	Prosperity	92.00
Marlana, 1st	401.10	Twelve Corners	100.50	Winfield	859.43	Shady Grove	148.45
Marwell	20.00	TOTAL	\$ 8,946.01	TOTAL	\$ 7,229.28	Sparkman	309.19
Monroe	222.08	BIG CREEK		BUCKYVILLE		Spartan	2,668.00
Nono	676.00	Cherokee Village	\$ 332.00	Mt. Taber	\$ 77.00	Thornton	120.39
Northside, Helena	21.00	County Line	15.00	Rock Springs	127.00	TOTAL	\$ 6,398.53
Snow Lake	350.00	Elizabeth	60.00	TOTAL	\$ 204.00	CANEY	
Turner	291.10	Enterprise	55.00	CADDO RIVER		Austin Station	\$ 91.03
West Helena	519.50	Flora	22.00	Big Fork Mission	\$ 30.00	Biscoe	106.00
TOTAL	\$ 6,770.85	Gun Springs	15.00	Black Springs	25.00	Brownsville	55.00
ASHLEY		Mammoth Spring	48.00	Caddo Gap	70.00	Cabot, 1st	1,582.83
Corinth	\$ 200.00	Mt. Zion	30.00	Glewood	483.86	Cabot, 2nd	65.00
Crosssett, 1st	718.00	Saddle	122.24	Lake Ouachita, Mt. Ida	53.00	Calvary, Ward	16.14
Crosssett, 2nd	83.00	Viola	550.00	Little Hope	49.00	Carlisle	253.70
Eden	215.00	TOTAL	\$ 1,249.24	Mt. Ida	305.00	Chambers	45.00
Fountain Hill	325.62	BLACK RIVER		Norman	177.42	Cocklebur	210.16
Gardner	65.29	Amagon	\$ 54.05	Oak Grove	101.21	Coy	107.60
Jarvis Chapel	1,713.40	Calvary, Walnut Ridge	25.75	Oden	67.00	Cross Roads	220.00
Magnolia	95.00	Black Rock	178.23	Pencil Bluff	220.56	Des Arc	595.51
Merridan	25.00	Campbell Station	25.00	Sulphur Springs	75.00	England, 1st	398.80
Mt. Olive	\$ 721.06	Diaz	165.27	TOTAL	\$ 1,659.05	Hazen	441.10
Mt. Pleasant	125.00	Grubbs	120.00	CALVARY		Humoke	72.19
North Crosssett	120.12	Horseshoe	15.00	Antioch	\$ 388.00	Keo	\$ 6,691.90
Pleasant Lane	133.82	Hoxie	678.13	Augusta, 1st	1,341.50	Lonoke	447.50
Sardis	50.00	Imboden	239.00	Beebe, 1st	313.88	Mt. Carmel	135.00
Shiloh	50.00	Immanuel, Newport	110.00	Bethany	200.00	Mountain Springs	63.92
TOTAL	\$ 4,640.31	Jacksonport	200.00	Centra's, Bald Knob	200.00	New Hope	74.25
BARTHOLOMEW		Murphy's Corner	20.00	Cotton Plant, 1st	287.25	Oak Grove	194.00
Cawfco	\$ 75.00	New Hope #2, Hardy	\$ 80.00	Crosby	150.00	Pleasant Hill	150.00
Corinth B	63.61	Newport, 1st	145.00	Denmark	40.00	Steel Bridge	129.45
Ebenezer	85.00	Old Walnut Ridge	530.96	El Paso	240.57	Toltec	174.58
Enon	169.16	Pitts	21.13	Good Hope	114.00	Ward	128.53
Florence	50.00	Sedgwick	130.00	Gregory	125.00	Wattensaw	242.25
Hemetage	261.71	Selzville	216.77	Higginson	247.00	TOTAL	\$11,691.44
Immanuel, Warren	179.75	Spring Lake	92.80	Judsonia	240.00	CENTENNIAL	
Macedonia	200.00	Swifton	136.00	Kansett	920.79	Aberdeen	\$ 73.00
Marsden	20.00	Tuckerman	131.00	Liberty	100.00	Almyra	608.76
Monticello, 1st	1,222.11	Walnut Ridge, 1st	874.01	McCrary	278.55	Delwitt	1,075.00
Saline	100.00	White Oak	225.00	McRae	328.00	East Side Delwitt	149.20
Union Hill	60.00	TOTAL	\$ 4,413.10	Midway	57.25	Faith, Delwitt	121.60
Warren, 1st	447.21	BUCKNER		Morton	288.17	Gillett, First	184.13
West Side Chapel, Warren	55.06	Abbott	\$ 70.00	Pangburn	200.00	Hagler	154.13
Wilmor	128.96	Bates	140.00	Patterson	125.54	North Maple	35.75
TOTAL	\$ 3,117.57	Boles Mission	60.00	Pleasant Valley	75.00	Raymond	260.00
BENTON		Cauthron	100.00	Raynor Grove	230.78	Reyell	237.50
Bella Vista	\$ 1,152.16	Cedar Creek	86.00	Rock Point	230.78	South Side, Stuttgart	\$ 126.50
Bentonville, 1st	565.96	Clark's Chapel	64.00	Rosebud	255.31	St. Charles	220.00
Centerton, 1st	220.50	Dayton	212.19	Royal Hill	25.00	Stuttgart, First	486.85
Central Avenue, Bentonville	69.16	Evening Shade	155.00	Searcy, 1st	1,500.70	Tichnor	70.00
Garfield	219.86	Fellowship	266.00	Searcy, 2nd	205.03	TOTAL	\$ 6,638.29
Gentry	1,485.12	Hartford, 1st	918.40	Temple, Searcy	312.17	CENTRAL	
Gretnette	836.16	Haw Creek	489.50	Trinity, Searcy	2,156.20	Antioch	\$ 128.13
Gun Springs	104.00	Hon	215.48	Tapelo	218.43	Barcelona Road Mission	190.00
Harvard Avenue	206.00	Huntington	360.00	Union Valley	40.00	Benton, First	1,799.96
				Valley, Searcy	239.00	Calvary, Benton	260.00

