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January 20, 1977

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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January 20, 1977

Arkansas Baptist

NEWSMAGAZINE



REHOBETH
BAPTIST CHURCH

ORGANIZED 1826 BY
GEORGE GILL
DAVID ORR
THIS STONE ERECTED 1976

Rehobeth is 150
page 3



I must say it

Charles H. Ashcraft / Executive Secretary

Colonies of heaven

There is a lot of coldness, loneliness, abrasion, insecurity, brashness, fear, enmity and danger in this raw, mundane, demonic world in which we live. God has done something about this. He came personally in the form of Jesus Christ to create a better situation (II Cor. 5:19). Wherever Christ dwells there is warmth, welcome, gladness, friendship, security and well being. This is what it is all about.

There is a beautiful scripture (Phil. 3:20) in which we as Christians are portrayed as colonists of heaven, planted in our strategic place to do just what Jesus does in every life. Wherever we are, we form a little colony of warmth and welcome, ever increasing it to the ends of the earth.

The veterans of Rome's legions were given land grants along the periphery of Rome's vast empire as a reward for their long service to the emperor. They were to create a miniature Rome in these distant sections operating as a defense outpost as well as colonists. They were trusted because of their lifetime service in the army and lived out their remaining days as missionary citizens of Rome in their little colonies after the master pattern of Rome.

We as Christians are planted in such a colonization context. The areas begin in our heart, extend to our homes, next to our neighborhood and on to our country and to the uttermost part of the earth.

We are required to build this field of warmth, confidence and gladness after the pattern of heaven and we are entitled to enjoy only the benefits we bring upon others. This gives us the true missionary purpose and allows us a degree of gladness, warmth and well being which cannot be found elsewhere. If you wish a pleasant situation you can become a part and participant in pleasantness. If you enjoy a warm greeting, extend one. If you like to be treated courteously, treat others this way. If you feel lonely, generate a little companionship and pass it on. It will return with even more joy and gladness.

The key to this perpetual motion process seems to be based on the principle "the one who assumes the initiative, takes the first step, and breaks through the coolness of his demonic surroundings is the first to be warmed by the fire he has built for others". How about that?

Your heart, home, neighborhood, community and other surroundings will be only as warm and cordial as you elect to make it so for others. Our citizenship indeed is in heaven (Phil. 3:20), but we live it out here for the time being.

I must say it!

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A nationally-known writer and speaker places a heavy assignment on a college in a southern state because he will send his son South to be educated. OBU president Daniel Grant finds the revelation made to a group of educators very thought-provoking. He writes about it in "One layman's opinion".

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The cover story tells Arkansans about one of their churches which has celebrated its 150th anniversary, and is one of the oldest in the state.

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Start a church every year? It seems to be the talent of a pastor from Texas who moved to the Oregon-Washington area, a pioneer area for Southern Baptists. He has now started three churches in three years.

Arkansas Baptist

NEWSMAGAZINE

VOLUME 76

NUMBER 3

J. EVERETT SNEED, Ph.D.
BETTY KENNEDY

Editor
Managing Editor

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The importance of Bible preaching

The editor's page

J. Everett Sneed



Historically Baptists have emphasized the importance of public proclamation of the Word by God called preachers. We have been right in this approach since the New Testament clearly gives priority to preaching. Yet, sometimes we have miserably failed in following the standards in which the Bible provides regarding proclamation.

Paul instructed Timothy to "preach the word . . ." (II Tim. 4:2). The idea is that a preacher is to "herald forth the word" with a great sense of urgency. Again, Jesus said that he had been anointed to "preach the gospel to the poor . . . preach deliverance to the captive . . . to preach the acceptable year of the Lord." (Luke 4:18-19).

During the dark ages very little importance was given to preaching. This was the most tragic time for Christianity since inception. The Reformation, which brought back vitality to the Christian message, produced a renewal of preaching. Historians observed that the great achievements of this period were, for the most part, a direct result of preaching.

Public proclamation is clearly concerned with God's redemptive purpose for mankind. During the interim between Christ's resurrection and the consummation of the age, the redemption available through Christ is to be preached to the world. But not all that purports to be preaching is true proclamation of Christ and biblical truths.

Paul instructed Timothy to ". . . rightly divide the Word of truth." (II Tim. 2:15) The Greek verb means to "cut rightly". When one isolates a passage from its context or removes it from its historical setting he has dealt falsely with God's word. Many false teachings are based on such improper use of the scripture.

Guest editorial On things to come

What lies ahead in '77? There is no shortage of speculations. Predictions about the economy, welfare programs, foreign policy, the weather and the new administration abound.

We can count on several things about the future. Patterns of human conduct will not radically change. Someone has said, "The past is the prologue of the future."

Nowhere can this be observed better than in the patterns followed by nations throughout history. Indeed, history repeats itself.

We can expect this to be the case in 1977. Despite a new administration in Washington, patterns of the past will not be greatly altered. Greed and self interest will continue to intensify evil in high places.

We can count on a new opportunity for the Church and individual Christians to make their influence felt here and abroad. President-elect Carter's feeling about the Church can help open a wider door for Christians to take an active part in politics and government.

We can be confident that man will continue his exploration of the unknown. Whether we speak of Columbus who sought and found a new world or Neil Armstrong who took a

The Apostle gave a broad outline which biblical preaching is to follow as he said, "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." (II Tim. 3:16)

First, preaching is to be centered in the Word of God. Correctly translated Paul said, "All God-inspired scripture is given by inspiration." Not every book which claims to be from God is inspired. When a preacher fails to proclaim a message which is anchored in the Bible, he has failed to preach.

It is important for a Bible message to be clearly outlined. A preacher might deliver a message true to the scripture and yet fail to properly help and inspire his audience because of lack of clarity of presentation.

The Apostle further instructed that the preached Word was to present truths about salvation as he said "make thee wise unto salvation." (II Tim. 3:15) The herald is not only to instruct people how to be saved, but also to teach his congregation how to lead others to Christ.

The preacher's message is to always be doctrinally sound and may contain "reproof" or "correction". The word "doctrine" means "teaching" hence all proclamation must contain scriptural teaching. "Reproof" does not mean that the messenger is to practice fault finding, but it does mean that preaching is to convince people of the relevance of sin.

It is important for the congregation to assist their pastor in proclaiming God's message for them. This can be done primarily through prayer for God's special messenger and by being considerate of his time. If the minister is to effectively preach, he must have time to prepare.

"giant step for mankind," we are referring to a driving force to know the unknown. Thus, a push to gain new knowledge will be with us in '77.

Possible calamities like floods, earthquakes, hurricanes and tornadoes will keep us in a spirit of fear and anticipation as a new year unfolds.

As we enter the New Year, we will be tempted to be motivated more by fears than by faith.

Perhaps our frame of mind is one of the most important things as we face the future. If our fears are exaggerated and dwell upon they can sap the strength needed for crises which may come.

Jesus expressed it well when he said, "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." Anxiety about the future will only add weight to our load for today.

Things to come, therefore, should be taken "day by day". Preoccupation either with the past or future will cloud our thoughts about the present. Thinking about what we shall eat and wear are common ways of living, but Jesus suggested another way. He said that we should trust God and not worry. This is good advice as we start the New Year. —
"Alabama Baptist"



One layman's opinion

Daniel R. Grant / President, OBU

Bill Moyers' heavy assignment for a southern college

Bill Moyers is accustomed to handling difficult assignments. For many years he was on the administrative staff of Lyndon B. Johnson, and directed press relations when Johnson was President. Recently I learned that Bill Moyers can also give out exceedingly difficult assignments. At a meeting of Southern educators in Atlanta not long ago, I heard Moyers speak in alternately optimistic and pessimistic tones about the condition of America and the world. He spoke uneasily about the "gross national product" being no more important than the "gross national psychology" — the state of mind — of the American people. We still have tremendous resources but Vietnam, Watergate and an era of ugly civil disorders have left indelible scars on the spirit of our society. "Society," he said, "is in a self-set trap."

