

Ouachita Baptist University

Scholarly Commons @ Ouachita

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1980-1984

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

5-28-1981

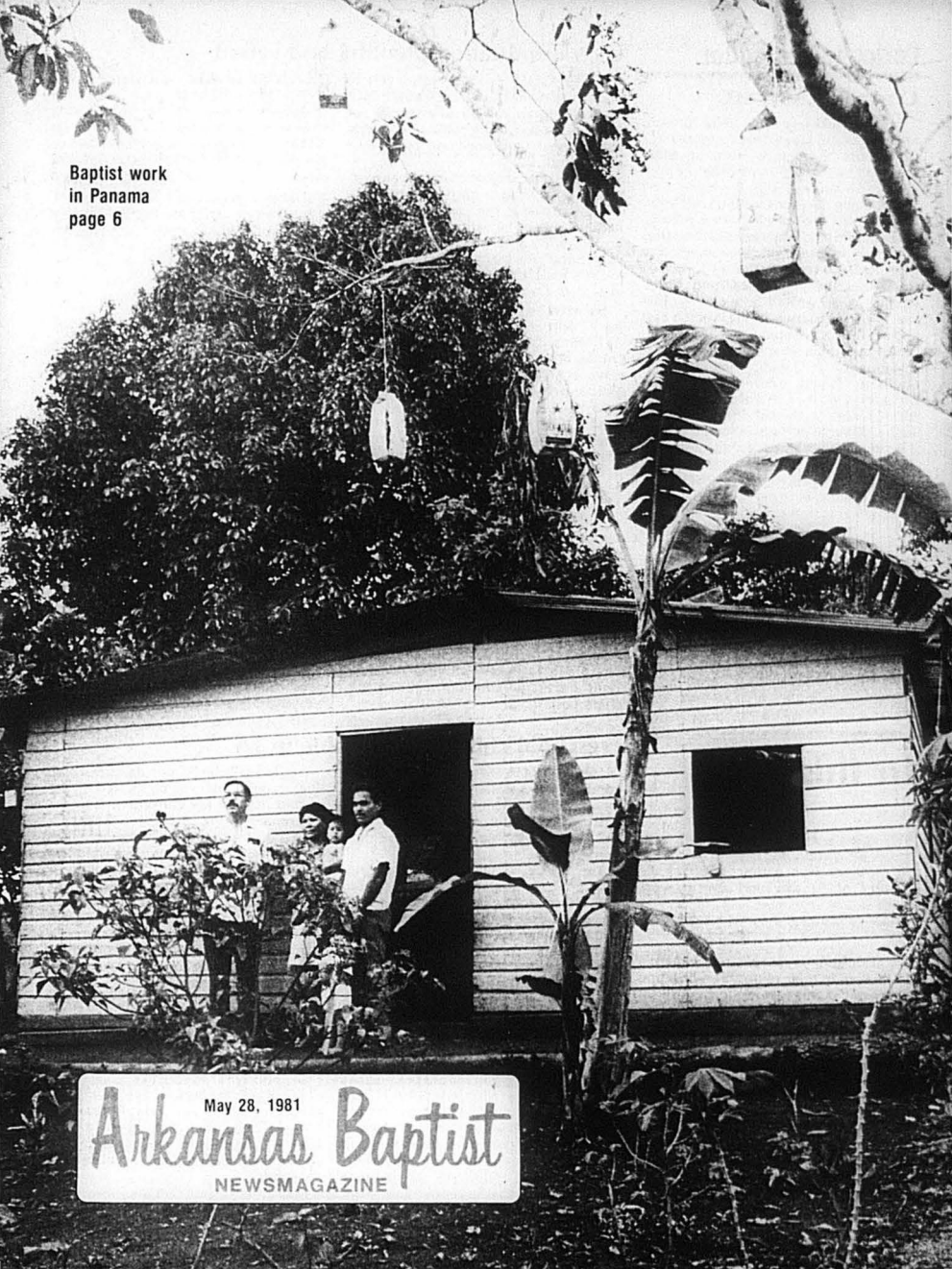
May 28, 1981

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](#)