Central, Hot Springs	585.00	Greenwood, First	195.00	Centerville	59.00	Harvey's Chapel	60.45
Faith	37.40	Hackett	80.18	Danville	33.62	Jessleville	315.25
Highland Heights	782.00	Haven Heights	728.00	Dover	247.55	Mountain Pine	124.18
Hot Springs, First	354.50	Immanuel, Fort Smith	252.00	East Point	140.81	Mountain Valley	30.46
Hot Springs, Second	667.85	Jenny Lind	100.57	Havana	252.49	Rector Heights	76.27
Hurricane Lake	68.00	Lavaca, First	129.51	Hector	82.99	TOTAL	\$ 1,258.75
Lake Hamilton	105.00	Magazine	337.32	Hopewell	150.00	GREENE	
Lakeshore Heights	120.11	Memorial	59.80	Immanuel, Danville	100.00	Alexander	\$ 208.51
Lee Chapel	350.00	Mison	120.00	Kelley Heights	161.90	Beech Grove	55.00
Leonard Street	12.00	Mt. Harmony	137.61	Knoxville	300.00	Big Creek	124.66
Lonsdale	40.00	New Hope	287.68	Moreland	66.00	Brighton	45.00
Malvern, Third	187.25	North Side, Charleston	117.80	New Hope	31.00	Browns Chapel	287.32
Memorial	151.00	North Side, Fort Smith	200.47	Ola	137.00	Calvary, Paragould	87.97
Mill Creek	95.00	Oak Cliff	200.00	Pittsburg	156.00	Center Hill	315.89
Mt. Vernon	20.67	Palestine	316.99	Plainview	335.50	Clarks Chapel	100.00
Old Union	14.68	Paris, First	480.00	Pleasant View	53.40	Delaplaine	251.22
Owensville	407.00	Phoenix Village	452.26	Pottsville, First	239.50	East Side, Paragould	183.32
Park Place	66.50	Pine Log, Barber	343.07	Rover	73.00	Fairview	179.75
Peary	93.21	Ratcliff	140.51	Russellville, Second	327.79	Finch	169.75
Piney	260.93	Roseville	627.00	TOTAL	\$ 3,413.55	Immanuel, Paragould	36.00
Prague Chapel	53.80	Rye Hill	\$ 490.88	DELTA		Leafe	220.00
Ridgecrest	63.00	Scranton	89.90	Arkansas City	\$ 261.45	Light	416.98
Riverside	52.42	Southside, Booneville	325.00	Bayou Mason	100.00	Marmaduke	197.26
Salem	81.25	Southside, Fort Smith	310.00	Bellaire	738.00	New Friendship	100.06
Sheridan, First Southern	80.36	Spradling	168.69	Boydell	25.00	New Liberty	134.68
Trinity, Malvern	304.18	Temple	60.00	Chickasaw	77.64	Nutts Chapel	500.00
Vista Heights	\$ 95.49	Trinity	132.28	Collins	20.00	Oak Grove	40.40
Walnut Valley	<u>335.49</u>	Union Hall	20.00	Daniel Chapel	105.83	Paragould, First	2,428.88
TOTAL	\$ 7,862.18	Westside	343.78	Dermott	427.50	Pleasant Valley	60.00
CLEAR CREEK		Windsor Park	<u>220.00</u>	Eudora	250.00	Robbs Chapel	\$ 215.00
Alma, First	\$ 170.49	TOTAL	\$12,151.53	Jennie	84.25	Rosewood	50.32
Batson	276.00	CONWAY-FERRY		Jerome	25.00	Stanford	100.00
Cass	100.00	Bigelow	\$ 75.00	Kalso	102.00	Unity	236.60
Cedarville	58.43	Casa	414.59	Lake Village, First	237.25	Vines Chapel	19.70
Clarksville, First	14.57	Circle H Chapel	22.00	McGehee, First	616.20	West View	<u>201.90</u>
Clarksville, Second	126.87	Harmony	90.00	Montrose	99.07	TOTAL	\$ 6,979.76
Clear Creek, Alma	505.57	Houston	47.00	New Hope	197.75	HARDWAY	
Coal Hill	44.05	Morrilton, First	480.00	Northside	140.00	Althemer	\$ 140.00
Concord	115.03	Rimrod	177.00	Parsdale	100.00	Anderson Chapel	142.97