At this point Bill Moyers stopped his preaching and began meddling. He said, "The purpose of education is to break the trap," and proceeded to place a heavy burden of responsibility on the shoulders of educators.

I could have dismissed all of this as merely the fluff and rhetoric of a visiting speaker. But he suddenly moved out of the realm of theory and made his remarks very personal by telling us, "I am going to give my 17-year-old son to one of you next year." More specifically, he said he and his wife, residents of New York City, will be sending their son South to one of our colleges or universities next year. It is one thing for a learned and distinguished speaker, writer and television commentator to speak theoretically about the relation of education to the problems of the world.

It is quite another thing to ask with deep feeling, "What are you going to do to my son?" He had our attention.

Moyers then spoke quietly of three things he hopes one of our Southern colleges will do: (1) Give him the personal touch. ("He is still a child growing into adulthood, and not merely a number.") (2) Give him the beginning of a whole education. (Moyers told of a directional sign he once saw in a planetarium that said, "The solar system and rest rooms," and expressed the hope that the college would help his son to respect not only astronomy and philosophy but also plumbing.) (3) Help him take his place at the oars. (Help him dare to believe that he can make a difference in this world.)

Perhaps because our audience included educators of all faiths and no faith, Mr. Moyers did not specifically mention a Christian education. I would like to think this is what he had in mind.

I can see no way for education to fulfill this threefold assignment apart from the Christian context. It is no small task. Dedicated Christian educators, whether at public or private schools, have committed their lives to it.

An exposition of First John The fulness of joy

by Roy B. Hilton
(Third in a series)

John calls attention to three blessings that should cause the Christian's joy to overflow. The first was the glorious Incarnation; God in flesh. This was the topic of last week's study. We will now consider the second of these joyful blessings.

The glory of fellowship (1:3-7a)

Fellowship means joint participation. John wants his readers to share in and participate with him in the experiences that he had with God through Christ. "That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us — fellowship with the Father — and fellowship with Christ."

Through Christ, whom they had seen and heard, this fellowship is realized. Christ brings God to man and man to God. John then makes three statements to confirm this fellowship:

1. A Supreme Message (vs. 5)

The Gnostics were saying that one could have fellowship with God regardless of how one lived. To them, it really didn't matter about one's daily walk. But John writes, "I have this message, God is light, and in him is no darkness at all." If this is true then how can a person walk in darkness and light

at the same time? Paul also asks this question, "What fellowship hath light with darkness?" How can a man walk in darkness and say that he is in the light?

2. A Solemn Warning (vs. 6)

"If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth." John says, in this sentence, that anyone who makes such a claim as this is telling a lie, and living a lie.

3. A Sublime Assurance (vs. 7a)

Some were saying that the soul and body were separate and that one could not affect the other. If the body wanted to exercise itself in any way it would not affect the spirit. To them the body could walk in sin but the spirit would remain pure. But John writes, "Walk in the light, as he is in the light, and we will have fellowship one with the other." This is fellowship with Christ as well as fellowship with other true believers.

What an amazing thing it is that man can have fellowship with God. But even more amazing than this is that God desires this fellowship.

Therefore, the glory of fellowship should make you rejoice with all the fulness of joy.

'Church Recreation' highlights outreach

NASHVILLE — A special emphasis on evangelism through recreation will be featured in the spring issue of *Church Recreation* magazine, which is published quarterly by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

The April-May-June issue includes an article by W. W. Huff on "Evangelism — A Prime Element in Recreation". Huff, associate pastor and minister of recreation at Rehoboth Baptist Church, Tucker, Ga., discusses the importance of evangelism in recreation and ways to achieve an effective, balanced program.

Related articles are "Reaching Out — Through Puppetry", "Swimming Pool Evangelism" and "Wilderness Camping — An Outreach Approach in Today's World". Each article offers specific suggestions on how to turn recreational activities into opportunities for Christian witnessing.

Church Recreation magazine, published quarterly for church leaders by the Sunday School Board's church recreation department, seeks to communicate the message of Christ through recreation. The periodical may be ordered from materials services department, 127 Ninth Ave., North, Nashville, Tenn. 37234.

News about missionaries

Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Crockett, missionaries to Argentina, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: Rte. 3, Box 246-B, Wynne, Ark. 72396). He was born in Memphis, Tenn., and grew up in Cross County, Ark. She is the former Annette Perkins of Cross County. Before they were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1972, he had been pastor of La Junta Church, Azle, Tex.

Mrs. W. E. Marshall, mother of **Mrs. Gilbert A. Nichols**, missionary to Paraguay, died recently. Mrs. Nichols, the former Deane Marshall of Cabot, Ark., may be addressed at Casilla 1415, Asuncion, Paraguay. Mr. Nichols is a native of Mountain View, Ark. Before they were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1958, he was pastor of Bough Chapel Church, Austin, Ark.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Rex Holt, missionaries to Togo, have completed language study and arrived on the field (address: BP 1353, Lome, Togo). He was born in Jonesboro, Ark., and grew up there and in Bay and McCormick, Ark., and Wilmington, Calif. She is the former Sherry Puckett of Paragould, Ark. Before they were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1975, he was pastor of the Fisher Street Church, Jonesboro, Ark.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles P. Long, missionaries to Belgium, may be addressed at Rue J. Hoton, 17, 1200 Brussels, Belgium. He is a native of Ethel, Miss., and she is the former Sandra Young of Parkin, Ark. Before they were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1972, they were living in New Orleans and he was pastor of First Church, Mississippi City, Miss.

Annette Perry, missionary to Senegal, has completed language study and arrived on the field for her first term of service (address: BP 3219, Dakar, Senegal). A native of Arkansas, she was born in Hot Springs and lived in North Little Rock while growing up. Before she was appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1975, she was a counselor for the Arkansas Juvenile Services, Little Rock.

Mr. and Mrs. James A. Lunsford, emeritus missionaries to Brazil, may be addressed at 1813 Jefferson Drive, Plainview, Tex. 79072. He was born in Paducah, Ky., and grew up in Jonesboro, Ark. The former Jewel Conway, she was born in Jackson County, Okla., and lived in Lawton, Okla., and Jonesboro, Ark., while growing up. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1940 and retired in 1976.



Woman's viewpoint

Iris O'Neal Bowen

Taking down the tree

Yesterday I finally dismantled the Christmas tree. I don't know why I am always so reluctant to take down the tree. Two or three weeks before Christmas I am resisting the idea of putting it up, using as my strongest argument the fact that too soon it will be dried out and a fire hazard. Now that it is dried out and a fire hazard, I do not want to take it down.

However, I begin and my first efforts are with the shiny, colorful glass balls. After several encounters with sharp pine needles (yes, I learned why we call them needles), and a broken ball or two, I think I have all the balls removed, but when I move around, I see I have missed a few. I decide the angle of the light has kept them hidden until I moved.

Then I remove the strings of lights and the gold and sparkling tinsel from about

the tree, and uncover several more balls!

Now, how could I have been so blind, I ask myself, that I have overlooked so many of the bright objects?

As I think about the angle of the light hiding the trinkets, I think of my little faults that are so obvious to others, but that I am unable to see them, because I am looking at them from a different angle.

Then the other ornaments that I failed to see were covered with glitter and tinsel, just like my little sins that I have camouflaged with pretty dressings so they will not look like sins to me, and, of course, I don't have to get rid of them!

But now that the tree is down and the little ornaments are wrapped and put away, somehow I do feel better!