Baptist work
in Panama
page 6

May 28, 1981

Arkansas Baptist
NEWSMAGAZINE

Letter to the editor

Crusade a success

Several weeks ago the Billy Graham team went to Japan for a crusade for Christ and the results were amazing. They had been there 13 years before with very little success, but this time over 25,000 made decisions for the Lord Jesus. Mr. Graham took several other preachers with him, and while he preached they preached in other places also. In one meeting 5,000 came to the Lord. He told them that they had been told Christianity was a Western religion, but that was not so. It started in the Middle East and was for all people.

Now just think what this will do for the missionaries in Japan, including our Southern Baptist ones—such a good breakthrough for the Lord's work, and Mr. Graham explained that there was such a different attitude among the people there about being able to listen to the Good News about the Lord Jesus and his salvation for all. Acts 4:12: "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." We know this means our precious Lord Jesus. And in one service the rain just poured, but a large crowd was there with umbrellas and raincoats, and Mr. Graham said if that had been a ball game they would not have been there. Truly, the Holy Spirit is pouring out his Spirit on many today. Praise the Lord. — F. W. Finch, Monticello

In this issue

6

ABN editor J. Everett Sneed begins a series of articles on his recent trip to Middle America with a description of the country of Panama and Baptist work there.

8

The association is churches in fellowship on mission in their setting. The how and where of Arkansas associational missions is explained this week.

LA transportation plentiful and varied

LOS ANGELES — Most messengers to the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention will be strangers in Los Angeles. And nothing makes a stranger feel stranger than not knowing how to get around.

So here is a synopsis on local transportation, both by auto and airplane.

Upon arrival at the Los Angeles International Airport, a variety of local transportation will be available for getting to your hotel. All bus and taxi stands are located on islands in front of each baggage pick-up terminal.

Bus services — Tickets and information for Airport Service is available at booths in front of baggage claim areas, or bus driver, if booth is not staffed. To downtown Los Angeles, Hollywood, Beverly Hills and Westwood, the current charge is \$3.10.

RTD (City Bus) — offers seven direct lines, connecting service to all of Greater Los Angeles areas. Board minibus (#206) at RTD signs for transportation to nearby transfer depot where connections with direct line buses may be made. Minibus operates at 10-20 minute intervals daily from 5 a.m. to 1 a.m. (Bus #607 express to downtown Los Angeles costs 95¢)

Taxi service — Only taxicabs bearing Los Angeles City franchise seal are authorized to solicit fares. Cabs should only be taken from authorized cab stands. Typical fares: Downtown Los Angeles, \$18; Beverly Hills, \$16; Hollywood, \$18. Fares vary with exact destinations and traffic conditions. Riders may share cost.

Car rental services — Each terminal has booths allocated for the major car rental companies. Other car rental agencies have direct phone lines to their offices. All car rental services provide minibus or van pickup service at the baggage claim areas.

Arrival by automobile

Four major interstate highways enter Southern California; each offers sights of the picturesque mountains and deserts.

I-8 enters the state from Yuma, Ariz. and goes directly to San Diego. From there, messengers would travel north on I-5 into Los Angeles.

I-10 enters the state from Arizona, near Blythe, Calif., and continues across the Mojave Desert. It comes through Palm Springs, San Bernardino and finally ends in Los Angeles.

I-15 enters from Las Vegas, Nev., and continues southwest toward Barstow, into San Bernardino. There you will get on I-10 West.

I-40 enters from northern Arizona, across the Colorado River into Needles, Calif. I-40 continues to Barstow, where you'll need to get on I-15 South to San Bernardino, and get on I-10 West.

