

Ouachita Baptist University

Scholarly Commons @ Ouachita

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1980-1984

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

3-19-1981

March 19, 1981

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarlycommons.obu.edu/arn_80-84



Part of the [Christian Denominations and Sects Commons](#), and the [Mass Communication Commons](#)

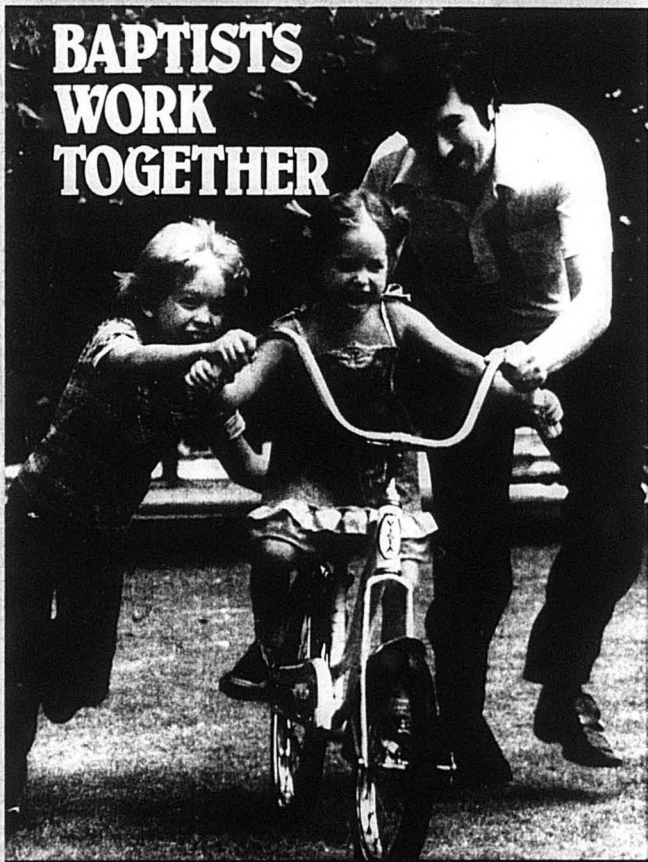
March 19, 1981

MAR 19 1981

Arkansas Baptist

NEWSMAGAZINE

BAPTISTS WORK TOGETHER



THROUGH THE
COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

Both/and (number 14) Church and sect

by T. B. Maston

A distinction is frequently made between a churchly and a sectarian type of church or denomination. Main line denominations are primarily churchly. Most Christian groups that minister primarily to the underprivileged or the common people are sectarian. There are several more or less distinctive characteristics of the two groups.



Maston

The world

One of the most marked differences is their attitude toward the world. The churchly denominations largely represent groups that have made their peace with the world and have a considerable stake in the world.

In contrast, the sects more or less reject the world. The more extreme even seek, as far as possible, to live in distinct communities apart from the world. They maintain more or less consistently their distinctive customs. The Amish Brethren are possible the best know of such groups in the United States.

Other sectarian groups are less extreme and emphasize moral and spiritual separation and a distinctive lifestyle. This is true of the various contemporary "holiness" groups and has been true to a considerable degree of Southern Baptists.

Social issues

The churchly and sectarian types of

churches or denominations also differ somewhat in their attitude toward the broader social issues. The churchly type, to differing degrees, has a concern for the world and its problems.

Since sectarians tend to reject the world, their emphasis is on personal morality in contrast to social morality. They seek to cultivate a quality of life that will set them apart from the world.

The preceding naturally results in another difference in the churchly and sectarian groups. The latter stresses the negative aspects of the Christian life, those things that will mark their members as different from the people of the world: no smoking, no drinking, no swearing, etc.

On the other hand, the churchly type of denominations stress the positive aspects of the Christian life and frequently with relatively little attention to the negatives.

We agree that the supreme test of the Christian life is positive rather than negative. But we need to define "positive." Who is the good Christian? He is the one who lets the resurrected Christ live in him and express himself through him. It is possible that such a one would have to have a prominent place in his life for the negative aspects of that life. He would want to leave out of his life anything that would be out of harmony with his life in Christ. In other words, there would be a place for the "thou shall nots" but the motivation would be positive.

Southern Baptists

Now, where are and where should

Southern Baptists be? Whether we came from a sectarian background or not, we have had a strong sectarian tinge. The world renouncing, negative attitude has been strong in the past when we were a minority group.

Generally speaking, however, Southern Baptists have moved up the economic, educational, and cultural ladder. Also, we are now the largest Protestant denomination in the United States. What effect has this had on our denomination and on our churches?

Whether or not we have made our peace with the world, we have become more conscious of the broader social issues of our world. In associations and conventions we speak more frequently than formerly regarding those issues.

While this emphasis is needed and seems inevitable, it is possible that we have moved too far away from our former emphasis on personal morality and even on the negative aspects of that morality. We, the Christian movement, and our world need a balanced emphasis on social and personal morality and on the negative and positive aspects of the Christian life.

In other words, in the area of everyday Christian living, we should see that it should be a "Both/And" rather than an "Either/Or." After all, typical of Paul's epistles, before he set forth the fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23) he mentioned the "works of the flesh" (Gal. 5:19-21).

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

In this issue

7

Governor Frank White has been asked to stop serving liquor at state functions in a resolution passed by the Arkansas Christian Civic Foundation.

On the cover

Baptists work together and the Cooperative Program is an expression of Baptist work. Cooperative Program Day, April 12, gives Baptists an opportunity to learn how their money is translated into ministries around the world.

CP 'sacred how,' not 'cow'

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — "The Cooperative Program is not a sacred cow," John Sullivan told Southern Baptist leaders during a luncheon here, "but it is a sacred how."

Sullivan, pastor of Broadmoor Church of Shreveport, La., the fifth-ranked church in 1980 SBC Cooperative Program gifts with \$327,000, warned against churches getting "caught up in goals and achievements and interpreting them in terms of 'our share.'"

He told the group gathered primarily for the February meeting of the SBC Executive Committee, "Often we only do what we feel is necessary for survival or will be of greatest benefit to us."

He said this kind of reasoning reflects a

problem of perspective. When a church fails to see the complete picture their own needs tend to overshadow world needs.

Sullivan, also president of the Louisiana Baptist Convention, said reasons for a church not giving more through the Cooperative Program — such as financially difficult times or not being able to afford larger gifts — "become the smoke screen to justify what we are not doing at every area of life."

He then warned, "Moving away from any commitment normally begins with self deception."

Sullivan challenged that Southern Baptists "must translate the rhetoric of our intention into the reality of our commitment."



We appreciate the excellent guidance given by the Southern Baptist Executive Committee and usually agree with its decisions and proposals. But we believe that the Committee's recommendation on messenger representation is not in the best interest of Southern Baptists.

Since 1948, churches have determined the number of messengers which they are qualified to send to the SBC on the basis of membership, or money paid to the Convention. The proposed change would, after the first messenger, be determined exclusively by gifts to the Cooperative Program. We believe that this proposal should be voted down and that our present policy should be retained.

The present messenger representation policy to the SBC (Article III, Membership) was voted in 1946 and 1947. (An amendment must be voted in two consecutive conventions to become valid.) It is possible for each church "in friendly cooperation" with the Convention and sympathetic with its purposes and work to be granted one messenger. One additional messenger is provided for each 250 members, or for each \$250 paid to the work of the Convention during the previous year, up to a maximum of 10.

The Executive Committee's proposal makes no change for the first messenger. But additional messengers are determined solely by church's gifts to the Cooperative Program. If the proposal is passed, a church would be authorized one additional messenger for each two percent of undesignated tithes and offerings, or for each 10,000 contributed by the church through the Cooperative Program during the year covered by the latest uniform letter.