Dyer	227.06	Oppelo Chapel	133.00	Parway	30.55	Centennial	246.30
East Mt. Zion, Clarksville	197.54	Perryville	488.00	Portland	456.00	Central	154.00
Hegarville	223.20	Pleasant Grove	50.00	Richland	98.72	Dollarway	151.19
Hertman	62.00	Plumerville	313.45	Siloh	46.41	Douglas	155.45
Kibler	324.27	Solgochacha	75.00	South McGehee	303.00	East Side, Pine Bluff	287.00
Lamar	453.55	Thornburg	100.00	Temple	57.66	Forrest Park	199.18
Mountainburg	40.00	Union Valley	<u>73.11</u>	Watson	110.40	Gould	1,259.20
Mulberry	444.41	TOTAL	\$ 2,530.15	Wimot	<u>53.50</u>	Green Meadows	1,927.60
Oak Grove	900.00	CURRENT-GAINS		TOTAL	\$ 4,763.18	Greenlee	153.00
Osark	353.81	Antioch, Pocahontas	\$ 25.00	FAULKNER		Hardin	569.50
Ozone	69.87	Biggers	215.58	Beryl	\$ 270.07	Hickory Grove	344.96
Shady Grove	219.62	Calvary, Corning	135.35	Bono	47.00	Mumphrey	371.53
Shibley	70.36	Corning, First	1,179.00	Brunley Chapel	25.00	Immanuel, Pine Bluff	474.91
Trinity, Alma	280.00	Greenway	328.91	Cadron Ridge	168.56	Kingsland	145.00
Union Grove	76.91	Harmony	72.00	Conway, First	763.50	Lee Memorial	613.66
Uniontown	60.00	Holly Island	291.00	Conway, Second	177.28	Limwood	7.63
Van Buren, First	1,144.65	Hopewell	122.25	Emanuel, Conway	62.00	Matthews Memorial	208.85
Van Buren, Second	60.75	Knobel	100.00	Friendship	62.28	Oak Grove	91.00
Vine Prairie	105.09	Mt. Pleasant	106.00	Gold Creek	\$ 70.74	Oakland	312.60
Webb City	206.02	New Hope	120.00	Happy Hollow	61.00	Pine Bluff, First	7,254.77
Woodland	<u>190.00</u>	Nimons	\$ 56.00	Harmony	829.33	Pine Bluff, Second	668.40
TOTAL	\$ 7,120.12	Oak Grove	91.15	Holland	195.21	Plum Bayou	75.30
CONCORD		Peach Orchard	35.00	Mayflower, First	114.29	Rankin Chapel	50.00
Barling	\$ 85.69	Piggott	225.51	Mt. Vernon	130.00	Rison	500.00
Bethel	6.65	Pocahontas	44.00	Mt. Zion	88.25	River Road Chapel	24.00
Bloomer	60.00	Ravenden Springs	135.78	Naylor	18.04	Shannon Road	190.00
Bluff Avenue	840.89	Rector	763.00	New Bethel	126.12	Shepherd Hill Chapel	91.61
Booneville, First	308.13	Reyno	14.65	Oak Bowery	905.72	South Side, Pine Bluff	620.00
Branch	184.26	Shannon	515.65	Pickles Gap	600.71	Star City	\$ 1,344.83
Burnsville	100.00	Shiloh	72.66	Pleasant Grove	318.00	Watson Chapel	230.00
Calvary, Fort Smith	288.00	St. Francis	630.50	Saltville Heights	10.00	White Sulphur Springs	<u>87.00</u>
Charleston, First	148.12	Success	79.15	Southside, Damascus	200.00	TOTAL	\$19,091.43
Delaware	100.00	Witts Chapel	<u>134.00</u>	Wooster	<u>70.00</u>	INDEPENDENCE	
Enterprise	86.60	TOTAL	\$ 5,492.14	TOTAL	\$ 5,313.11	Arbana	45.00
Excelsior	79.13	MARGANVILLE-RUSSELLVILLE		BARLAND COUNTY		Batesville, First	286.00
Fort Smith, First	1,000.00	Atkins	\$ 256.00	Cedar Glades	\$ 462.13	Calvary, Batesville	506.09
Glendale	223.26	Bellville	50.00	Fairdale	93.70	Calvary, Timbo	25.00
Grand Avenue, Fort Smith	1,144.50	Bluffton	160.00	Grand Avenue	96.31	Cord	320.00
Grayson	50.00						