OBU church music workshop planned

More than 100 music directors, pastors and students are expected to attend the seventh annual Ouachita University Church Music Workshop which is to be held at OBU Feb. 24-25.

The workshop will feature well-known composer Jane Marshall of Dallas, Tex. Miss Marshall, who is on the faculty at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, will join Ernest Emurian, Richard Myers and Talmadge Butler in conducting panel discussions and workshop sessions in areas of "Music for the Small Church" and "Creative Worship".

Ernest Emurian, pastor of Cherrydale United Methodist Church in Arlington, Va., writes hymns and is described as a specialist in hymnology. He will conduct a session in "Hymns in Worship".

Pastor of University Baptist Church in Charlottesville, Va., Richard Meyer's special interest is creative worship services. He will be leading a unique, creative worship service at 11 a.m. in Berry Bible Building Chapel Friday morning during the workshop. The service will be open to the public.

Talmadge Butler is a children's choir

specialist and a consultant with the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board. He is also an editor of pre-school music materials.

The workshop, which is sponsored by the OBU Music Department and the Arkansas State Baptist Convention, will also feature sessions in organ conducted by Russell Hodges, OBU instructor in music, symbolic movement conducted by Mrs. Margie Halbert, former OBU music instructor, and a handbells session conducted by Mrs. Mary Shambarger, OBU associate professor of music.

Thursday evening, following a banquet, there will be a concert featuring the Ouachita Singers directed by OBU professor of music, Dr. Charles Wright.

The purpose of the workshop is to serve as "in-service training and as a source of new ideas for music ministers as well as to give OBU students a chance to meet outstanding musicians in the church music field," according to Paul Hammond, workshop coordinator and chairman of the OBU church music department.

The workshop is open to anyone interested in church music.

Arkansas all over

Robert W. Kerr has accepted the call to become minister of music and associate pastor of Immanuel Church, Texarkana. Kerr is a graduate of Northwestern State University of Louisiana and Southwestern Seminary. He has



Kerr



Arrant



Lifer

recently completed work for the master of business administration degree. Kerr has been a pastor, minister of music, and has worked as a summer missionary with the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, coming to Texarkana from Winnfield, La., where he served as minister of music and education of the Laurel Heights Church. He is married to the former Laurie Tompkins of North Little Rock.

Jim Arrant has been called as pastor of Joiner Church. He and his wife, Pat, are parents of two children, Shane and Amy. Arrant is enrolled at Mid-American Theological Seminary in Memphis where Mrs. Arrant works as secretary in the Practical Missions

Department.

C. Lamar Lifer, who has been pastoring in Nesbit, Miss., has accepted the call to the pastorate of Olivet Church in Little Rock. Lifer, who attended New Orleans Seminary, has pastored churches in West Memphis, Memphis and Forrest City. He and his wife are parents of two children, Andy and Marci.

Clarence Allison, missionary to France, will tell of his work there and have a slide presentation for Cabot First Church Girls In Action and Royal Ambassadors on Wednesday, Feb. 2.

J. D. Passmore, Director of Missions for Current-Gains Association, and **Curtis Smith** and **Leslie Elam**, pastors in

this association, will be participating in New Zealand's Crusade, "Impact '77".

Barry Jernigan, who has been pastoring Oak Grove Church, has resigned to accept the position of associate pastor of Calvary Church, Paragould.

Steve Bailey of Pensacola, Fla., has been called as pastor of Reyno Church. Bailey is a graduate of Southern College and Southwest College. He has pastored churches in Missouri and has served as minister of music and associate pastor of Cedarlawn Church in Pensacola.

Dr. C. L. Culpepper, who spent 42 years in Foreign Mission service in China, Taiwan and Hong Kong, will be conducting a revival at Clear Lake Church in Mississippi County Association, March 6-9. Culpepper, who served as president of China Baptist Theological Seminary at Shanghai and after the Communist takeover became president of Taiwan Baptist Seminary, at present is serving as visiting professor at Mid-America Seminary in Memphis.

Ken Bouillon, **Marvin Champion**, **Al Merrow** and **James Winchester** were ordained as deacons in the evening worship service of Jacksonville First Church on Jan. 9. A reception followed the ordination service.

briefly

Immanuel Church, Little Rock, has scheduled a mid-winter retreat for their senior high students Jan. 21-22. Del Medlin from Southwestern Seminary will be guest speaker.

Crossett First Church has set a new record in giving.

Gardner Church has begun a new educational program, utilizing Sunday morning periods for Sunday School, Church Training and choir time.

Hamburg First Church has begun a family night supper on Wednesdays. Raymond Atwood is pastor and has begun his fourth year with the Hamburg church.

North Crossett First Church has initiated the Deacon Family Ministry plan.

Crossett Second Church held a weekend revival recently with Gene Dickson, a blind evangelist from Texas, preaching. He will also return to this church to do the January Bible study.

Ashley County Association will hold a pastor-staff conference at North Crossett First Church on Jan. 22.

A youth/adult church training workshop will be held at **Monticello First Church** on Feb. 3 with Dickie Dunn, minister to youth at Richardson Heights Church, Richardson, Tex., as youth leader. Steve Williams from the Church

Training Department, Southern Baptist Convention Headquarters in Nashville, will lead the adult workshop.

Des Arc First Church has begun a soul-winning commitment program which includes a commitment day; study on personal witnessing skills and procedures; and the establishment of a definite visitation program. This church has also organized a new Men's Sunday School class with Kay Garth as teacher.

El Dorado Second Church is expanding its Church Training Organization with a music reading class and two adult ongoing groups. There will also be activities in the area of leadership and teacher training.

Russellville First Church is beginning a program of welcoming all new members of the church with a reception which will be held every two months.

Rogers First Church held a youth retreat on Jan. 7-8 with Dale Thompson, pastor of Gravette Church, as guest speaker. The Adult Choir of this church presented special music from the Associational Evangelism Rally held at Bentonville First Church on Jan. 11.

Baring Cross Church, North Little Rock, will hold a youth/adult Church Training workshop on Jan. 30. Clinicians for this event will be William G.

Caldwell, from the School of Religious Education, Southwestern Seminary, and Judith Wooldridge, youth consultant of the Church Training Department, Southern Baptist Convention, Nashville.

Life Line Church, Little Rock, held a senior high and single young adult retreat at Marble Falls recently.

Markham Street Church, Little Rock, Adult Choir presented Handel's oratorio "Esther" on Jan. 8-9. Jack Jones was director. The church began a "People Priority" emphasis on Jan. 1 as a Sunday School emphasis.

Harmony Association held a youth rally at Pine Bluff First Church on Jan. 15. The rally featured "Light", a new musical touring group sponsored by Ouachita University.

Hot Springs First Church choirs are preparing special programs to be presented at Easter and when the youth choir goes to Ridgecrest in June.

A workshop to train lay persons in personal witnessing was held on Jan. 10-14 at **Arkadelphia First Church**. The workshop was led by Nathan Porter, pastor, under the sponsorship of Red River Association.

Jacksonville First Church will hold a revival Feb. 14-20 with Rick Ingle as evangelist.

Lee Royce was ordained as a deacon in the morning worship services at Arkadelphia First Church on Jan. 16.

Allan Thrasher, pastor of Forrest Park Church in Pine Bluff, has been appointed as general program chairman of Pine Bluff Ministerial Association for the coming year.

Tommy M. Acord was licensed to the ministry on Dec. 26 by Webb City Church, Ozark. This service following the morning worship hour in which he delivered the message. Walter E. Yarbrough is pastor.

Mitchell King was ordained to the ministry by Woodland Corner Church, Mississippi County Association, recently. King is pastor of the church.

Miss Ancel Hatfield has accepted a call to become music director of Johnson Church. Miss Hatfield is a graduate of the University of Arkansas and Southwestern Seminary.