By a margin of about two to one, the SBC Executive Committee voted last year a proposal almost identical to the one that they are now offering to the

SBC annual session. The only difference between the one approved by the Committee on Feb. 17 and the 1980 proposal is that this one does not require contributions to the Cooperative Program to qualify for the first messenger.

It is probable that the Executive Committee members' primary reason for the proposed constitutional change in messenger representation is the low amount given to the Cooperative Program by some of our larger, more prominent churches. Though this situation is, indeed, appalling, this is not the proper procedure to correct this circumstance. The best way to increase giving is through training.

We oppose the proposed change in messenger representation for a number of reasons. First, this method of determining voting privileges or messenger representation is not used at any other level in Baptist life. Churches do not determine a person's right to vote by whether he tithes or not. Associations and state conventions do not determine the number of messengers a church may have by its percentage of giving or by Cooperative Program gifts. Why, then, should a different criteria be used at the SBC level?

Finally, this method could give an extremely small church an unfair advantage in representation. A church with ten members with an annual budget of \$100 which gave \$20 (or 20 percent) to the Cooperative Program would have its entire membership eligible to serve as messengers to the SBC. A large church which gave \$40,000 to the Cooperative Program might only have five messengers eligible to attend the SBC. We believe that this would be inequitable.

Our present method of determining messenger representation has worked well for 33 years. When something is functioning well, it should not be changed.

Arkansas Baptist NEWSMAGAZINE

(USPS 031-280)

Arkansas' third largest publication

VOLUME 80

NUMBER 12

J. EVERETT SNEED, Ph.D. Editor
BETTY KENNEDY Managing Editor

ERWIN L. McDONALD, Litt. D. Editor Emeritus

Published weekly except at July 4 and December 25 by Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine Inc., P.O. Box 552, 525 West Capitol Ave., Little Rock, Ark. 72203. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203.

Subscriptions: individual \$4.82 per year. Three years \$13.50. Every Resident Family plan 32 cents per month or \$3.84 per year per church family. Club plan (10 or more paid annually in advance) \$4.44 per year. Subscriptions to foreign address \$12.00 per year. Copies by mail 25 cents each.

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

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

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

Advertising rates on request.

Opinions expressed in signed articles are those of the writer.

Member of Southern Baptist Press Association.



One layman's opinion

Daniel R. Grant

The miracle of students helping students

When I want to shake my head in exasperation and ask, "What's this world coming to?" I remind myself of some modern miracles taking place among the young people at Ouachita Baptist University. Someone forgot to tell them that the old-fashioned virtues of idealism, unselfishness, and hard work are not "in" anymore.

If anyone had told me seven years ago that an organization dedicated to "Students Helping Other Students" would have become anything more than a half-hearted, second-rate, "do-good" organization, I would have smiled and said, "Watch them wilt in the heat of battle." It is not that students are no longer idealistic, but simply that there are too many other demands on their time and priorities.

What the Ouachita Student Foundation has done, however, is quite another story. They have done many things, but one of them is to travel all over the state and often outside the state, to raise \$500 scholarships which they award to deserving junior and senior students at Ouachita.

The first year they set a goal of five such scholarships and raised seven and one-half. The second year they increased the goal to 10 and raised 17½ scholarships. When senior pre-med student Wesley Kluck, chairman of the finance committee, wanted to set a goal of thirty \$500 scholarships the third year, we all laughed and decided to humor him. We laughed, that is, until they raised 34½ scholarships. The stories told by the scholarship donors have been the cause for laughter and tears, varying from climbing up a ladder in pursuit of \$500 from a man working on his roof, to hiking out into the middle of a farm to solicit a man on his tractor. In the latter (now legendary) case, student Sherry Montgomery talked with E. R. Coleman of Cord out in the blazing sun and finally fainted while asking for the \$500 scholarship. When Sherry "came to" they were back at the farmhouse and the distressed Coleman was making out his check for the scholarship. Coleman has testified that "the interesting thing about this story is that every word of it is true!" The O. S. F. has now adopted this approach as

part of their standard fund-raising techniques.

The amazing thing about the idealism and hard work of the students in O. S. F. is that new and more challenging goals have continued to be set and reached. During the past three years the number of \$500 scholarships raised has increased to 51½, 90, and 100! Each year I have reminded them the number cannot go up indefinitely. Each year they have proved me wrong. They have also taken on other ambitious projects, all of them related to improving the quality and opportunity of Christian education at Ouachita.

Tiger Traks, to be held April 9-11 this year, will be the seventh annual celebration of "Students Helping Students" at Ouachita. As I join in the celebration, I will be breathing a little prayer that some of the idealism and dedication of these 45 young people will rub off on more of us older people.

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



Woman's viewpoint

Polly Reynolds

Two escaped convicts

When this news is flashed on the TV screen or makes the headlines, it causes different reactions in people. Probably, my family would not receive escape news in this manner because our farm joins the prison property. And usually someone at the prison will call and say, "This is the Cummins unit and we have two men on the ground." Immediately, we begin to tighten up our defenses. Escapes do not happen too often, so we have a tendency to become lax.

But I'm thinking our responsibility should begin long before this. We are proud of our efforts, as Baptists, to have chaplains in our institutions and we should be. These men are dedicated, hard working people. Especially is this true of those at Cummins. They are trying to pastor 1500 plus and as one of our senators said, "they aren't there for go-

ing to Sunday School." The most we can do for our chaplains is to pray for them. But we could also volunteer to help them.

So much is done in the United States by volunteers. I do not believe more programs or more money is the answer to our country's ills. But the answer lies with more Christians emptying themselves and allowing Jesus Christ to live in them and through them to touch people. We have to get out of our "holy huddles" inside church buildings and be the church out in the world.

There are many programs already established which need volunteers. Why not Christian volunteers? We do not win lost people to the Lord because we do not know and associate with lost people. I feel one of the best ways to get ac-

quainted and build relationships is through volunteering. The opportunities are many and varied and are so readily available to us.

Call your Red Cross Chapter, your local hospital, the city or county jail, or you might even get in touch with a Southern Baptist chaplain in the institution closest to you. Who knows, those lives you touch for Jesus may be the ones planning to make a break and not only will they be helped, but those on the outside, living next door, will say thank you.

Polly (Mrs. Gene) Reynolds is a homemaker, volunteer, and a member of Douglas Church. She is active in teaching the Bible, missions work and civic organizations, and she leads lifestyle evangelism workshops.

And some . . . Evangelists

Bob Wade

Bob Wade has entered the field of evangelism following 16 years of service in the active pastorate.

He is a graduate of Wayland Baptist College, Plainview, Tex., and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Ernie Perkins, Director of Missions for Concord Association, said, "I have found Bob Wade to be a powerful pulpiteer with the gift of evangelism. No church is too small for his ministry, neither is any church too large for his abilities. He works strictly on a love offering basis and is only interested in serving God in evangelism."

Wade can be contacted by writing P.O. Box 621, Ft. Smith, Ark., 72902 or by calling (918) 427-5133.



Wade

News about missionaries

Mr. and Mrs. Doy L. Jones, missionary associates to Ecuador since 1977, resigned from missionary service Jan. 31. They were stationed in Quito, Ecuador, where he was an English-language pastor. He is a native of Clarksville, Ark. She is the former Betty Matts of Sand Springs, Okla. They may be addressed at 2317 S. Chestnut, SP 130, Fresno, Calif. 93725.

John H. Pickle, father of missionaries, W. Stewart Pickle of Ecuador and Mrs. J. Michel Wolf of Taiwan, died Feb. 14 in Siloam Springs, Ark. Pickle may be addressed at Casilla 328, Cuenca, Ecuador. Born in Memphis, Tenn., he grew up in Siloam Springs. He and his wife, the former "C. L." Smith of New York, were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1974. Mrs. Wolf is the former Patricia Pickle of Siloam Springs. She and her husband, a native of Tulsa, Okla., were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1971.