Entering downtown Los Angeles — I-15 and I-10 have downtown exits where most hotels are located. However, because of the numerous freeways and interchanges in the downtown area, messengers are cautioned to be alert for exits. Rush hour traffic coming into the city is heavy between 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. Afternoon traffic out of the city is heavy between 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Preschool child care available in LA

LOS ANGELES (BP) — Messengers attending the Southern Baptist Convention's annual meeting in Los Angeles with small children will have preschool child care available in the convention center.

The service, for children who have not entered first grade, will be set up in room 216 of the Los Angeles Convention Center, where the SBC is to meet June 9-11. It will open Tuesday morning, June 9, and will operate through Thursday night, June 11.

It will not operate on Wednesday afternoon when no SBC sessions are planned.

OBU plans LA reunion

Ouachitonians and friends of Ouachita who attend the Southern Baptist Convention in Los Angeles, Ca., are invited to a Get-Together Tuesday night, June 9, at 9:45 p.m. in the Los Angeles Room of the Los Angeles Hilton, the SBC headquarters hotel, following the evening session.

Dr. and Mrs. Ed Coulter, Vice President for Administration, and their three children will host the time of food, fellowship and brief slide presentation. They will be assisted by local residents and other Ouachitonians attending the convention.

SBC problem calls for Christian spirit

The editor's page

J. Everett Sneed



For several years a problem has been brewing in the Southern Baptist Convention. The intensity of the situation is evident by the announcement that Abner McCall, president of Baylor University, will allow his name to be placed in nomination against Bailey Smith who is completing his first term as president of the SBC. Messengers need to understand what is causing controversy, pray about it and respond with understanding, cool heads and a Christ-like spirit without creating factions in our denomination.

The problem originated around who would control our institutions. Three years ago Judge Paul Pressler, of Houston, Texas, began an organization to gain control of the institutions of the SBC. This effort has resulted in the development of a counter organization by Kenneth Chafin, pastor of South Main Church, Houston, Texas, and Cecil Sherman, pastor of First Church, Ashville, N.C. Sherman and Chafin maintain it is necessary for them to propose an opponent to Bailey Smith because they believe that he has stacked committees and represented Southern Baptists poorly.

Each of the groups are suspicious of those who are believed to be on the other side. We believe that all such organizations are wrong and harmful to the work of the SBC. This year the controversy will manifest itself in a number of issues in the June 9-11 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention. Among the issues sure to claim attention are the election of the president of the SBC for 1981-82, certain of the recommendations of the SBC Executive Committee and the report from the Committee on Committees. It is almost certain that there will be debate on the proposed method of messenger representation.

The Chafin-Sherman group has also pledged to contest certain of the nominations presented by the Committee on Committees. Several individuals who were eligible for a second term have not been renominated.

It is almost unheard of to have someone nominated in opposition to the president of the Southern Bap-

tist Convention at the end of his first term. Normally, a second term is considered automatic.

In recent days the controversy has degenerated into name calling. Unkind and inflammatory names have been hurled back and forth. People have been labeled fundamentalists, moderates and liberals. Perhaps a very few deserve these labels, but in the main all Southern Baptists are conservative people who love the Lord.

The vast majority of Southern Baptists totally accept the 1963 Baptist Faith and Message statement that the Bible is "truth without any mixture of error."

The practical effect of this controversy can be extremely harmful to the work of Southern Baptists. On our recent trip to Middle America missionaries were desirous of information concerning the upcoming convention. After we had provided an update, one of the missionaries, with tears in his eyes, said, "If those who are involved in the controversy back home could spend a month with me, I don't think they would be a part of this debate. I don't have time for that sort of thing. There are too many lost people who have never heard the gospel."

The most important question is, "How should each of us conduct ourselves?" Certainly, there is no necessity for everyone to agree on all matters. Baptists have always debated issues. It is most important that we allow others the same right that we want for ourselves.

It is, also, of vital importance that we conduct ourselves in a Christian manner. When someone, who is a brother in the Lord, is labeled with an unkind, false or inflammatory name, it is difficult to correct the damage. An individual's reputation may be harmed, thus impairing his effectiveness. Or, a breach of fellowship may develop which may do immeasurable harm to the Lord's work. Worst of all, such labeling and name calling is often a deterrent to the spread of the gospel.