Phil Lineberger, pastor of Calvary Church in Little Rock, has been selected by "Who's Who in American Universities and Colleges" to be included in their 1977 publication.

Marvin Reynolds, missionary to Botswana, was speaker at a Mother-Daughter Banquet held recently at Cross Road Church, Little Rock.

Bob Focht, Director of Special Ministries for Pulaski County Association, presented a special slides program on the association's ministries program when men of Geyer Springs Church, Little Rock, held a prayer breakfast on Jan. 2.

W. O. Vaught, pastor of Immanuel Church, Little Rock, will lead a Bible Conference at Immanuel Church, Rogers, Jan. 17-20.

Mrs. A. B. (Cleo) Jeffries, 55, a member of Park Place Church, Hot Springs, died Dec. 23.

The James Riles family, who lost their home by fire, was honored at a fellowship supper given by Corinth Church near Crossett. They were presented with a love offering by the congregation.

Lloyd Farmer was ordained to the ministry by Mount Olive Church recently. Mark White, a member of this church, has also surrendered to the music ministry.

Calvary Church, Crossett, is adding to the present facilities. The church's parking lot is to be paved, as well as a new drive will be installed.

Martinville Church has purchased a mobile home to be used as a parsonage. The church has also added a new speaker system to its facilities and future plans are for the church to be bricked on the exterior.

Mount Pleasant Church is building a new parsonage.

Shiloh and Temple Churches in

Ashley County Association have made improvements to their facilities.

Fountain Hill First Church has begun construction on a new educational facility which includes a kitchen, fellowship hall, classrooms and restrooms.

South Highland Church, Little Rock, has purchased five acres at West 36th and Dover and plans call for moving to that location.

Immanuel Church, Little Rock, has completed redecoration of their chapel. The redecoration includes new lighting, painting, carpet and pews.

Vaught on seminary campaign committee

NASHVILLE (BP) — A 16-person committee, with former Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) President Owen Cooper as chairman, has been named by SBC President James L. Sullivan to follow through on implementation of a joint national fund raising campaign of the six SBC theological seminaries. W. O. Vaught, pastor of Little Rock's Immanuel Church, is one of the 16 members.

The SBC Executive Committee, which approved the joint campaign last September, also called for the committee to determine ground rules, secure necessary consultation, and initiate and coordinate the campaign in keeping with Article VI of the SBC's business and financial plan. The seminaries will share expenses of the campaign, which would

not interfere with individual campaigns already approved for Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

Besides Cooper, other committee members include Ben R. Murphy of Dallas; C. C. Hope of Charlotte, N.C.; R. Paul Henry of Tulsa; Mrs. F. Tyler Easley of Bluefield, W. Va.; and Mrs. Doyle E. Carlton Jr. of Wauchula, Fla., all laypersons.

Also, George E. Bagley, executive secretary, Alabama Baptist Convention, Montgomery; R. Eugene Puckett, editor, *Maryland Baptist*, Lutherville, Md.; Dr. Vaught; Charles E. Harvey, pastor, Sunset Acres Church, Shreveport; and the six seminary presidents.

National Family Enrichment Conference Glorieta

July 30-August 5, 1977

Note: Because of limited space, attendance at this conference will be limited to the first 750 persons who specify National Family Enrichment Conference in reserving space.

Rates: Vary from \$11 to \$21.50 per day per person for room and meals, depending on type of accommodations desired. A few housekeeping apartments and trailer spaces are available.

To: Baptist Conference Center
Box 8
Glorieta, New Mexico 87535

Reserve space for my family at the Family Enrichment Conference, July 30-Aug. 5

Type of space desired (if available) _____

Room with private bath; _____

Room with bath on hall; _____

Housekeeping Apartment; _____

Trailer Space; _____

Ages of children _____

I am enclosing \$15 registration for each person (\$7.50 for preschoolers).

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, and Zip _____

GIVE
the Water  of Life
through
The COOPERATIVE PROGRAM



On the cover

Pastor Noble Wiles (left) and State Executive Secretary Charles Ashcraft are pleased with the cornerstone recently installed by the church.

Rehobeth Church celebrates 150th anniversary

The Rehobeth Church, Moorefield, is probably the oldest church in Arkansas. There are conflicting opinions of the date of organization. Some records indicate that it was organized in 1822 while others say 1823 or 1829.

George Gill preached to an organized church at the Vance School House, seven miles east of Batesville in 1829. After some years the church moved to Blue Creek and late to Moorefield.

Another view of the organization of the church, given by E. J. A. McKinney, states that the church was organized in the spring of 1829 by Rev. David Orr who moved to Arkansas, preached to the New Hope, Richland and Spring River Churches in Lawrence County and during that summer organized Little Northfork Church in IZARD County and Rehobeth Church in Independence County.

J. S. Rogers' *History of Arkansas Baptists* says that Rehobeth Church is the oldest existing church in Arkansas, organized in 1829 by Orr who came to Arkansas as a missionary from Missouri. Rogers says George Gill is thought to have assisted in the organization of the church.

A little over 18 months ago Noble Wiles became pastor of the Rehobeth Church. Since then the church has installed central heat and air, lowered the ceiling in the classrooms and redecorated the auditorium. They have

also organized a youth choir under the direction of Miss Shirley Miller, involving approximately 20 young people.

To celebrate the church's 150th birthday an anniversary-revival was held. Speaker on Monday evening was Editor J. Everett Sneed who spoke on *The Church*. He challenged the members to remember their great heritage, but to look to the future in outreach and member growth.

On Tuesday evening, L. E. Brown, a former pastor of the church, spoke from Phil. 3:13-14 and Luke 9:62 on the subject "Forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forth to the things

which are ahead". In conclusion he said "God calls everyone who has ever trusted him as Saviour to be a witness for him."

On Wednesday Hal Gallop Sr., a former pastor, spoke from Rom. 1:14-17 on "Not being ashamed of the Gospel". He challenged the congregation to not hear modernistic preachers, not to be weak church members and not to be back-sliding Christians. In conclusion he asked the question, "What can the Gospel do for us?" He said the gospel could (1) provide a defense for our nation since no nation is any stronger than the Christians within it and (2) exult



Rehobeth's building has been remodeled under the leadership of Pastor Wiles.



LEFT: 40-year members of the church are (from left) Viola Goodwin, Mrs. B. C. Cossey, Mrs. Hugh Leggett, Mrs. Ray Morgan, and Ray Morgan.

LEFT, BELOW: Three of the church's active deacons are Ivan Hodge, Ancil B. Prince, and Ray Morgan.

BELOW: The youth choir, under the direction of Shirley Miller, presented music for the revival.



Photos by S. D. Hacker and J. Everett Sneed

Christ in a way which plans and programs cannot.

On Thursday Coy Sample, a former pastor, spoke from Acts 4:36, Acts 9:26, Acts 11:22 and Acts 15:36. Barnabas, he said, exhibited many characteristics which all Christians should have. Among these a joyfulness, good stewardship, encouragement of young Christians, searching out of others to serve God, missionary zeal, helping those in need and standing one's convictions.

On Friday Larry Franks, a former member of the church, spoke from Heb. 4:12 on *The Word of God*. He emphasized that the Word of God is (1) alive, (2) powerful, (3) sharp and (4) on fire. In conclusion he said, "The Word of God was written that we might believe that Jesus is the Son of God."

On Saturday evening W. L. Bunch, a former pastor of the church, spoke from I Sam. 3:9 on the subject "The Great Reality". He emphasized that (1) God still speaks to his children, (2) God still saves his children, (3) God still uses his children in service, (4) God still hears the prayers of his children.