Judy Robertson, missionary student worker in Taiwan since 1974, has been named administrative assistant to George Hays, Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board director of East Asia. The Fayetteville, Ark., native began her new duties Feb. 1.



Robertson

Ann Wollerman, emeritus missionary to Brazil, has returned to the field (address: Caixa Postal 628, 79800 Dourados, MS, Brazil). A native of Pine Bluff, Ark., she was appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1950 and retired in 1975.

Volunteers over 60 train to aid others

A free five-week course to train volunteers over age 60 to serve as consumer counselors will be conducted by the Pulaski County Council on Aging. The classes meet Tuesday or Thursday, beginning March 31 and April 2. Topics to be covered include consumer fraud, insurance, legal services, health services and problems relating to Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, SSI and food stamps.

The training program will be one day a week at the First National Bank in downtown Little Rock. Continuing Education Units will be granted by the UALR Division of Continuing Education. For more information call Linda Jackson at 372-7878.

Watch that address

New postal regulations require that addresses for publication mailings include a box number, street number or route and box number. Person and town (plus zip code) is not enough. Magazines lacking a complete address will be returned to the "Arkansas Baptist News-magazine" at a substantial charge per piece.

Subscribers, whether by church or individual, will not be added to the mailing list without complete address. Church lists of ABN subscribers must be brought into line with this regulation immediately.



The Southern accent

Why is evolution so popular?

by D. Jack Nicholas

On the date of this writing, the Arkansas Gazette carried a news item from Sacramento, Calif. reporting on a "court challenge to state-ordered teaching of evolution."

The incident referred to is not an isolated situation. Kasey Seagraves is

not the only child of Christian parents in America who is being taught that he evolved from fishes, reptiles, and apes. Quite the contrary, virtually all young people attending the public schools of America are taught that such is their origin.

What happened? There was a time in the earlier, purer, and nobler days of this country when students in the public schools were taught the Genesis account of creation (and the moral and ethical system which derives from that proposition). But now evolution is taught as the "state-ordered" doctrine of origins (along with the moral and ethical system which derives from that proposition).

Why did such a radical change come about? Is it because the advocates of evolution have amassed such compelling



Nicholas

evidence for that theory that the Genesis account of origins is rendered untenable? Absolutely not! The evidence for the theory of evolution is thin, riddled with gaping holes and even occasional fraud. It takes no less faith to make a commitment to the theory of evolution than to the Genesis account of origins.

The reason evolution is so popular is simply that it is more congenial to the nature of fallen, unregenerate man, and more palatable to his corrupted ego. Proud, distinguished individuals, especially scholars, have found it appealing and have adopted it without critical examination of its validity. And they have, by the weight of their prestige and power, made the acceptance of the theory fashionable and popular, a mark of erudition.

Therefore, Kasey Seagraves and his peers across America are taught evolution not because it is a demonstrated, documented, incontrovertible fact but merely because it happens to be the bias (faith) of most of those who write the textbooks, train the teachers, develop the teaching aids, and who instruct our young people. That is a bias (faith) which needs to be challenged.

D. Jack Nicholas is president of Southern Baptist College at Walnut Ridge.

by Millie Gill/ABN staff writer

Lilly named chairman of Southwestern council

FORT WORTH, Tex. — Ken Lilly of Fort Smith has been named chairman of the Advisory Council at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary here for 1981.

Dr. Lilly has been a member of the Council for three years and had served as vice chairman in 1980.

He is a family physician in Fort Smith and is chairman of the program committee of the Executive Board of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

The Advisory Council assists the seminary administration in development and fund raising, general promotion of the seminary and student recruitment.

Gary Hyde

was ordained to the gospel ministry Feb. 8. Ordination services for Hyde, pastor of Gosnell Bethany Church, were held at Blytheville First Church. Pastor J. Edward North delivered the sermon and gave the charge to the candidate.

Henry West, Director of Missions for Mississippi County, gave the charge to the Bethany Church. North was moderator of the ordination council. Tommy Westbrook was the clerk.

John D. Noland

is serving as pastor of Caraway First Church, going there from the Jonesboro Westvale Church. The Caraway church has experienced a membership growth of 30 additions by baptism and five by letter in the five weeks Noland has served as pastor.

Ron Richardson

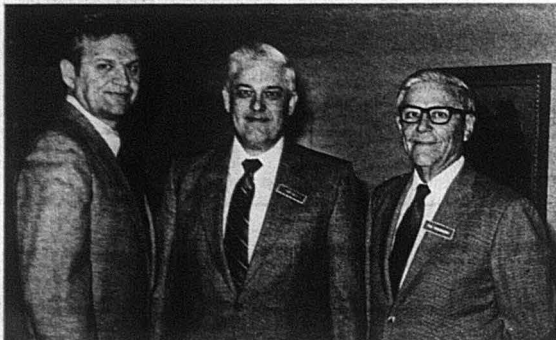
is serving Conway First Church as interim youth minister. He is a graduate of Wheaton College in Wheaton, Ill.

Mary Edna Smith

was honored March 15 by North Little Rock Baring Cross Church for her 30 years of service as church organist.



Hyde



New officers of the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary Advisory Council include (left to right) J. Ray Taylor of Fort Worth; Ken Lilly of Fort Smith, Ark.; and Donald V. Yarbrough of Dallas.

briefly**Caraway First Church**

dedicated a sanctuary addition March 1. The expansion program, valued at \$52,000, included the addition of 24 pews and two Sunday School rooms and bricking the exterior.

Star City Northside Church

ordained Pastor Dave Jones to the ministry March 8.

Benton Calvary Church

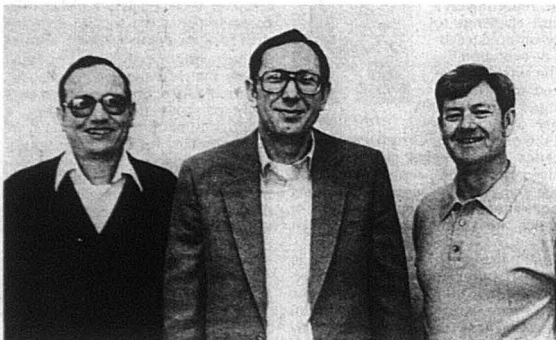
youth became "helping hands" for Senior Adults while out for spring break March 9-13, as they assisted the adults with special needs around their homes.

Des Arc First Church

was in a revival Feb. 22-28 led by Johnny Jackson of Little Rock, evangelist, and Herbert "Red" Johnson of Mountain Home, musician. Pastor Jack J. Bledsoe reported 23 additions by baptism, four by letter and one by statement.

Cabot Zion Hill Church

recently ordained Lynn Carmical, Loy Harmon, Lanny Vines and Bill McClatchy as deacons. Pastor Arthur A. Durkee led the service.



Elected officers of the Arkansas Directors of Missions Fellowship for this year were (from left) Don Seigler of Washington-Madison Association, secretary-treasurer; Tommy Robertson of Liberty Association, vice president; and Jimmie Garner of Trinity Association, president. The officers were elected as the directors of missions held their annual retreat March 4-6 at DeGray Lodge at Arkadelphia. Arkansas Executive Secretary Huber Drumwright was the Bible teacher for the meeting.

Photo by Conway Sawyers

BSU associate named at U of A

Ray Nell Dyer of Big Springs, Texas, has been elected Associate Baptist Student Union Director at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville.

Miss Dyer is a graduate of Sam Houston State University and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Between college and seminary, Miss Dyer worked for four years for the Baptist General Convention of Texas at Texas A & M and at University of Houston in programs similar to Arkansas' Student to Student program.

During the school year of 1974-75, Miss Dyer served on a National Student Share Team sponsored by the Sunday School Board. The team toured U.S. campuses with dramatic and music presentations of the gospel.

Miss Dyer succeeds Ken Watkins who resigned his Fayetteville position to become Baptist Student Director at Mississippi State University last fall.