Finally, after the issues have been debated, hopefully in a spirit of Christian love, we should all accept the decision. Every messenger should seek to imitate Christ at the convention. As we do this, this year's convention will be a true success.

Arkansas Baptist

NEWSMAGAZINE

Arkansas' third largest publication,
meeting the information needs of Arkansas Baptists.

VOLUME 80 NUMBER 21
J. EVERETT SNEED, Ph.D. Editor
BETTY KENNEDY Managing Editor
ERWIN L. McDONALD, Litt. D. Editor Emeritus

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.

Copies by mail 25 cents each.

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.

The Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine (USPS 031-280) is published weekly, except the third week in April, at July 4 and Dec. 25, by the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, Inc., 525 West Capitol Ave., Little Rock, AR 72201. Subscription rates are \$4.82 per year (individual), \$3.84 per year (Every Resident Family Plan), \$4.44 per year (Club Plan) and \$12 per year (no foreign address). Second class postage paid at Little Rock, AR. **POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203.**



One layman's opinion

Daniel R. Grant

When honesty is not enough

The news that tennis star Billie Jean King lived in a lesbian relationship with her secretary for several years was sad to hear. Even more troublesome, however, is the way the press, and selected persons interviewed by the press, seemed to react to the news.

It was troublesome to me in part because I love tennis and hate to see publicity about tennis players that reflects unfavorably on the heroes and heroines of the game. But it was far more troublesome because it gave me the distinct impression that most commentators were saying, "Isn't it wonderful that she made an honest public confession that the charges were true?" rather than to say, "Isn't it a sad reflection on contemporary society that one of our leaders idolized by young people should set this

kind of moral example for others?" The sympathetic comments she is now receiving seem to be saying, "Anything goes as long as you are honest about it after that embarrassing time when one's immoral conduct is exposed to the public."

Unless my memory fails me, it has not been long since the mass media—and especially the television commentators and entertainers—had the opportunity to show their sympathy, compassion and understanding for another celebrity caught up in controversy, and failed miserably. Anita Bryant received sarcastic comments and even vicious persecution by many leading television personalities for her strong stand against permissive legislation on homosexuality. Yet, Billie

Jean King, confessed lesbian, is treated gently as an untouchable. Even when television interviewer Barbara Walters lovingly asked the "painful questions," Mrs. King hedged her admission that her homosexual conduct of several years was wrong, by suggesting that it would have been all right if she had not been married. In short, her advice to young people would seem to be: it's wrong to be disloyal to one's husband, but it's all right to be disloyal to God.

Honesty is a wonderful virtue, but I hope our nation's opinion leaders realize that honesty alone is not the only virtue needed in those who lead our young people.

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



Woman's viewpoint

Minette Drumwright

What I can do, I will do

My morning newspaper reminds me that the world is burdened with problems. Big problems. Gigantic problems, with endless complexities. Of course, I did not need to open the newspaper to be aware of the burdens within and all around me.

I am concerned. But what can I do? What can any one person do in the midst of such tremendous need? Overwhelmed by that which is close at hand and beyond my reach, I am so prone to decide that since I cannot do everything necessary to resolve a problem, there is no need to do anything.

Yet in the parable of the talents, Jesus taught us, among other truths, that what one person does, indeed, makes a difference. We glean from the story that there is significance in everyone of us doing what we can do. Also, we find that when we faithfully do our part, there is a multiplying effect that takes place.

From the time that I first heard of the work of Albert Schweitzer over in some jungle in Africa, I felt inspired by his decision to plant his life in the midst of

insurmountable needs. You recall, he was at the height of a brilliant academic and musical career when he decided to resign and look for some spot on the earth where the greatest need existed. Already possessing multiple degrees, he entered medical school. Eventually he built a tiny hospital in the African wilderness of Lambarene, and invested the rest of his life serving the people in that remote place.