On Sunday morning Charles H. Ashcraft, Executive Secretary of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, spoke on the subject "Get Your House in Order" from II Kings 20:1-6. He emphasized the many uncertainties in life including how many years one will

live and what will the condition of one's health be and when will Jesus return. He said there are some things on which we can depend. These are that (1) God has an appointed day in which to die, (2) after death comes the judgment, (3) every sin and act of disobedience will receive a just recompense from the Lord, (4) Christ came into the world to save sinners, (5) we will spend eternity in one of two places — heaven or hell, (6) God will hear the prayer of a repentant sinner.

Some of the highlights of the week included recognition of the oldest church members, Mrs. Ollie Cassey and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Goodwin. Mr. Goodwin was recognized for his 59 years of service as a deacon.

Dinner was served following the Sunday morning service on Dec. 5. The Sunday evening service consisted of a musical presentation by the Youth Choir and a message by Pastor Wiles.

Wiles says the Rehobeth Church has a very bright future. "We have a great potential because of the development which is being made by Eastman Kodak. I believe that our church has opportunity to double or triple in attendance in the next few years. The Lord has given us a great challenge by placing Eastman Kodak's new facility in our area. This, of course, has brought a large influx of new people and as we are faithful to the Lord our church will be reaching many of these."



TOP: S. D. Hacker, associational director of missions, led the music.

ABOVE: Wives of former pastors were Mrs. Hal Gallop (left) and Mrs. E. I. Sneed.

Your state convention at work

Interfaith witnessing, Bold Missions, mass evangelism stressed

Glenn Igleheart, director of the Department of Interfaith Witness of the Home Mission Board, will lead a special conference during the Celebration Evangelism Conference Jan. 24-25 at First Church, Little Rock. He will lead two identical conferences on "Mormons" Monday afternoon and Tuesday night. He will also speak at 10:45 Tuesday morning in the main conference.

Dr. Igleheart has served as pastor, minister of music, and youth director in Kentucky churches. He is a graduate of Murray State College, Murray, Ky. At Southern Seminary he earned the B.D. and doctor of theology degrees.

R. H. Dorris, director of missions of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, will lead two identical special conferences on "Bold Missions". He will also speak on "The Mission of a Church".

Dorris and some laymen have been very well pleased with the Revolving Loan Fund of the Convention. This is a plan whereby the Convention loans up to \$10,000 to churches of less than 300 membership to aid in building church buildings or expanding church facilities.

Arkansas had a goal of 50 new

churches or church-type missions to be established in 1975-76. As of Nov. 1, 1976, 34 had been established with others to report later. The Revolving Loan Fund is helping this program.

The loans are made on a 10 year basis with the first two years interest free. After two years the rate of interest on the balance is five percent for the next five years.

The Missions Department will lead in "A Bold Challenge" which will be a response to the Southern Baptist Convention's emphasis on Bold Missions for 1977-79. The Missions and Evangelism Departments will concern themselves with Church Extension in under-evangelized communities and counties in Arkansas. They will cooperate with associational missions committees to evangelize and "congregationalize", so that every person in the respective areas will have an opportunity to accept the Gospel and be related to a congregation that will help him grow in serving Christ.

Bobby Sunderland, director of the Department of Mass Evangelism in the Evangelism Section of the Home Mission Board, will speak at 3:15 p.m. Tues-

day on "In the Way or On the Way?"

Sunderland has served as crusade director and associate evangelist of the Larry Jones Evangelistic Association. He has also held pastorates in Oklahoma. He attended Oklahoma Baptist University and is a graduate of Southwestern State University, Weatherford, Oklahoma, and Southwestern Seminary in Ft. Worth, Tex.

Other out-of-state speakers are Francis W. Dixon from England, our Bible teacher, E. V. Hill, Los Angeles, Calif., and Landrum P. Leavell, president, New Orleans Seminary.

The conference is open to everyone but will feature the three conventions that participated in our Life and Liberty Campaign of '76. This is to be a great celebration conference. Come and enjoy it with us.

Churches should send the entire staff to this conference.

The conference will begin Jan. 24, 1:45 p.m. at First Church, Little Rock, and close Tuesday night, Jan. 25.

Nurseries will be provided for infant to four years. — Jesse S. Reed, Director of Evangelism

Evangelism conference music

Andrea Halliburton will be the featured soloist at each session of the 1977 Evangelism Conference. She is known professionally through the work of Andrea Evangelistic Ministries of Texarkana, Tex. She performs her ministry of music through sacred concerts and revival soloist appearances throughout the area. She and her family are members of Lake Village Church, Texarkana, Tex.



Halliburton

Walter Edwards will also be singing in the Tuesday afternoon session. Edwards is a student at Arkansas Baptist College, and is presently serving as minister of music at Liberty Hill Church in Little Rock. You will remember him from the Wednesday evening session of our State Convention at Barton Coliseum when he sang so well for us. Edwards is from St. Louis, Mo., and is working toward an

elementary education degree at Arkansas Baptist College.

Accompanists for the conference will be Mrs. Robert Pilcher and Mrs. Euel Forrest. Mrs. Pilcher is from Little Rock First and Mrs. Forrest is from Little Rock Immanuel. Their talented playing will do much to enhance the congregational singing.

The Tuesday evening session will feature a mass choir made up of the Cosmopolitan Choir of Pine Bluff, the Music Men of Arkansas, and the Singing Women.

You will be thrilled by the singing of this group, under the direction of David Hodge of Pine Bluff. Hodge is the director of the Cosmopolitan Choir, and teaches music at Watson Chapel. He is a member of Damascus Church and is active in National and Southern Baptist music events in the Pine Bluff area.

The music is going to be thrilling and God-honoring. Please come prepared to do your part as you join the throng in singing praises to our wonderful Lord. — Ervin Keathley, Secretary, Music Department

Annuity

Confer at meeting

I am looking forward to the 1977 Celebration Evangelism Conference on Jan. 24-25 at First Church, Little Rock. I hope you are planning to attend.

For your convenience I am planning to be located in Classroom B-104 near fellowship hall and the Book Store exhibit. Come by when it is possible and let's talk about some of your questions or inquiries about some of our plans and ministries.

Harold Bailey, Vice President of Church Development, Annuity Board, Dallas, will be in Little Rock for part of the meeting and he will be pleased to be available to you for conferences.

We appreciate this opportunity afforded us by Brother Jesse Reed and by the staff at First Church.

If you are staying downtown you will be able to find me in the office early in the mornings before the sessions begin. — Nadine B. Bjorkman, Annuity Representative

Revival objectives

(Second in a series)

The objectives of revival in our day must be Bible-based and true to the purposes of our Lord. The first objective is a renewing of our spiritual vigor as Christians. Webster says, "Renew means to make strong or fresh again, to reestablish or resume." Many times we as Christians run down spiritually. We need to be recharged by the Holy Spirit to have the spiritual power to be effective and happy in our Lord.



Shell

William Pinson, a former ethics professor of mine in Southwestern Seminary, writes; "Renewal means wholeness, coming alive to the total gospel. It is for all Christians, not just for the clergy. Renewal is to affect morality as well as devotional life, ethics as well as evangelism, ministry as well as worship."

As revival renews our spiritual vigor it brings satisfaction, security and success to our lives as we serve our Lord.

The second objective is a reclaiming of lives lost to service. It is a shocking of our minds and a breaking of our hearts to realize so many of our church

members are lost to our Lord's service. We have about 3,500,000 non-resident Southern Baptists. Along with these non-resident members we have 2,700,000 inactive resident church members. Many of these are born again people and many have never been saved. We must not mark them off. We must move out to them with love and concern and do our best to reactivate the inactive. Galatians 6:1 exhorts us, "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted." A real revival helps to reclaim their lives, and talents and services for the glory of God.