Dyer

Arkansan to lead youth ministry lab

Program participants at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary's 14th annual Youth Ministry Lab, set for April 24-26, will include Arkansan John Dresbach.

Dresbach is minister of music at Osceola First Church.

The workshop, to be held on the seminary campus, is sponsored by Southwestern and the special services division of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

A western theme has been adapted for the workshop under the general theme "Youth Ministry Lab: Stampede 81." The intensive three-day workshop is designed to provide guidelines and new ideas for youth ministers.

Other program personnel will include Ewing Cooley, Rosemary Hoover, Barbara Kent, Don Mattingly and Diane Smith. Phillip Briggs, Grady W. Lowery and Robert Raus of the seminary faculty also will participate on the program.

Additional information is available by writing Youth Ministry Lab, P.O. Box 22328, Fort Worth, Texas 76122.



Dresbach

CCF asks Governor to stop liquor flow

by Robert Dilday

The Christian Civic Foundation of Arkansas passed two resolutions, including one that asked Gov. Frank White to stop serving alcohol at state functions, at its annual meeting March 9 in Little Rock.

The church-sponsored watchdog organization also heard pleas from its leaders to increase support to remedy what they described as the "greatest financial crisis" in the agency's history.

Citing the use of alcohol as the number one problem drug in Arkansas, the board of directors approved the resolution which placed them on record as "strongly recommending and requesting that Governor Frank White cease the practice of making available ethyl alcohol, regardless of how or where obtained, at official state functions."

The resolution, submitted by Robert Parker, director of the Arkansas Baptist Christian Life Council, referred to a recent admission by Preston Bynum, Gov. White's chief aide, that he (Bynum) had solicited donations from special-interest lobbyists to provide liquor for functions Gov. White hosted at the Governor's Mansion.

A second resolution asked state and national governmental leaders to place

warnings on all alcohol products that there is evidence linking alcohol consumption by pregnant women to brain damage in their children.

The more than 100 people meeting in the First United Methodist Church also approved a 1981 budget of \$71,172, after a grim assessment of the Foundation's financial future from Executive Director Edward W. Harris. He was optimistic, however, that several bills before the General Assembly, which promote alcohol, gambling and pornography, would fail to muster enough votes for passage.

J. Everett Sneed, editor of the *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine* warned that the Foundation was facing the "greatest financial crisis" in its history, and proposed that churches set aside one Sunday each month to emphasize the work of the Foundation and bolster its monetary support.

"I'd be frightened to death if we didn't have an organization like this as a watchdog over our legislature," he said.

In other action, the Foundation elected new board members and officers for 1981. Cary Heard, pastor of North Little Rock Park Hill Church, was re-elected president.



The 1981 members of the Executive Committee of the Christian Civic Foundation include (back row, left to right) W. A. Blount, member-at-large; John Thompson, secretary; Raymond Hillis, member-at-large; Don Hook, treasurer; Harry Brewer, member-at-large; Erwin L. McDonald, third vice president; (front row) Bob Parker, ex officio member; Cary Heard, president; Roland M. Shelton, first vice president; and Edward W. Harris, executive director. Not pictured are Earl Hughes, second vice president; Don Roggin, ex officio member; and members-at-large; Harry Brewer; Earl Carter; Huber L. Drumwright; John B. Hays; Kenneth W. Hicks; Edward S. Maddox; Mrs. Roy E. Snider; George Tanner; Horace E. Thompson; and Dale Ward.

Your state convention at work

Stewardship

Barriers to giving III

Even during the fresh, clean and early years of the church, people weren't always moved with pure motives. Ananias and Sapphira were avaricious and devious.

Jesus warned about the "deceitfulness of riches" that "choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful" (Mark 4:19). Ananias and Sapphira practiced deceit when they gave a false report about the sale of their property. They tried to deceive because they were selfish, greedy people.

Old Testament prophets frequently rebuked the people for bringing shabby offerings to the altar. Greed motivated the worshippers when they brought number two sacrifices.

Deceit is still a barrier to giving. Consumers are often deceived by the advertiser's skills into buying things they really don't need. We have yet to learn that life doesn't consist of "the abundance of things." George Katona said, "The higher the aspirations (for things), the more chance that people will be disappointed."

Church members are sometimes deceived into thinking the church can operate on peanuts. Further deceit is practiced when a church is possessed with a theology that distance lessens the need for mission support.

Truth liberates from deception. Honesty removes barriers to giving. — James A. Walker, Stewardship/Cooperative Program

Evangelism

Thanks for conference

In planning for, promoting and carrying through Evangelism Conferences, perhaps the one this year was the most meaningful to me and my family of all others.

Clarence Shell, Wes Kent and Margaret Wright in my department did an outstanding job in every way on the conference. I appreciate it more than any of you will ever know.

The warmhearted testimonies on Monday night were from dear friends and brothers in Christ or close relatives.

The book of letters is precious. I shall read those again and again and recall many wonderful experiences with the ones who wrote them. I shall spend time

in intercessory prayer for the ones writing them.

It was good to cover the letterheads and not look at the name at the bottom and try to decide from the content who the author was. It was amazing how many of them I recognized before finishing the letter.

Mrs. Reed also enjoyed and appreciated the recognition service. It was glad several referred to her part through these wonderful years. Several months ago I came in from a revival and was exuberant over the many souls saved. Imogene began to cry and said, "Somehow I feel I had a part in all those people being saved." And she did. She has had to fall back on I Peter 5:7, "Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you," many times.

After April 30, my last day on the job as an employee of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, I shall have more time to reflect upon my work here and what so many fine people have meant to me. You have done far more for me than I shall ever be able to do for you. I love you for it. May God bless you. — Jesse S. Reed

OBU enrollment rises

ARKADELPHIA — Enrollment for the spring semester at Ouachita Baptist University is 1,561 students, an increase of 10 students over last spring's total, according to OBU President Daniel R. Grant.

Class breakdowns include 438 freshmen, 316 sophomores, 265 juniors and 337 seniors. There are 111 graduate students enrolled, and 94 postgraduate and special students.

Three hundred and thirty-three students or 21 percent of the student body comes from out of state, with Texas having the largest number of students, 99. The state of Oklahoma has 23 students represented at Ouachita, while Missouri has 22, Kentucky, 20, and Tennessee, 19.

The Ouachita spring semester student body includes people from 72 of Arkansas' 75 counties and from 32 of the 50 states, including seven from Hawaii. International students and students of Southern Baptist Convention missionary parents come from 22 foreign countries.



An investment

by Beth Thomasson Polk

Now that I am a parent, I'm always giving more thought to the future: my child's future. When I think of my son going to college, my thoughts turn to the past to my BSU days at the University of Arkansas at Monticello.



Polk

For me BSU was a home away from home. It was happy, caring people who have become lifelong Christian friends; a place where I could read, study, watch tv, or play ping pong or volley ball. It was also a place to go every school night for vesper services, where I grew up as a Christian. It gave me opportunities to go to retreats and conventions and be with Christians from other colleges. It allowed me to develop skills I'm still using by being an officer in various organizations. BSU provided me with a prayer partner every year to share and grow with. BSU gave me a sounding board, a friend, a teacher, and a spiritual leader in our director, George Sims. He was always there or close by for counseling or whatever we needed.

We open savings accounts and buy bonds for our children but what better investment in our children's future than to give to the Third Century Campaign to insure more and better BSU work. I can think of no better way to repay all that BSU did for me. Giving to Third Century can give anyone a feeling of contributing to missions in your own state.

Beth Polk is a homemaker in Owensboro, Ky. Her husband, Bill, manages the Baptist Book Store there.