Desha	244.89	Post Oak	15.10	Friendly Hope	112.08	Shady Grove	478.11
East Side, Cave City	72.00	Quitman, First	379.73	Jonesboro, First	1,408.42	Shirley	24.50
Emmanuel, Batesville	160.00	Southside, Heber Springs	487.22	Lake City	218.85	Stanley Memorial	120.00
Floral	211.86	West Side, Heber Springs	546.25	Lunsford	20.00	Zion	26.20
Marcella	105.00	Woodrow	251.54	Monette	71.25	TOTAL	\$ 2,901.88
Mountain View	155.00	TOTAL	\$ 3,186.20	Mt. Pisgah	211.56	NORTH PILASKEI	
Nt. Zion	247.00	LITTLE RIVER		Mt. Zion	774.84	Amboy	\$ 479.00
North Side	25.02	Ashtown	\$ 655.60	Needham	142.50	Baring Cross	207.50
Pilgrims Rest	155.14	Ben Lomond	95.20	Nettleton	323.00	Bayou Meto	711.30
Pleasant Plains	44.25	Ben	675.00	New Antioch	176.11	Berea	11.25
Rehobeth	107.94	Brownstown	60.00	New Hope, Black Oak	182.74	Bethany	\$ 166.43
Rosie	609.49	Central, Mineral Springs	1,320.60	New Hope, Jonesboro	62.20	Calvary, North Little Rock	547.42
Ruddle's Hill	132.78	Chapel Hill	202.83	Providence	55.00	Cedar Heights	370.00
Salado	220.00	Columbus	171.47	Rowes Chapel	50.00	Central, North Little Rock	120.00
Newark Mission, Cord	175.00	Dierks	112.00	Strawfloor	146.66	Chapel Hill	592.72
Sulphur Rock	126.81	Foreman	604.50	Walnut Street	244.75	Crystal Valley	733.00
West, Batesville	1,067.47	Hicks	70.00	Westvale	58.63	Getsemane	307.93
White River	220.25	Horatio	197.27	Wood Springs	79.90	Grave Ridge	229.00
TOTAL	\$ 5,441.99	Karn Heights	161.00	TOTAL	\$ 5,984.71	Graves Memorial	166.23
LIBERTY		Lockesburg	234.00	NORTH ARKANSAS		Highway	1,070.47
Camden, First	\$ 1,687.18	Lone Oak	50.00	Alpena	363.72	Indianhead Lake	200.58
Childster	154.00	Mt. Moriah	42.00	Batevia	113.95	Indian Hills	45.00
Cross Roads	493.00	Murfreesboro	277.65	Bear Creek Springs	107.68	Jacksonville, First	1,575.75
Cullendale, First	742.00	Washville	604.00	Bellefonte	150.00	Lakeside Mission	54.32
East Main	984.23	Dak Grove	209.58	Berryville, First	338.10	Levy	180.00
Ebenezer	428.50	Ogden	170.85	Blue Eye (Missouri)	277.06	Military Road Mission	100.00
El Dorado, First	8,308.81	State Line	75.00	Boxley	16.40	Morrison Chapel	456.23
El Dorado, Second	709.25	Washington	135.00	Burlington	145.89	North Little Rock, First	610.00
Fairview Road	\$ 53.50	Wilton	173.19	Cassville	150.00	Oakwood	177.85
Felsenthal	501.00	TOTAL	\$ 6,296.74	Deer	\$ 216.06	Park Hill	1,207.31
Galilee	375.08	MISSISSIPPI		Eagle Heights	391.42	Pike Avenue	354.03
Harmony	61.00	Amorel	\$ 212.60	Elmwood	195.25	Remont	238.00
Hillside	468.00	Bethany	51.66	Emmanuel, Harrison	66.79	Sherwood	114.00
Huttig	118.50	Black Water	75.00	Eureka Springs, First	382.58	Sixteenth Street	108.50
Immanuel, El Dorado	1,890.39	Blytheville, First	862.50	Everton	155.00	Stanfill	200.00
Joyce City	143.80	Brinkley Chapel	25.00	Freeman Heights	310.25	Sylvan Hills	674.00
Junction City	399.96	Brown's Chapel	100.00	Galtner	28.55	Zion Hill	451.00