The third objective is a redeeming of the lost to Jesus. Jesus said in Luke 9:10, "For the son of man is come to seek and save that which was lost." Jesus laid aside the crown of glory to come and wear a crown of thorns that we might wear the crown of life. He explains here the number one reason that he left heaven and came to earth was to save the lost. He is still the Saviour today, and we are the seekers to bring people to him. I expect people to be saved in every revival. When God's people experience spiritual awakening and become burdened for lost souls, mothers and fathers, sons and daughters

and friends are saved.

The final objective is a retaining of new Christians for Christ's use. We must never be satisfied to "dip them and drop them". I believe as we deal with lost persons from the pulpit or personally, we can help set the course of their Christian lives. They must know this is a serious decision to commit their lives to Christ. They need to know that this means a committing of their lives to Christ as Lord as well as Saviour. They need to understand the identification with the church and Christianity is a continuing growth process in life. We have a strong conviction and feel a great responsibility that real revival will help the new Christian begin to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ.

There will be several articles to follow on revival preparation. I hope and pray that they will help you as you plan and prepare for revival in your church. — Clarence Shell Jr., Associate/State Evangelist, Evangelism Department

Southern Baptist youth choir festivals set

Southern Baptist youth choir festivals, which were temporarily cancelled last year, have been rescheduled for this coming summer. They were formerly conducted at Ridgecrest and Glorieta, but this year they are scheduled on the campuses of four of our seminaries.

The dates and locations are July 18-21, Ft. Worth, Tex.; July 25-28, Mill Valley, Calif.; Aug. 1-4, New Orleans, La.; Aug. 8-11, Louisville, Ky.

The first requirement for attendance at one of these south-wide festivals is that you participate in your own state festival. Those interested in attending can get complete information from the State Music Office in Little Rock. April 15 is the deadline for making application. — Ervin Keathley, State Music Secretary



Elected officers of the Board of Trustees of Arkansas Baptist Family and Child Care Services recently were (left to right) vice president, Emil Williams, Jonesboro; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Helen Snarr, Monticello; and president, Van Evans, El Dorado. These officers will serve as the Executive Committee for the year 1977. — Johnny G. Biggs, Executive Director, Arkansas Baptist Family and Child Care Services

Dan Dipert Tours

announce Little Rock motorcoach tour departures as follows: Grand Ole Opry, July 8-10, \$125; Vicksburg-Natchez-New Orleans, March 4-9, \$270; Florida Funfest, Aug. 25 for 8 days \$365; Washington Cherry Blossom, April 7 for 8 days, \$365; New England Fall Foliage, Late Sept. for 11 days, \$505; Central America (air), March 8 for 16 days, \$1169. Also wide variety of other tours departing Dallas. Write for itinerary on above or for full catalogue. "Coffee Dan" Dipert, Damascus, Ark. 72039, or call Mary Nixon, Little Rock, 945-7803 or 753-3090.

Challenges of a new year

A new year! This means new challenges and new opportunities.

Thanks be to the good Lord for the blessings of the past year, and for his promises for the new year.

It would be so wonderful if each one of us could make and keep a New Year's resolution to be completely Christian in all thought, words and actions. Being completely Christian would remove all the petty jealousies, criticism and selfish desires that handicap the Lord's work. However, in spite of our many imperfections and short comings, the Lord blesses and provides opportunities for service for each Christian.

Some real challenges and opportunities await Baptist Men and boys through Brotherhood.

March 11-12 is the date for the statewide Baptist Men's meeting. The meeting will be at Camp Paron. The 100-plus men attending, last year liked the meeting there and suggested that we have it there this year.

More information regarding the meeting will be mailed to all

Brotherhood officers and pastors soon. Now is the time to make arrangements and plans to attend.

Marvin Reynolds, missionary on furlough, will be one of the speakers. Marvin is an outstanding speaker and thrills us with his missions message and challenge. No Christian man can hear him without being challenged to a renewed effort in the cause of missions — the main task of the church at home and abroad.

Other real opportunities for learning about missions for men and boys include the following: Royal Ambassador Congress, May 6-7; weekend camp for 6-8 year-old boys and their dads, June 10-11; Royal Ambassador Camps, June 7-July 1; Baptist Men's Encampment, June 17-19.

Each of these meetings offers tremendous challenges and opportunities for men and boys to learn about missions, to meet missionaries, and to have fine Christian fellowship. Make plans now to be a part of each opportunity. — C. H. Seaton, Director

Results of Cooperative Program giving

It strengthens the local church:

Recently I was talking to a member of a church finance committee whose church had just adopted an annual budget of over a million dollars. This man's church gives a substantial amount of all its receipts through the Cooperative Program. He spoke with complete confidence that the budget would be met. He then said that he believed the reason his church was so blessed financially was because each year they increased their percentage of giving through the Cooperative Program.

It is my privilege while on furlough to speak in many churches. It is encouraging to see that many churches are increasing their gifts through the Cooperative Program year by year. I am especially grateful for pastors who have the vision and courage to lead their people in this important direction. I am convinced both from the Scriptures and from personal observation that "there is a special blessing and strength bestowed by God upon those churches which give generously through the Cooperative Program, thereby extending their witness to the ends of the earth."

It inspires a church in Africa:

During our recent term of service in Africa, one of the churches I pastored

was an English-speaking congregation in Selebi-Pikwe, Botswana. Many of the people had come from other parts of the world to run the new mine.

Soon after the church was organized, I explained how the Cooperative Program had made possible the sending of missionaries, not only to Botswana but to many other parts of the world as well. One member, showing both gratitude and enthusiasm, suggested that his church do likewise and give one-third of all its income to outside mission causes. The other members agreed to do so. A part of the money would be used for sending out a youth team to preach in other areas of Botswana.

At the time of this decision the people had no church building and were meeting in a room of the missionary house. The church has grown and today they worship in a beautiful new building made possible primarily by their own tithes and offerings.

It's great to be involved in a program that not only extends missions and strengthens the local church, but which also inspires others to do the same. — Marvin Reynolds, Missionary-in-Residence representing the Stewardship Department

Pastoral ministries workshops

Pastors and other church staff members and deacons share together in the challenging task of ministering to persons in their churches. This ministry requires the best insight, the greatest skill and the deepest commitment possible.



Holley

During the week of Feb. 21, Pastoral Ministries Workshops will be conducted in five areas of our state for pastors and other church staff members. The workshops are being planned and conducted in cooperation with the Church Administration Department of the Sunday School Board.

The locations of the five workshops will be as follows:

Monday-Tuesday, Feb. 21-22; First Church, Jonesboro, and East Side Church, Ft. Smith.

Thursday and Friday, Feb. 24-25; Second Church, El Dorado, Central Church, Pine Bluff, and Olivet Church, Little Rock.

Each of these five workshops will be two days with sessions scheduled for 1-5 and 7-9 p.m. each day. Workshop leaders include Lee Prince, pastor, Union Avenue Church, Memphis; Bruce Grubbs, Church Administration Department, BSSB; Ellis Bush, Church Administrator, First Church, Shreveport, La.; and John Ishe, Church Administration Department, Baptist Sunday School Board.

Subjects to be dealt with include "Building Relationships for a Caring Ministry", "Critical Pastoral Care Areas", "Deacons as Partners in Pastoral Care", "Leadership: Choosing an Appropriate Style", and "Motivation: Getting Folks to Move".

Additional information along with registration forms will be mailed to all pastors soon. — Robert Holley

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Jesus calls his disciples

Jan. 23, 1977

Mark 1:16-20
Luke 5:4-11

An important element of Christ's ministry was the direct calling of individual men. The growth of Christ's kingdom comes when men and women are reached one by one, as occurred as Jesus recruited the unlearned fishermen of Galilee. Our lesson today deals with Jesus as he calls his disciples. A disciple is a learner or follower.