Reed

THE ONLY STATEWIDE CAMPAIGN FOR BSU IN OUR CONVENTION'S 130 YEAR HISTORY

Contributed to date: **\$702,000**

State assembly

Meet your youth pastors

First Week —

Jesse Reed is a native Arkansan, born in Aly. He graduated from Ouachita Baptist College and received further education from Southwestern Seminary. Jesse has pastored several churches in Arkansas and has been Director of Evangelism for the ABCS since 1961. He is a member of Calvary Church in Little Rock.

Second week — Graydon Hardister, SBC foreign missionary, is also a native Arkansan, born in Reydell. He attended college for two years at the University of Mississippi and then transferred to Ouachita where he graduated in 1956. Before going to the mission field he served several churches in Arkansas, and Westmont Church in Memphis, Tenn. He is currently home on furlough from Jordan.

Third week — Clyde Lee Herring is a graduate of Baylor University and Southwestern Seminary. He has written several books, including our book last year at Siloam, "Determining My Values," and has been youth pastor at camps throughout the Southern Baptist Convention. He was pastor of several churches in Texas before moving to Southern Hills Church in Tulsa, where he has been since 1975.

Fourth week — Jere Mitchell is from Oklahoma. He graduated from Oklahoma Baptist University and Southwestern Seminary. He has been pastor of several churches in Texas and Oklahoma and was BSU director at three different colleges in Oklahoma. He is now serving First Church of Fayetteville.

Fifth week — Huber Drumwright is also a native of Oklahoma. He graduated from Baylor and Southwestern Seminary. He served several churches in Oklahoma before joining the seminary faculty in 1951. He was Dean of the School of Theology from 1973-1980 and is currently our Executive Secretary-Treasurer.

Sixth week — Clyde Glazener is another one from Oklahoma. He graduated from Oklahoma Baptist University and Southwestern Seminary. He has served several churches in Oklahoma and Texas, and before moving to Arkansas was pastor of First Church in Bedford, Texas, and taught New Testament Greek at Southwestern Seminary. He is currently pastor of Calvary Church in Little Rock. — Martin Babb



Babb

Seminary extension

Courses offer study with experts

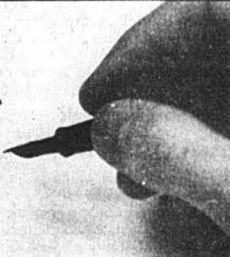
Persons who enroll for study in one of the 43 college-level Seminary Extension courses enjoy the benefit of receiving top quality instruction. Study guides for each of the courses were written by seminary professors, recognized as authorities in their respective teaching fields. The same study guides are used both in correspondence study and in extension center classes.

New Testament professor Frank Staggs of Southern Seminary has written more Seminary Extension courses than anyone else, with five to his credit. Among these are the recently released Part I of the *New Testament Survey* and the most

popular of SE's courses, *How to Understand the Bible*.

Robert L. Cate, on the faculty in Old Testament at Golden Gate Seminary, wrote four courses, including all three parts of the new survey of the Old Testament. Two New Testament courses each were written by Ray F. Robbins of New Orleans Seminary, Donald E. Cook of Southeastern Seminary, and Huber L. Drumwright, Executive Director, A.B.S.C. Among the other writers are: Robert A. Baker, Southwestern, *History of Christianity*; Wayne E. Oates, formerly at Southern, *Pastoral Care*; and William L. Hendricks, Golden Gate, *Christian Stewardship*.

For further information, please contact Lehman F. Webb, Box 552, Little Rock 72203.




Are you interested in
 ↓ saving taxes (estate or income)?
 ↓ giving more than you think you can to a Baptist cause?

A gift of life insurance may be your answer.

See your life underwriter or contact:
Arkansas Baptist Foundation

402 Commonwealth Building
Box 552
Little Rock, Ark. 72203
Phone 376-0732



Harry D. Trulove, President Lewis W. Beckett, Vice President

Please send me information on Christian Estate Planning.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

() I would appreciate a visit from the Foundation staff without cost or obligation.

Your state convention at work

Senior adult ministries

Upcoming events

Senior adults and workers with senior adults will have some unusual opportunities for fellowship, worship, training, fun, inspiration and entertainment during the Conference on Senior Adult Ministry to be conducted April 30-May 2. The conference will be held on the campus of Ouachita Baptist University and will begin with a banquet on Thursday night, April 30.



Kerr

Horace Kerr, Director of Senior Adult Work for the Family Ministry Department at the Sunday School Board, will lead conferences on "How to Minister to Senior Adults in Your Church." He is the author of a book by that title.

A senior adult musical, "Count on Us," will be presented on Friday night by a group of senior adults in Arkadelphia. There will be recreation opportunities, a

conference on physical fitness for senior adults and a hobby fair. Motel reservations have been made at nearby motels in Arkadelphia.

For additional information write the Church Training Department, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, Ark. 72203.

Oct. 5-9 is the date designated as Arkansas Senior Adult Chautauqua at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center. Reservations have been made for a block of rooms at Ridgecrest and transportation will be provided by charter bus. The group will leave on Saturday morning, Oct. 3, and return on Saturday, Oct. 10. Interested groups or individuals should request additional information from the State Church Training Department, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, Ark. 72203. — Robert Holley

Christian Life Council

Responsible no no's

Many who scientifically study the growing, widespread problem of alcoholism — referred to as drunkenness in the Bible — discourage use of a term commonly used, "responsible" drinking. Their basic reason for discouraging such

is that drinking patterns which may possibly be responsible for one person might be totally irresponsible, unacceptable and devastating for another. Further, like fingerprints, none of us are alike psychologically or physiologically.

On the other hand, it has wisely been pointed out that there is such a thing as "responsible" abstinence. If a person chooses to abstain from drinking alcoholic beverages or any other practice commonly looked upon as sin, he should do so responsibly.

Years before Jesus' earthly ministry Isaiah confronted the problem of self-righteousness. He spoke to God spreading out his hands all day long in invitation to a rebellious people. Also, they were guilty of following their own thoughts and provoking God. Sadly, the people were proclaiming themselves "holier than thou" (Isaiah 65:2-5).

Consider that a person can even possess a "holier than thou" attitude regarding abstinence from sins of the spirit. How nice not to be listed among the critically spirited, gossips, racists, vain, liars and double-tongued. To be congratulated am I for not being a liberal,

Ensemble highlights association's music

The associational adult music group may take on different forms: a choir, an instrumental group or a vocal ensemble such as the North Pulaski Singing Men. Following is an interview with Glen Blewins, minister of music/youth at Calvary Baptist Church, NLR, and a member of the Singing Men. The interview is by Glen Ennes, associate in the state music department.

E: How did the North Pulaski Singing Men come about?

B: During a World Missions Conference one of the pastors requested that we get together to prepare some special music for the conference.

E: How long have you been singing together?

B: About two years.

E: Who is chiefly responsible for getting the group together and planning the programs?

B: Leland Hurt is the Associational Music Director and since he was the Associational Music Director at that time he assumed the responsibility.

E: How many are involved in the group?

B: It varies because of changes in staff in the churches but usually 8 to 10.

E: Are there all full time directors or do you involve others?

B: We have had some involvement by those who are not full time but usually it

is the full time staff members. We also have a couple of members who are members of different associations.

E: Are they all music directors?

B: No. We have a couple who are youth and activities directors.

E: What have been some of the projects and performances that the group has been involved in?

B: Aside from the associational activities such as the World Missions Conference, executive board meetings, and associational meetings, we have also sung at different churches in the area, senior citizens programs and programs such as this. We also made a tape for a missionary in Africa that requested a tape for use on their radio program.

E: How has the group benefited the individuals involved?

B: Any fellowship that you have benefits the individuals in it because you strengthen each others' ministry by knowing each others' problems and their successes. It helps the local churches by seeing that there is some kind of bond between the churches; they don't all just go out and compete for members. By getting together more often we are able to share music that is in the library of each individual church.

E: Where do you get the music that you use in the group?

B: Some of it comes from the different libraries. Someone will suggest that we do something that they bring with them. We also have associational money available and have purchased some things that were specifically for the group.