Knowles	85.00	Calvary, Blytheville	84.14	Grandview	616.48	TOTAL	\$12,458.82
Lapile	90.00	Calvary, Osceola	22.90	Green Forest	100.56	QUADHITA	
Lawson	113.55	Central Dyess	105.16	Grubb Springs	66.64	Board Camp	\$ 107.75
Liberty	370.00	Clear Lake	412.25	Harrison, First	361.50	Calvary, Menz	39.51
Louann	68.43	Cole Ridge	100.00	Jasper	100.00	Cherry Hill	135.00
Maple Avenue	123.69	Cross Roads	113.52	Koswell	216.00	Concord	181.00
Merrill Hill	62.44	Dell	148.88	Lakeland, Omaha	100.00	Dallas Avenue, Menz	152.18
Midway	150.00	East Side, Osceola	88.00	Marble Falls	20.00	Gillham	133.65
New London	203.00	Emmanuel Blytheville	67.37	Marshall	68.25	Grannis	136.40
Norphet	659.83	Gosnell	100.00	New Hope	50.00	Hatfield	245.00
Park View	27.87	Joiner	64.44	Northvale	665.79	Hatton	360.32
Philadelphia	180.00	Keiser	107.40	Osage	195.00	Menz, First	1,064.57
Salem	302.34	Leachville, First	62.00	Oregon Flat	560.00	New Hope	27.00
Smackover	1,085.29	Leachville, Second	203.38	Parthenon	71.01	Salem	44.52
Stevens	478.00	Luxora	125.68	Rock Springs	224.17	Vandervoort	110.26
Strong	675.00	Manila, First	247.15	Rudd	85.16	Wicks	234.65
Tempo, Camden	109.44	Mary's Chapel	33.34	Snowball	48.00	Tocana	190.50
Temple, El Dorado	202.40	New Harmony	22.45	Southwise, Lead Hill	71.61	TOTAL	\$ 3,162.31
Three Creeks	147.26	Novena	62.23	St. Joe	35.00	PULASKI	
Trinity	1,131.86	Number Nine	195.53	Trinity, Harrison	53.22	Alexander	\$ 143.18
Union	333.00	Osceola, First	275.00	Union	110.54	Arch View	6.00
Urbana	237.00	Trinity	187.13	Valley Springs	146.44	Brookwood	53.80
Victory	250.00	Wardell	90.00	Woodland Heights	231.04	Calvary, Little Rock	916.63
Village	486.51	West Side, Manila	131.00	Western Grove Chapel	27.30	Chicot Road	120.00
Wesson	140.00	Whitton	88.75	TOTAL	\$ 7,738.32	Crystal Hill	200.00
West Side, El Dorado	527.00	Wilson	100.00	NORTH CENTRAL		East End	134.59
Wildwood	40.00	Woodland Corner	72.20	Bee Branch	\$ 124.00	Forest Highlands	264.06
TOTAL	\$25,795.11	Yarbro	439.77	Clinton, First	162.00	Forest Tower	26.39
LITTLE RED RIVER		TOTAL	\$ 5,311.43	Fairfield Bay	257.36	Garden Homes	151.80
Blossville	\$ 292.13	MT. ZION		Formosa	238.11	Geyer Springs	2,616.00
Center Ridge	155.50	Bay	\$ 70.00	Friendship	481.38	Green Memorial	77.80
Concord	\$ 168.16	Bethabara	210.00	Immanuel	76.00	Hebron	139.00
Harris Chapel	5.12	Black Oak	360.00	Lexington	103.00	Immanuel, Little Rock	2,378.00
Heber Springs, First	321.40	Bono	54.32	Leslie	292.97	Ironton	175.51
Lone Star	100.00	Bowman	147.70	New Hopewell	20.00	Lakeshore Drive	204.25
Mt. Zion	40.35	Central, Jonesboro	300.00	Pee Dee	70.00	Little Rock, First	1,958.27
New Bethel	140.00	Childress	72.50	Pleasant Valley	165.37	Little Rock, Second	273.04
Paesthne	182.00	Egypt	50.00	Rupert	17.82	Marshall Street	79.01
Pines	100.00	Fisher Street	381.70	Scotland	244.56	Martindale	100.00
Pleasant Ridge	21.70					Nalls Memorial	1,172.31
						Natural Steps	301.11