Blackmon

Meeting the disciples

The synoptic Gospels, Matthew, Mark and Luke, do not tell us how Jesus met his disciples first. The Gospel of John supplies this missing information.

First, Andrew heard the preaching of John the Baptist. He followed after him and we can assume he was baptized by him for Andrew was a disciple of John (John 1:35).

Andrew heard the testimony of John the Baptist about Jesus. He met Jesus and followed him. After spending some time with Jesus he decided that Jesus was the Messiah. Andrew went and found his brother Simon Peter. He declared to Simon that he had found the Messiah. He brought Peter to Jesus and Jesus called him Cephas, the rock.

Next, Jesus found Philip who became his disciple. Philip brought Nathaniel to Jesus and he also became a disciple of Jesus.

All or some of these disciples including Andrew, Peter, Philip, Nathaniel, and one unnamed disciple, possibly John, followed Jesus during a short tour of Galilee. This trip included the wedding at Cana, a journey to Capernaum, the Passover at Jerusalem and a trip through Samaria. After this trip with Jesus the disciples went back to their old life styles. That is where we pick them up today.

The miracle of the fishes

Jesus has been teaching in Galilee by the lake of Gennesaret also known as

the Sea of Galilee. It is an expansion of the Jordan River. The body of water is 13 miles long and six miles across. It is filled with fish and fishermen trying to catch the fish.

Jesus has been teaching in Simon's boat. It served as a perfect platform in which to address the people on shore. After he finished, Jesus told Peter to launch out into the deep and to cast out his nets for a catch of fish.

Peter had my kind of luck. He had fished all night and hadn't caught a fish. He was tired. He and his partners, James and John, knew the Sea of Galilee very well. Their superior knowledge told them there would be no fish in this part of the lake at this time. Nevertheless, Peter did what Jesus told him to do.

Peter regretfully obeyed the command of Christ (Luke 5:5). Yet in his obedience he caught a multitude of fish. There were so many that his net almost broke. He motioned for James and John to join him. They filled both boats to the brim, almost sinking them. The miracle was not in the catching of the fish but in the multiplying of the fish in the net.

Peter, realizing that Jesus had authority over nature, immediately equated Christ with God. He falls down before Jesus and cries out, "Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord."

Peter moved from complete self-confidence and pride to absolute humiliation. His confession is true, he is a sinful man. Although he obeyed Christ, he did it with very little faith, and now his sinful lack of trust overwhelms him with shame. He felt unworthy before his holy and heart-rending Lord.

Jesus can now use Peter in his ministry. We all need to be humbled in the presence of Christ. Isaiah in the presence of God declared he was a sinner before God could use him (Isaiah 6). Everyone when seen in the presence of Christ will realize what we are. It is only when that self-centered pride is removed that we can become a useful tool for our Lord.

Fishers of men

Jesus told the four fishermen to fear not. In Luke's account it seems as if Jesus is only speaking to Peter (5:10). Mark makes it clear that this declaration was to all four (Mark 1:17).

Fear not is a favorite expression of

Christ. I think it would be very common for one to have fear in his heart when viewing a miracle in the presence of God. Viewing the extraordinary is uncommon. We all have a tendency to fear the unknown. There is no need to fear when around one who loves us, and our Lord loves us enough to lay down his life for us.

Jesus goes on to say that he will make them to become fishers of men (Mark 1:17). Jesus has a new life planned for these four fishermen. It will take a few years before these four men will realize what Jesus really had planned for them.

The Greek word used in Luke 4:10 for "catch" means to catch alive, not to kill. Their lives will be completely turned around. They are to be catchers of men, not of fish, and to catch them alive and for life, not dead and for death. Jesus sees the possibilities in these four fishermen and joyfully undertakes the task of making a fisher of men out of these poor fishers of fish.

Their following begins

Both Mark and Luke state that immediately they forsook all and followed Jesus. Peter and Andrew left their boat, nets and fishing business. James and John left their boat, nets, business and family behind to become disciples of Jesus. They undoubtedly made some arrangements and did not leave everything in a mess.

We are still called today to follow after our Lord. Sometimes it is necessary to leave businesses and family behind. The conduct of these four fishermen ought to make men and women today pause and consider if Jesus is calling them to do likewise.

Paul asked the questions in Romans 10:14, "How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?" Jesus is still calling men and women to follow him. The need for followers is just as great today as it was when Christ walked along the shore of the Sea of Galilee and called out to these fishermen.

One very important lesson that we can learn from this account of Jesus calling his disciples is that Jesus deals with us as individuals. And individually we are very important to God. He chose these simple unlearned fishermen to spread the gospel so that today we all can see that we, too, can be fishers of men.

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Mary: A person who chose life's best

Luke 10:38-42
John 11; 12:1-8

Jan. 23, 1977

It is not always recognized that a delicate balance exists in the Scriptures. One reason for so many divergent beliefs is that the balance of the Scriptures is upset to the point of over-exaggeration. This is often done, for example, in doctrines of predestination as opposed to doctrines of free will. Both ideas should be held.



Pipkins

One should not be surprised to learn that a definite balance also exists in the realm of Christian service. We are given the lives of Mary and Martha. Some would take the one, others would take the other. We miss the point if we do not see the necessity of both.

A balance is struck (Luke 10:38-42)

It should be noted that this story of Martha and Mary follows the story of the Good Samaritan. The Christian life must not consist only in deeds for the welfare of man. It is possible that such a life can degenerate into a benevolent activity empty of all eternal value. The believer must not get so caught up in the busyness of doing Christian deeds that he loses contact with him who is the source of all love and goodness.

The bustling, practical Martha probably did not care to sit at Jesus' feet and drink in his teaching. She could best show her love to Jesus by serving. One could imagine her seeing that the best dishes were set before Jesus first and offering suggestions as to which should be tasted and which should be passed on.

Martha's kind of service must be recognized as true service, but not to the exclusion of the way Mary chose to express her love. Mary, who had participated in the preparation for Jesus' arrival (v. 40, "My sister hath left me"), chose to sit at the feet of Jesus and listen to his teaching, after the manner of disciples before the Rabbi. She refused to be distracted or anxious about the entertainment. This is the acting out of the "Man shall not live by bread alone" principle that is often found in this Gospel. (4:4; 12:16-21; 16:19-31)

Perhaps a valid guideline would be that such activity and service of Martha is honorable, but when it is accompanied by anxiety and distraction, then

one should learn to sit at the feet of Jesus and just listen. Christian service takes on meaning only when it is rooted in worship. One never becomes so proficient in the doing of the Christian life that he can leave off communion with the author of that life.

Reacting in crisis (John 11)

As Martha and Mary do not serve and worship alike, neither do they react the same in the crisis of their brother's death.

The sisters agree that they should send for Jesus. Perhaps they are not sure why. It is evident that they expect him to come at once. However, Jesus seems deliberately to delay. When Jesus does arrive, Martha goes out to meet him, but Mary stays in the house. When Mary does go out to Jesus she throws herself at his feet and repeats what the sisters had often said during these days. "If thou hadst been there, my brother had not died." While Jesus seems to reason the truths of the situation with Martha, he simply proceeds with the raising of Lazarus when Mary arrives.

Every person's experience with Jesus is unique. Although there are factors common to all, one must never press the experience of others to match his own. Nor should one manipulate his experience to be like another's.

The anointing (John 12:1-8)

It is not necessary to suppose that this event follows immediately upon the previous chapter. The feast in the house of Simon the leper comes at the time of the gathering gloom of Jesus' last week of ministry. As usual, Martha is serving, and Lazarus is one of the guests, reclining at the table.