E: So the group is recognized and has some financial backing from the associational.

B: Yes, I think there has always been some money in the associational budget for that, but I don't think that it has been used because there has not been a group to use it until now. At least this is the first time in the five and a half years that I have been in the association.

E: Would this be something that you would suggest that other associations throughout the state become involved in as an activity for their music directors?

B: I think that in any area where they have enough people close, we are fairly close and that makes it easier for us. Some will not have the number available, but there are several areas in the state that could get together. I think it would help everybody's situation.

E: Thank you for this information concerning the North Pulaski Singing Men. I hope this will encourage other areas in the state to form a fellowship that can draw strength and encouragement from those involved.

conservative or middle of the roader.

Knowing how to handle abstinence can be a serious problem. Could this possibly be a reason why Paul encouraged prayer without ceasing? Thanks for being one who says "no, no" at appropriate times and occasion, but be sure divine discretion is exercised in doing so. We might all take a lesson at this point from the sinful publican (Luke 18:9-14).

— Bob Parker

Foundation makes move

The Arkansas Baptist Foundation opened its new offices in February in the Commonwealth Savings and Loan Building next door to the Baptist Building on Capitol Avenue. The move completed action approved by the Executive Board last fall in response to the Foundation's severe space limitations.

According to Harry D. Trulove, president of the Baptist trust organization, the change of location has kept the Foundation close to the Baptist Building; provides adequate space for the agency; and places the staff in contact with people who may find strength from a Christian witness.

Members of the Executive Board's building study committee, which studied alternatives and recommended the move, were Charles Barfield, C. A. Johnson, John Maddox, Terrel Gordon and Eddie McCord.



At the Arkansas Baptist Foundation's open house Feb. 27, President Harry Trulove (left) greets (from left) Board member Ken Price, Executive Secretary Huber Drumwright and Mrs. Minette Drumwright.



Photo by Glenn Erwin

Nearly 100 music leaders from small churches gathered Feb. 20-21 at Camp Paron for the Volunteer/Part-time Music Leader Workshop. Program personnel for the two days of intensive music training included Clifford Holcomb, music specialist from Brentwood, Tenn., leading seminars in song directing and worship planning; Bob Williamson, music and youth director at Pine Bluff Southside Church, and his wife, Janet, conducting sessions for organists and pianists; and John Finn, president of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, leading a Bible study on the Holy Spirit.

Driving to the convention in L.A.?

Plan a One-day Visit to
Glorieta Baptist Conference Center
Glorieta, New Mexico

Inquire at the Conference Center about the
— Self-guided Tours
— Prayer Garden
— Dining Hall Schedule

Overnight lodging will **not** be available at Glorieta because all rooms have been reserved for the entire conference week. Visitors remaining overnight in the Santa Fe area should make advance reservations in area motels.

Glorieta and Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Centers are ministries of your Sunday School Board.



The Sunday School Board
Serving you for ninety years

Grady C. Cothen, President

A call to . . .



1981 State Youth Convention

Friday, April 17

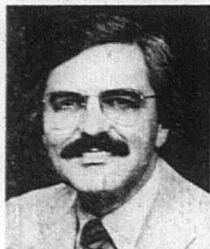
Pine Bluff Convention Center Arena

Morning session
10:00 a.m.-12:10 p.m.

Afternoon session
2:00-4:15 p.m.

Evening session
6:00-8:00 p.m.

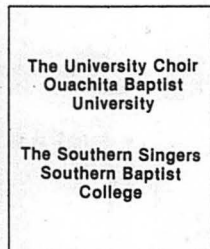
Program features



Joe McKeever
Pastor, First Church
Columbus, Miss.



Bill & Linda Cates
Recording artists
Nashville, Tenn.



The University Choir
Ouachita Baptist
University

The Southern Singers
Southern Baptist
College

Plus

Youth
Bible Drill

Youth
Speakers' Tournament

Multi-media
theme interpretation

Special feature

Arkansas premier
performed by mass choir
6:00 p.m.



Sponsored by Church Training Department, Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

State campus worship reaches Supreme Court

WASHINGTON (BP) — A classic constitutional clash of free exercise versus government establishment of religion will be decided by the U.S. Supreme Court in the case of a group of University of Missouri-Kansas City students who want to worship on campus.

Nearly four years ago, after being denied permission to hold regularly scheduled, Saturday night meetings on campus, 12 students took the university to court, alleging their right to exercise freely their religion had been denied. Named as defendants were Gary E. Widmar, then dean of students, and the governing board of the state university system.

But a federal district judge, issuing a ruling in Dec., 1979, disagreed with the students, thus upholding a set of university regulations forbidding on-campus religious services.

Nine months later, however, the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals reversed

the lower court, setting the stage for university officials to appeal to the nation's high court.

The justices' decision to hear the case marks the first such legal test to arrive at the Supreme Court for full oral argument and decision.

University officials contend that to permit students use of campus buildings for religious services would entangle the state with religion.



BP Photo/Norman Jamieson

Members of the Southern Baptist Press Association named three editors at their 1980-81 officers during their annual meeting in New York City. From left, they are Ed Cooper, Florida "Baptist Witness", president elect; Don McGregory, Mississippi "Baptist Record", president; and Bob Terry, Missouri Baptist "Word and Way", secretary-treasurer.



BP Photo/Norman Jamieson

Joe Ingram, center, executive secretary-treasurer of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, was elected president of the Association of State Baptist Convention Executive Secretaries during their annual meeting in New York City. Robert A. Hughes, left, executive secretary-treasurer of the Southern Baptist General Convention of California, was elected vice president, and Robert Wilson, executive secretary-treasurer of the Baptist State Convention of Michigan was elected secretary-treasurer.

Attendance report

Mar. 8, 1981

Church	Sunday School	Church Trng.	Church adms.
Alexander	139	62	
Yves Ridge Immanuel	60	13	
Alma, Clear Creek Southern	214	85	
Adkins, First	103	41	1
Bennville			
First	267	118	
West	186	51	
Nursing Home			
Bentonville			
First	450		3
Main Valley	55	28	3
Berryville			
First	249	130	6
Freeman Heights	221	75	4
Blue Eye, Mo., First	148	70	1
Booneville			
First	291		3
Blue Mountain Mission	17		
South Side	142		4
Bryant			
First Southern	317	201	9
Indian Springs	125	71	
Cabot, Mt. Carmel	452	189	4
Caledonia	41	23	
Camden, Cullendale, First	400	105	
Cherokee Village, First	100	35	1
Conway			
Hartan Park	105	41	
Oak Bowers	137	90	
Puckett Camp	186	87	
Second	489	187	3
Crossett			
First	473	104	3
Mt. Olive	360	127	4
Temple	214	126	1
Danville, First	150	21	
Nursing Home	23		
El Dorado			
Parkview	147	75	
West Side	309	503	1
Europa Springs, First	44		
Beaver Lake Mission	20		1
Fl. Smith			
First	2,143		13
Grand Avenue	1,070	318	2
Mission	33		
Weeside	85	50	
Cassville	112	41	
Gentry, First	134	48	
Grandview	101	80	
Green Forest, First	180	48	
Hampton	168	58	1
Hardy, First	114	57	2
Harrison			
Reactor Heights	244	95	2
Northville	194	85	
Woodland Heights	100	47	
Havana	47		
Hot Springs			
Grand Avenue	401	115	
Harvey's Chapel	139	85	
Memorial	75	86	2
Park Place	272	94	
Reactor Heights	128	69	5
Hughes, First	183	77	
Jacksonville, First	346	44	1
Jonesboro			
Frandly Hope	131	110	1
Napoleon	305	127	
Philadelphia	146	73	
Kingston, First Southern	81	72	
Levack, First	382	191	6
Little Rock, Crystal Hill	186	106	7
Magnolia Central	746	189	2
Manfield, First	183	11	1
Mountain Home, East Side	207	112	3
Mountain Pine, First	106	34	
Mullberry, First	233	106	1
Northville, Ridgeway	160	84	4
North Little Rock, Jantill	87	50	11
Paragould			
Calvary	223	139	
Center Hill	91	54	
East Side	375	218	4
First	444	101	
Pee Ridge, First	289	107	4
Pine bluff			
Cammennal	116	72	
Central	118	36	
First	629	102	
Hardin	137	64	
Lee Memorial	224	55	
Sulphur Springs	213	79	9
Washou Chapel	152	188	1
Rogers			
First	592	163	
Immanuel	815		4
Russellville			
First	420	231	1
Second	189	49	1
Sandhooky, Okla., Faith	38	23	
Springdale			
Berry Street	72	48	
Claiborne Avenue	100	62	6
Elmdale	320	129	6
First	1,977		17
Treasburg			
Highland Hills	111	81	
Shiloh Memorial	146	81	
Trinity	293	177	9
Valley Springs	83	42	
Van Buren, First	441	285	
Vandermonter, First	79	57	7
Ward, First	148	78	2
West Helena, Second	241	105	1
West Memphis			
Ingram Boulevard	239	95	
Woolser, First	119	72	