Olivet	597.28	Finley Creek	40.00	Fitzgerald	355.00	Friendship	20.00
Parkway Place	197.85	Gulon	100.00	Forest City, First	280.00	Greenland	\$ 53.40
Pine Grove	90.37	Hardy	117.94	Goodwin	78.00	Hindsville	220.40
Plain View	19.65	Melbourne	150.00	Harris Chapel	62.32	Immanuel, Fayetteville	436.25
Pleasant Grove	100.00	Midway	53.42	Hydrick	35.00	Johnson	75.00
Pulaski Heights	1,011.63	Oxford	242.17	Immanuel	5.00	Kingston	114.00
Reynolds Memorial	45.62	Sage	28.60	Marion	263.00	Liberty	339.45
Roland	164.36	Salem	77.06	Palestine	100.00	Lincoln	211.00
Rosedale	9.00	Sidney	162.50	Parkin	259.50	North East Mission	7.74
Shady Grove	217.38	Sylamore, First	142.60	Pleasant Hill	40.00	Prarie Grove	701.04
Shannon Hills	\$ 61.13	Wisenan	50.00	Shell Lake	55.54	Providence	121.41
Sheridan, First	140.00	Zion Hill	<u>133.20</u>	Tilton	25.00	Rolling Hills	331.00
Sunset Lane	1,068.00	TOTAL	\$ 1,821.47	Topo	60.42	Sang Avenue	225.00
Trinity	54.59	SOUTHWEST ARKANSAS		Union Avenue	164.92	Silent Grove	70.00
Tyler Street	165.10	Anderson	\$ 170.70	Vanderbilt Avenue	104.00	Sonora	144.75
View Ridge	85.84	Arabella Heights	186.57	Yandale	147.88	Southside, Fayetteville	12.90
West Side	128.51	Beech Street, First	1,443.75	West Memphis, First	1,063.87	Springdale, First	1,574.29
Woodlam	292.00	Bradley	197.00	West Memphis, Second	\$ 364.36	Spring Valley	883.59
Woodson	<u>82.00</u>	Bromway Heights	70.34	Wynne	<u>1,018.76</u>	Sulphur City	160.50
TOTAL	\$16,026.06	Calvary, Hope	486.17	TOTAL	\$ 7,173.76	University	50.00
RED RIVER		Calvary, Texarkana	365.00	TRINITY		West Fork	107.00
Anchor	\$ 67.00	Central, Magnolia	5,086.25	Anderson-Tulley	\$ 64.91	Winslow	<u>277.50</u>
Anoife	226.32	Fouke, First	362.58	Bethel	25.00	TOTAL	\$ 8,671.50
Arkadelphia, First	438.50	Fulton	128.00	Calvary, Harrisburg	305.05	WHITE RIVER	
Beech Street, Gordon	1,989.78	Gurmeay	27.07	Calvary, Lepanto	50.00	Arkana	\$ 52.50
Berme	146.11	Halley Lake	25.00	Corners Chapel	109.80	Big Flat Mission	66.54
Bethel	121.08	Harmony Grove	341.16	Faith	120.00	Bruno	107.85
Boughton	16.75	Hickory Street, Texarkana	62.00	Greenfield	156.60	Bull Shoals	213.10
Caddo Valley	49.00	Hope, First	1,593.96	Lebanon	243.00	Cotter, First	460.07
Cedar Grove	40.00	Immanuel, Texarkana	297.50	Lepanto	129.13	East Side	306.13
Center Point	143.00	Macedonia, #1	50.00	Maple Grove	221.16	Flaggin	188.50
Curtis	174.45	Macedonia, #2	75.00	Marked Tree	278.55	Gasville	345.90
De Gray	190.00	Memphis, Waldo	69.35	Newsander	100.00	Henderson	26.62
Emmet	128.00	Memphis, Waldo	\$ 1,500.00	Pleasant Grove	112.93	Hilltop	27.00
Harmony Hill	71.10	Mc. Zion	\$ 300.00	Pleasant Valley	774.27	Hopewell	18.20
Hollywood	90.93	Northeast	79.00	Providence	111.32	Midway	158.66
Lakeview	80.82	Piney Grove	47.50	Red Oak	100.00	Mountain Home	625.43
Marlbrook	250.00	Shiloh Memorial	205.70	Riverview	58.59	New Hope	131.69
Oklona	40.00	South Texarkana	42.81	Trinity	25.95	Norfolk, First	56.50
Park Hill	562.00	Spring Hill	5.00	Truman, First	10.00	Peel	51.00
Prescott, First	420.50	Stamps, First	967.20	Tyrona, First	254.00	Pilgrims Rest	\$ 82.00
Richwoods	192.00	Sylverna	86.00	Valley View	108.30	Pyatt	85.05
Shady Grove	50.00	Tennessee	<u>333.47</u>	Waldenbury	<u>50.02</u>	Ree Valley	132.91
Shiloh	377.00	Trinity	<u>378.01</u>	TOTAL	\$ 3,407.38	Summit	78.96
South Fork	35.00	TOTAL	\$14,882.10	WASHINGTON-HADISON		Tomahawk	79.13
Unity	<u>948.00</u>	TRI-COUNTY		Berry Street	\$ 101.00	Whiteville	140.31
TOTAL	\$ 6,844.34	Antioch	\$ 106.35	Black Oak	150.00	Yellville	<u>446.14</u>
ROCKY MOUNTAIN		Barton Chapel	77.19	Brush Creek	181.62	TOTAL	\$ 3,880.39
Ash Flat, First	\$ 47.99	Beckspur	100.00	Calvary, Huntsville	41.32	OTHER CHURCHES	
Boswell	\$ 50.00	Calvary, West Memphis	662.60	Candle Avenue	615.00	All Souls	\$ 170.00
Calico Rock	140.00	Colt	126.50	College Avenue	54.75	Cross Roads, Allene	50.00
Dolph	65.38	Crawfordsville	42.90	Elkins	50.00	Lakeside, Newport	5.00
Evening Shade	214.18	Earle	321.30	Elmdale	573.07	Russellville, First	<u>2,281.00</u>
Fairfax	6.43	East Baptist Mission, Wynne	70.68	Farmington	276.13	TOTAL	\$ 2,506.00
		Fair Oaks	383.67	Fayetteville, First	491.62		