Perhaps the more sensitive and contemplative person has a stronger instinct for the significance of the moment. Mary's Lord has come to a place where his very life is in danger. Her devotion and gratitude burst into a beautiful expression of selflessness as she brings to Jesus what is likely her most valuable possession.

As Mary was impractical in the issue of serving, so she was in the value of possessions. Love does not count the cost of a gift. It knows no higher joy than to lavish itself on the beloved. It even finds

joy in the very disregarding of practicality.

Her Lord would soon be taken away from Mary. This expression of love could be done to the poor and thus, in a sense, be done to her Lord. However, there is lacking in a deed to the poor the adoration that is present in the deed done to the Lord, and done in his very presence! It is this adoration that gives fragrance to the deed and fills a home or a church with the scent of devoted love (v. 3).

Mary's way was not always popular with those around her. Even Martha, who loved Jesus none the less, could not understand the way Mary expressed her devotion. The disciples agreed with Judas (Matt. 26:8) that the value of the ointment used in Mary's anointing of Jesus could have been put to better use. But this was Mary. And these were the ways she chose to show her love to Jesus. Jesus was pleased with her devotion and honored her for it. He likewise "loved Martha".

We learn from Mary that the highest acts of devotion and gratitude are fitting expressions of love to our Lord. They are always only expressions until our Lord receives them and breathes meaning into them. Then they become attitudes of worship. It is not our responsibility to emulate the devotions of others, but to choose the highest and best expressions of love that come out of our own hearts, and give them to Jesus. It is not Mary's choice that we must make. We must look into our own lives and find our best and highest expressions of worship for he who first loved us, and gave us his highest and best.

**Dr. W. A. Criswell,
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If you are a high school senior with an A.C.T. composite score of 27, productive high school academic achievement, proven leadership ability, and high moral values, you could qualify for one of these exceptional new Presidential Merit Scholarships to be awarded by East Texas Baptist College this spring.

Write today for additional information. Completed application forms must be returned by February 21, 1977. Address inquiries to:

**Director of Admissions
East Texas Baptist College
Marshall, TX 75670**

Attendance report

Jan. 9, 1977

Church	Sunday School	Church Training	Church adds.
Biscoe, First	58		2
Cabot			
First	130		
Mt. Carmel	106	53	
Camden			
Cullendale First	502	94	
First	383	86	
Conway, Second	158		
Crossett, Mt. Olive	332	127	
El Dorado, West Side	408	404	1
Fouke, First	97		
Hampton, First	122	70	
Hope, First	333	93	
Little Rock, Crystal Hill	27		
Magnolia, Central	584	162	1
Monticello, Second	287	68	1
Murfreesboro, First	132	37	3
North Little Rock, Calvary	123	48	
Paris, First	98	31	
Pine Bluff			
Centennial	109	38	
East Side	101	35	
First	410		
Lee Memorial	129	41	
South Side	399	120	
Watson Chapel	253	78	1
Springdale, First	216		
Texarkana			
Highland Hills	153	53	
Shiloh Memorial	157	56	6
Vandervoort, First	26		

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in the bucket**

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**... and your budget is very
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**... and it's the Lord's money
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Minister's Goal: Start a new church every year

by Jim Newton

SPOKANE, Wash. (BP) — Lloyd Garrison jumped for joy when asked if he would like to start a new church every year for the rest of his life.

"I'd love it. I'd love it," replied the gangly, transplanted Texan, now 57, who came to the Oregon-Washington area 22 years ago.

That was three years ago. Garrison has set himself a goal of starting one new church per year until his retirement at age 65. So far, he is on schedule.

even preaching. "People love him because he's so genuine. He knocks on doors, visits in homes and shares his faith in a simple, straightforward manner," Peters noted. He confided, however, that almost everywhere Garrison had served as pastor he stayed too long, to the point of almost killing the work started so effectively. In most places, the people became dissatisfied with his preaching, one state convention staff member said.

In 1955, Garrison moved to The Dalles (pronounced The Dowes), about 75 miles east of Portland, on the Oregon side of the Columbia River. He had been pastor of a small church in Bowie, Tex., and was inspired by testimonies of several pastors who had been to the Northwest for revivals.

During a School of Missions (now called World Missions Conference), he met the late R. E. Milam, first executive secretary of the Northwest Baptist Convention. Milam said they needed a pastor at The Dalles. Garrison was open to the possibility, and the next Sunday The Dalles church called him as pastor. Two other pastorates followed, with all three, five to seven years duration — too long, some said.

But Garrison has a gift for starting new churches — and that gift is being used in a positive way by the Home Mission Board and the Northwest Convention.

Churches in the Northwest generally go through three phases, Peters said: (1) the "beginning" church; (2) the "becoming" church, and (3) the "being" church.

Some pastors, like Garrison, are effective in leading phase one churches but not in leading phase two or three churches. Others can lead phase three but not phase one or two, Peters explained.

Garrison recognizes his own strengths, and he and his wife enjoy starting congregations. They live in a mobile home, and when they have completed work on a church, they simply move their home to a new location.

All three missions begun since 1973 were started as a result of Vacation Bible Schools or revival meetings, or a combination of the two. Garrison got into the act a little late in Post Falls, however.

In summer 1973, John and Elizabeth Johnston came to the Northwest as summer missionaries and led a Vacation Bible School. They enrolled 181 children, and led the first worship service that July, with 46 attending.

Garrison was pastor of the Driscoll Boulevard Church in Spokane and was called to the Post Falls mission in September, 1973. He went door-to-door in the Post Falls community and met everyone he could find.

As he knocked on doors, he discovered some people wanted a Pee-Wee football team for their children. He decided to do something about it, and soon the community had its Pee-Wee team, thanks to the new Baptist pastor in town.

He also joined The Grange, a farmers' organization he described as a "combination of the Farm Bureau and a fraternal and social lodge."

But Garrison did much more than get acquainted and identify with the community. He sought to meet spiritual needs and to win people to Christ.

He was pastor in Post Falls church only 20 months, but during that time the mission baptized 60 people. Within a year, attendance topped 150. The mission's pastor now is George Scantlan.

Garrison is presently with the Otis Orchards mission, in a suburb near Spokane. The local Baptist association owns five acres of land and there is only one other Community Church in the area.

The work was started by Garrison's invitation to Eddie Rodgers, pastor of First Church in Dumas, Tex., where Garrison grew up as a boy, to lead a revival meeting. The Dumas church also sent a team of youths to lead a Vacation Bible School program.

About 25 Otis Orchards people attended the revival, and about 35 youngsters came to the Bible school. Now the congregation meets in the Tri-Community Grange Hall, near the property where they hope to build soon.

Garrison acknowledges that his work at Otis Orchards is just beginning, but when the work is stabilized and building completed, he plans to move on to another future mission location.

"I'm in this work because I'm sold on the fact that there needs to be a Baptist church in every community that is preaching the gospel. The Lord has really blessed me and has allowed me to be pastor of seven churches up here in the Northwest.

"And I'm hoping to be pastor of a lot more," Garrison concluded.

Adapted from the February 1977 issue of World Mission Journal

Address change ????????

Two weeks before change of address send name label below and new address to:

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P.O. Box 552
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Since 1973, he has started three new missions: Post Falls Baptist Mission, Post Falls, Idaho; Valley View Baptist Mission in Spokane; and Otis Orchards Baptist Mission in Otis Orchards, Wash.

All three missions are sponsored by the Pines Baptist Church in Spokane, where Frank Barnes is pastor.

William K. Peters, director of missions for the Inland Empire Baptist Association in the Spokane area, and W. C. Carpenter, state missions director for the Northwest Baptist Convention, originally proposed in 1973 that Garrison become a "church starter" missionary for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board; the Baptist minister accepted the challenge.

Garrison's strength is in "soul winning", rather than administration or