FIBERGLASS
BAPTISTRIES / STEEPLES
LARGE SELECTION - FACTORY DIRECT

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

SUPERIOR FIBERGLASS, INC.
1001 N. 10TH ST. JACKSONVILLE, FL 32209

Grady Nutt
Prime Minister of Humor
Hosted by First Baptist Church, Monticello
Monday, March 23, 1981, 7 p.m.
Tickets: \$4 adults, \$3 students,
higher at the door.

Contact: Richard Wade
P.O. Box 388, Monticello, Ark. 71655
Phone 367-2459
Sponsored by Second Baptist Church
and BSU at UAM

H. W. Roper Inc.
CONSTRUCTION

Specialists in church construction

6920 Dahlia Drive
Little Rock, Ark. 72209

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



Stege

International

March 22, 1981

Matthew 23:37-24:14

by Stephen Stege
Beech Street First Church
Texarkana, Ark.

The pain and tragedy of rejection

As Jesus rode triumphantly into the Jerusalem area, great crowds praised him. As Jesus approached, he wept over it. He foretold its destruction which would be so thorough that not a stone would be left upon another. Then he went into



McMenis

the Temple and cleansed it of its desecration by being made a mart of trade. The earlier praise of the crowd brought the criticism of the pharisees. The cleansing of the Temple brought the enmity of the chief priests who were profiting from the Temple trade. In both these events we see the contrast between Jesus' popularity with the masses and his hatred by the religious leaders.

Both the Pharisees, who were the teachers of the Law, and the Sadducees, who were the priestly class, challenged Jesus' authority. Jesus silenced their questions by asking about the authority of John the Baptist, who was popular with the people generally. But he didn't relieve their animosity.

Jesus increased their hatred by telling an allegorical parable. He tells of an owner of a vineyard who left it in care of tenants and went into another country. When he sent servants to receive his share of the harvest, the tenants treated them shamefully. This happened three times. Then the owner sent his son. The tenants realized he was the heir and killed him so they would inherit the property. Jesus asked what the owner would do and said that he would kill them and find other tenants. The vineyard represented Israel, the owner God, and the tenants Jewish leaders. The heir was Jesus, whom they would kill. Then God would place the vineyard in other hands, which history shows to be largely Gentiles. The Jewish leaders understood the parable and exclaimed, "God forbid."

Jesus then quoted Psalm 118:22 about the stone the builders rejected becoming the head of the corner. He was the rejected stone. He said that everyone who falls on that stone will be cut to pieces and those upon whom it falls will

This lesson treatment is based on the Life and Work Curriculum for Southern Baptist Churches, copyright by The Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Signs of the end

Interest in coming events and the last things is widespread. Authors who have written about this subject have become quite popular. Many concern themselves about the things that will take place during the last days. This passage of scripture deals with Jesus' predictions of the future.

Heartbroken

The historic record reveals that God's messages have often been rejected by the people of Israel. In the coming of Christ, they had the most glorious opportunity to repent and walk in the way of God, but they did not. Jesus must have spoken with great sadness as he said, "Behold, your house is being left to you desolate." No longer did he say "my house."

Confused

The disciples were confused. They heard Jesus predict the destruction of the Temple, and to the traditional Jew it was unthinkable. When the disciples met with Jesus on the Mount of Olives, they questioned him concerning when the prophesied events would occur and how they would know his coming. Jesus told of the events that would occur before his triumphant return. Please note that these events were mentioned in the present tense, thereby meaning that there will continue to be tribulation, there will continue to be wars, there will continue to be false prophets until our Lord's return. One can see throughout history these events taking place and it is only because of God's grace that he lingers. His desire is that the gospel be preached to the whole world.

Application

As stated, there is abundant literature concerning the last things and our Lord's return. Please be careful to note the events found in verses 4-14 are not a timetable of our Lord's return. These events will happen before his return, but the end is not yet. The conditions described here are for the Church's edification in knowing that Jesus is aware of the world's wickedness and that he is warning believers to beware. Christians should be able to grow in faith because our Lord knows the trials we will endure. Endurance will be an evidence of the salvation we possess.

The Lord's return will be as a thief in the night. If one knew when he was to be robbed he would ready himself; however, a thief comes when one least expects it. As Christians we must always be busy about our Master's work: sharing the gospel.

The Outlines of the International Bible Lesson for Christian Teaching, Uniform Series, are copyrighted by the International Council of Religious Education. Used by permission.

PEW CUSHIONS

Reversible or attached upholstered type
For free estimate contact:

FLOWERS MANUFACTURING, INC.

P.O. Box 587, Keene, Tex. 76059

Phone: AC 817-645-9203

**GROUPS — Reserve NOW for
THE GREAT PASSION PLAY (May-Oct.)**
Tickets, lodging, meals and swimming
all for just \$16 each

at **KELLER'S COUNTRY DORM RESORT**

Rt. 1, Eureka Springs, Ark. 72632

Call 501/253-8418 today!

Life and Work

March 22, 1981

Luke 19:41-42; 20:9-18

by Freeman McMens
Eudora Northside Church

be crushed to dust. They understood that he was referring to himself as the stone and of their being ground down. Thus their enmity increased and they wanted to arrest him on the spot but feared the people. They tried to trap him with questions about paying taxes to Rome, about the resurrection and about the Messiah being both David's lord and descendant. Jesus out-smarted them. But they bided their time. Jesus was now totally rejected by the religious leaders of Israel and this brought pain to our Lord.



Jackson

Bible Book

March 22, 1981

I Corinthians 15:1-34

by Bedford Jackson
Benton Association

The meaning of Jesus' resurrection

Had it not been for the resurrection of Jesus Christ there would be no bodily resurrection of Christians.

Good news (v. 1-2)

Paul testified in a world like ours. Our world today needs the same message which is the gospel of the Good News. And that is, Jesus Christ was born of a virgin. He lived a perfect life in flesh and blood. He died on the cross for our sin. He arose from the grave in a glorified body. He went back to heaven. And he is coming again for his bride, real soon.

Every born again believer has a testimony to "declare" to the church and to the world that Christ is Saviour and Lord. He is alive! "Brethren," we have a Christ to proclaim. He is the answer to the sin problem and chaotic conditions.

A question to ponder is, "If every church were like me, what kind of a church would my church be?" Paul states the Christian's position in Christ. He has the "gospel." He does "stand." He is "saved." He can call to "memory" his salvation experience.

New life (v. 3-11)

From the time Paul became a Christian, and church worker, he never ceased to put Jesus "first of all" in his life. Anyone that follows the same pattern can trust the "scriptures." They bring faith, repentance, forgiveness, new life, and new insights. The thrill of the conversion is following Christ in believer's baptism and telling through the ministry of the church that Christ is the remedy for sin.