State Convention staff decorated the Baptist Building Feb. 3 before the parade for former Iran hostages passed down Capitol Avenue. The McClellan High School Marching Band and a color guard were among many units in the procession to the State Capitol.





Coker

International

Feb. 15, 1981

Matthew 16:13-26

by Currey E. Coker
Pleasant Grove Church
Harrisburg

Live your faith

God gave me a wonderful life's work. This job was to work with children and youth. I feel that Jesus led me all the way as I dealt with this age group. My faith in God and young people gave me a most rewarding life. Each day of the fifty years of service strengthened my faith and trust in God.

Jesus teaches his disciples the truth

When Jesus came to Caesarea Philippi, probably somewhere on the beautiful slopes of Mount Hermon near the Jordan River, he asked his disciples, "Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?" They answered, "John the Baptist, Elias, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets." Jesus was not satisfied with their answer and wanted to get an answer from them.

The Truth revealed

Jesus asked, "But whom say ye that I am?" Peter quickly answered, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God" (Matt. 16:15, 17).

Jesus promises to build his church

This act by Simon Peter gave Jesus the opportunity to proclaim the foundation of his church. Jesus Christ is the solid rock upon which the church is built (I Peter 2:48).

The keys of the kingdom of heaven, the power of binding and loosing men from their sins to Peter, the disciples, and then to all who confess him as Lord and Savior. The keys signify the power to preach the gospel which sets a sinner free. To reject this gospel leaves men bound in sin without hope.

Christians bind the gospel when they fail to preach and teach it. They loose it when they preach and teach the gospel.

Jesus foretells his death and resurrection

From this time Jesus began to show to his disciples that he must enter into Jerusalem. There he must suffer many things of the elders, chief priests, and scribes. Jesus was to be killed, buried, and raised the third day.

Peter was rebellious at these teachings. He was not ready to accept what was to come. He began to rebuke Jesus by saying that this shall not be unto thee (Matt. 16:22).

Jesus rebuked Peter with stern words because he was talking like Satan when he (Satan) tempted Jesus in the wilderness.

Jesus demands self-denial

If we choose to follow after Jesus, we must deny ourselves, take up our cross, and follow him. We cannot save our life because we shall lose it. But if we lose our life for Christ's sake we shall find it.

We profit nothing if we shall gain the whole world and lose our own soul. We must choose to say no to self and yes to Jesus. We then find a life worth living. We may bear our cross, whatever it may be, even if it costs us everything. We must live our faith in God.

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Responding to God's invitation

We must by act of will accept God's gracious invitation if we are to fully participate in the Kingdom of God and to receive the blessings that come with being a part of it. To refuse the invitation whether by neglect or by deliberate decision is to declare oneself outside the kingdom. This, in part, is the point of our lesson for today.



Lisk

The great supper

In our text for today, Jesus had been invited to a banquet and had accepted the invitation. The original reason for the invitation is not made clear. The host could have simply been a bit curious about Jesus. There could have been many other reasons. Jesus came to the supper and took the opportunity to chide the guests and the host for their behavior.

The comments Jesus made at the banquet, however, were aimed at more than just societal customs. He was concerned with nothing less than the Kingdom of God and man's entrance into it. The people of Jesus' day often used a banquet as a figure of speech to describe the Kingdom. Jesus accepted the metaphor and told a parable about a man who gave a banquet. In so doing, he makes the point of our lesson.

A fatal assumption

Luke has been called a universal gospel because it emphasizes the all-inclusive nature of God's love. At the same time, Luke emphasizes the necessity for decisive action. The parable in today's lesson makes this double point.

Many of those who heard Jesus were convinced that as the chosen people of God, which they were, that they had no need to decide to be a part of the Kingdom. They felt that they automatically had a part in all the good things that God had to offer. The focal passage of our lesson warns against this fatal assumption.

The truth affirmed

The truth is that God is concerned about people in terms of their need

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Life and Work

Feb. 15, 1981

Luke 14:12-24

by Richard Lisk

England First Church

rather than in terms of their heritage. Any man who will, regardless of his position in society, is invited to participate in the Kingdom of God. Any man who does not choose to participate shuts himself away regardless of his position in the world. Participation requires decision. It always has. It still does.

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Lewis

Bible Book

Feb. 15, 1981

I Corinthians 10:1-11:1

by Norman L. Lewis

Ashley County Director of Missions

Freedom and Israel's example

In Chapter 10, Paul is still dealing with the subject of meats sacrificed to idols. He now shows that even favored Israel fell because of pride and perverseness; that one compromise or disobedience can easily lead to a graver one. Out of Israel's history, Paul showed the Corinthian Christians how not to be. He points out in (v. 11-12), if Israel did not escape God's judgment, now Israel (the church) would not escape either. He points out their rebellious sins: Lusted after evil things (v. 6); idol worship (v. 7); fornication (v. 8); tested God (v. 9); and impossible to please (v. 10). Notice the words, "they are written for our admonition." He then pens those glorious words in v. 14 that should be the Christian's constant tower of strength.

The danger of association with idol worship (v. 15-22)

In these verses Paul, with intense feeling, presents still another argument in his case for the right use of Christian liberty. How often have we heard a Christian, who is flirting with the things of the devil, make this remark, "I can handle it. I know when to stop." Paul's admonition was to continually flee from idolatry, not seeing how closely they could associate themselves with it without becoming contaminated.

In taking the bread and the cup at the Lord's Supper, they were engaging in sacred and intimate spiritual fellowship with their Lord and with one another. Both the cup and the bread referred to Christ's death. To partake of the cup and the bread at the Supper was to symbolize appropriation of the benefits of Christ's death. Likewise, to participate in an idol feast, the Christian consciously or unconsciously, entered into an evil and demonic fellowship. God will not allow divided loyalty (v. 22).