A Christian's theme is, "Christ died for our sins . . . was buried . . . rose again . . . seen" by the disciples and some others on eleven different occasions. What a testimony! Jesus is everything. New life in him is "not in vain."

New person (v. 12-34)

Paul stood on the Word of God and indoctrinated the church at Corinth in the teachings of the dynamic Christ. Paul summed up total redemption in Christ, "the firstfruits." Christ is the only one that has died for sin and rose from the grave to never die again. This fundamental truth gives joy to the believer. It takes fear, doubt, arguments, miserableness, "death," and cemeteries out of the way. Life in Christ does not end. The body may die, but not the soul. As long as we live we are admonished to "die daily" in what Paul stated living "in righteousness." Jesus gives us His Word, according to Paul. "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (2 Cor. 5:17). Jesus' resurrection completes our salvation. Only God in Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit can change the lives of people. Believe it, teach it, and we will see what God will do in our day.

This lesson treatment is based on the Bible Book Study for Southern Baptist Churches, copyright by The Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

SANCTUARY RENOVATION

- PEW UPHOLSTERY on location
- PEW CUSHIONS
- FURNITURE FINISHING
- Carpets & Drapes



CALL COLLECT
(405) 795-5514
(405) 564-3221

S & S MANUFACTURING CO.
P. O. BOX 157 • MADILL, OK 73446

Hughes pew cushions

Reversible or attached
Quality, comfort and beauty

**We believe we can
save your church money**

3 weeks delivery on fabric in stock
For free estimate call collect

Eugene Hughes, 353-8556

Route 2, Box 159A
Gurdon, Ark. 71743

Hawaiian vacation

eight days and seven nights
departing June 15, 1981

\$799

per person
double occupancy
Little Rock to Little Rock

For further information contact
Rev. David M. Hankins Jr.
51 Broadmore Drive, Little Rock
Phone 501-565-4123

For sale

42 18' solid oak used pews

Wagoner Bros.

P.O. Box 528, Booneville, Ark. 72927
Phone (501) 675-2468

Portugal-Morocco-Spain tour

June 8-22 • Experienced escort

• Special features. Write today:

Dr. Cecil Sutley,

OBU, Arkadelphia, Ark. 71923.

Reagan repeats pledge for tuition tax credit

WASHINGTON (BP) — Renewing his promise to work for passage of tuition tax credits for education at all levels, President Reagan nevertheless asked supporters of the measure to push first for his economic recovery package outlined in an address to the nation Feb. 18.

Reagan, who advocated tuition tax credits during his campaign for the presidency, cited the controversial scheme to allow taxpayers who send their children to private schools a credit against taxes owned to the federal government as one of "many other desirable tax changes" he will seek later.

After reviewing the major features of his overall economic plan in the speech,

Cooperative Program budget nearing \$100 million mark

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — A national Cooperative Program budget of \$94 million, which will fund the work of 20 Southern Baptist Convention agencies, has been approved for presentation to the 1981 SBC annual meeting in Los Angeles.

The budget includes a basic operating total of \$83.4 million, a capital needs section of \$3,000,600, and a Bold Mission Thrust Challenge goal of \$6,599,000.

The operating budget, which represents an 11.95 percent increase over 1980-81, is considerably short of the requests made by the agencies for operating funds for 1981-82.

"Regrettably, requests always exceed the available funds," said Gene Watterson, chairman of the budget and planning subcommittee of the SBC Executive Committee.

The 20 agencies, in presentations to the committee in September and again at the budget hearings in January, requested funds totalling \$90,947,048, a 22.08 percent increase.

Watterson, pastor of First Church of Shelby, N.C., told committee members the process of preparing the budget is "a lengthy process," which took into account "the trend toward double digit inflation worldwide, as well as in the United States. We considered inflation which often seriously threatens the goals and aims of the Foreign Mission Board, and which affects the home fields as well."

Under the budget proposal, the Foreign Mission Board will receive nearly half of the operating budget.

"I think it is significant the allocation to the Foreign Mission Board is 49 percent of the total," said Reginald McDonough, program planning secretary for the Executive Committee, pointing out the percentage is up from the 1980-81 budget, when the FMB received 47 percent of the goal.

The SBC operating budget, which finances the ongoing operation of the convention, was allocated \$1,173,000, an increase of 22.97 percent. The increase, according to Tim Hedquist, assistant to the treasurer and director of financial planning for the Executive Committee, resulted from a decrease in other sources of revenue for the SBC operating budget. Despite the increase in Cooperative Program allocation, he said, the total increase of income for the SBC operating budget is only 10.14 percent.

The allocation is 1.41 percent of the Cooperative Program budget.

The \$3,000,600 capital needs budget allocates \$578,310 to Midwestern Seminary; \$1.5 million to New Orleans Seminary; \$137,000 to Southern Seminary; \$675,290 to Southwestern Seminary, and \$110,000 to the Radio-Television Commission.

Phase One of the Bold Mission Thrust challenge goal allocates \$50,000 to the Annuity Board and \$30,000 to the Stewardship Commission.

Phase Two allocates 50 percent or \$3,259,700 to the Foreign Mission Board; 20 percent or \$1,303,880 to each the Home Mission Board and the Radio-Television Commission and 10 percent or \$651,940 to the six seminaries.

Address change ????????

Two weeks before change of address send name-label below and new address to:
 ARKANSAS BAPTIST NEWSMAGAZINE
 P.O. Box 552
 Little Rock, Ark. 72203

made to a joint session of Congress, Reagan declared: "I'm well aware that there are many other desirable tax changes, such as indexing the income tax brackets to protect taxpayers against inflation. There is the unjust discrimination against married couples if both are working and earning; tuition tax credits; the unfairness of the inheritance tax . . .

"But our program for economic recovery is so urgently needed to begin to bring down inflation that I am asking you to act on this plan first and with great urgency. Then I pledge I will join with you in seeking these additional tax changes at the earliest date possible."

Baptist denominations, including the Southern Baptist Convention, have repeatedly opposed tuition tax credits and other measures to benefit private schools from public funds.

Budget breakdown

Agency	Request	Allocation	% Increase	%
Foreign Mission Board	\$45,074,000	\$40,966,000	13.33	49.00
Home Mission Board	\$17,000,000	\$16,263,000	12.16	19.50
Annuity Board	\$ 450,000	\$ 378,000	8.00	.45
Golden Gate Seminary	\$ 1,754,094	\$ 1,568,920	12.28	1.88
Midwestern Seminary	\$ 1,804,380	\$ 1,603,658	8.67	1.92
New Orleans Seminary	\$ 3,375,078	\$ 3,001,066	11.87	3.60
Southeastern Seminary	\$ 3,159,144	\$ 2,808,956	10.28	3.37
Southern Seminary	\$ 4,627,278	\$ 4,115,177	7.26	4.93
Southwestern Seminary	\$ 5,645,639	\$ 5,021,123	9.05	6.02
Southern Baptist Foundation	\$ 239,725	\$ 197,800	9.63	.24
American Seminary Comm.	\$ 182,000	\$ 177,700	8.14	.21
Brotherhood Commission	\$ 782,000	\$ 702,000	8.00	.84
Christian Life Commission	\$ 600,000	\$ 494,200	9.22	.59
Education Commission	\$ 352,160	\$ 342,500	9.06	.41
Historical Commission	\$ 308,000	\$ 280,900	8.04	.34
Radio-TV Commission	\$ 3,808,000	\$ 3,677,400	8.16	4.41
Stewardship Commission	\$ 345,000	\$ 315,800	10.34	.38
Public Affairs Committee*	\$ 324,600	\$ 337,800	18.11	.41

*The Public Affairs Committee submitted a revised request, asking a one-time allocation for purchase of equipment.