There are limits to Christian freedom (10:23 to 11:1). A Christian is free to do anything that in itself is not sinful. They were free to purchase meat that had been sacrificed to pagan idols. Nothing was wrong with the meat. Idols were powerless to make it good or bad; to cause any person to be offended at God or to offend God was a sin (v. 32). A guiding principle should be to consider one's rights, interest and welfare. The church at Corinth was responsible for encouraging everyone to draw near to God. This is the Christian principle of love.

Conclusion

"Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all for the glory of God."

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**Attendance report for Sunday,
February 1 will appear in the February 19 issue.**

Eight different tracts, using about 15 tons of paper, will be used in eastern and southern Africa to reach the English speaking persons there.

HMB appoints 40, gets offering report

ATLANTA (BP) — Southern Baptist Home Mission Board directors appointed 40 persons to mission service and received a final report on the 1980 Annie Armstrong Easter Offering during their January meeting.

Board President William G. Tanner told directors the 1980 Annie Armstrong offering was \$16,479,032.05, almost \$1 million more than the \$15.5 million goal.

The 1980 offering was the first Annie Armstrong offering to surpass its goal in four years. The goal for the 1981 offering is \$17.25 million.

Dunn 'realistic,' 'hopeful' on church-state relations

by Stan Hasty

WASHINGTON (BP) — The new director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs says he is "realistic but hopeful" about the future of church-state relations in the United States despite the rise to power of a president and political party publicly committed to profound changes in the area.

James M. Dunn, who became the fourth executive director of the Washington-based Baptist agency Jan. 1, pledged to "applaud and support" initiatives of President Ronald Reagan's administration for church-state separation and human rights.

But Dunn, 48, also promised to "push for change where change is needed" and to criticize when government policy runs counter to historic Baptist positions.

Dunn said: "The responsibility of this agency to bear Christian witness to questions of public policy—specifically religious freedom—is so consistent and so overwhelming and so overriding, that the relative difference in the way we relate to one administration or the other is very unimportant."

Dunn recalled a bitter conflict between the agency's first chief executive, Joseph M. Dawson, and then President Harry S. Truman over the latter's appointment of an ambassador to the Vatican, and noted that the Baptist Joint Committee "is not without a history of dogfights."

"I expect sometimes to have to fight," he added.

He emphasized, however, that opposition to any incumbent president will not be based on party affiliation. "It is not Democrats of Republicans alone who oppose taking public moneys and spending them for private and parochial schools," he declared, citing one of the issues expected to be debated vigorously in coming months.

When asked to assess the potential influence and staying power of the religious right, whose positions on church-state issues almost uniformly run counter to those of his agency, Dunn said the movement's danger "may lie in the fact that it has no consistent, noble, theological sound vision for America."

The danger exists not in that they are a massive, well-organized, ideologically coherent threat," he said. "The danger

exists in that they have missed the profound theological roots that any Christian witness has to have. They haven't studied church history. They are not in harmony with the discipline of Christian social ethics."

Asked to identify other pressing issues to be confronted by the Baptist Joint Committee, Dunn cited a cluster of education issues, including prayer in schools and tuition tax credits; what he called "bureaucratic intervention" into church affairs; attempts to restrict personal liberties through proposed amendments to the U.S. Constitution and what he termed "quality of life" issues, including hunger, crime and privacy.

One of his most "anguishing" tasks, Dunn said, will be to limit such a broad agenda in order to maximize the agency's effectiveness. "If we do anything well," he elaborated, "we will have to do fewer rather than more things."

Dunn, who for 12 years was director of the Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission, insisted the Baptist Joint Committee is eager to serve sister denominational agencies in an enabling role. He added he will maintain an open-door policy for all denominational agencies and institutions wishing to use the Baptist Joint Committee as a base for their work in Washington.

Another pressing task, Dunn noted, is how to involve more Baptists in the process of influencing government on key issues. A project already begun is development of a network of Baptists throughout the country who would be available instantly to work on specific bills in Congress.

The overriding job of the Baptist Joint Committee, Dunn insisted, "is serving as eyes and ears for Baptists who will hear and see" as they seek to relate to government.

The fact that Baptists disagree with one another on virtually every public issue does not discourage him. "In that diversity there is vitality," he said.

The Baptist Joint Committee has a serious stewardship to maintain a tradition of holding up the best in Baptist life, the best in Baptist theology and the best in Baptist history, he added.

"In that sense we must be rock-ribbed conservatives" in clinging to "what Baptists have fought and died for."

At the same time, he declared, "we need to be dangerously innovative in trying to find ways to communicate this Baptist distinctive . . . on the complex issues and problems of the day."



Dunn

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Seminary professor's wife murdered

NEW ORLEANS (BP) — Ethyl Louise Robbins, wife of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary professor Ray Robbins, was beaten to death in her home on campus Jan. 27.

Robbins found her body when he returned home about 11 p.m. from a Bible teaching session in Baton Rouge. Robbins, a popular Bible teacher and professor of New Testament and Greek at New Orleans for 30 years, wrote this year's Southern Baptist January Bible study on Philipians.

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