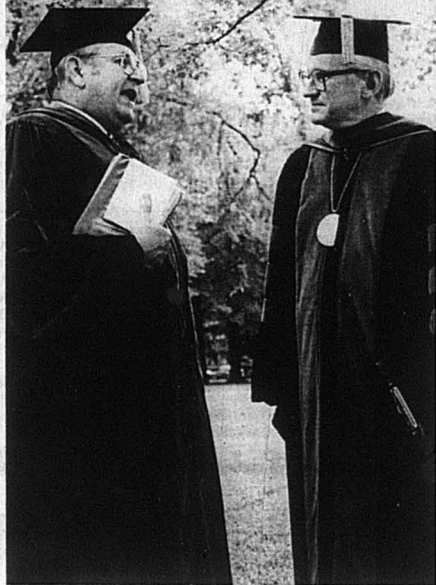
Schweitzer's biographer, Norman Cousins, writes that one of the great things about the jungle doctor was that he did not let the size of the problem keep him from doing what he could about the answer. He could not do everything, but that did not discourage him from doing something. And just as we learn from the parable, when one is faithful to his task, there is a sense in which there is a multiplying effect. What Dr. Schweitzer did in Africa looks like so little against so much, yet his faithful act has wound up affecting the conscience of much of the western world, including mine!

The needs are so vast. Does the little that I can do make any difference? I believe with all my heart that the answer is "Absolutely!" No matter how small my part seems in relation to the whole, I know that in God's eyes, the little things done in his name have eternal significance. In ways we may never even know about, I believe God maximizes our sincere effort to make a difference for him.

Again I pick up the morning paper. I am not overwhelmed. God's Holy Spirit brings some words to my mind that I learned as a G.A.:

I am only one
But I am one
I cannot do everything
But I can do something
What I can do
With God's help, I will do.

Minette Drumwright of Little Rock is a homemaker and author. She is the wife of Arkansas Baptists' Executive Secretary, Huber L. Drumwright, and is the mother of two daughters. She is a member of Emmanuel Church in Little Rock.



ARKADELPHIA — Two hundred and sixty students received degrees from Ouachita Baptist University during commencement exercises May 9 at 5 p.m.

Speakers for commencement were Margaret Wright, associate professor of accounting at OBU, and Kevin Crass, a senior business administration major from Pine Bluff. Both speakers were chosen by the senior class.

Huber Drumwright (l.), executive secretary of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, confers with O.B.U. President Daniel R. Grant prior to baccalaureate services at the school on Commencement Day, May 9. Drumwright presented the message to the 260 graduates in Mitchell Hall Auditorium.

Glendon Grober (second from right), Southern Baptist missionary to Brazil, is awarded an honorary doctor of divinity degree from Ouachita Baptist University at OBU's commencement exercises on May 9 presided over by University President Daniel R. Grant (r.). Vice President for Academic Affairs Carl Goodson (l.) and School of Music Dean William Trantham prepare to 'hood' Grober.

James Hefley of Signal Mountain, Tenn., a free-lance evangelical writer and author of more than 40 books, was also honored with a doctor of letters degree.

OBU gives 260 degrees



The Southern accent

Ascent of humanism and decline of ideals

by D. Jack Nicholas

When America renounced her Judeo-Christian heritage in favor of the values of secular humanism, there occurred a tragic decline in standards.

The Judeo-Christian tradition proclaims some eternal verities, some ultimate values, some absolute standards. Things are true or untrue, good or bad, beautiful or ugly, pure or impure, right or wrong.

To the contrary, the humanists contend that there are no eternal verities; therefore, one can't be certain what is good or bad, beautiful or ugly, right or wrong.

The popular acceptance of this notion



Nicholas

has led to a serious decline in standards in virtually every area of life and work in America—from the assembly line to the fine arts.

In contemporary painting for example, standards are so uncertain that abstract paintings have been declared to be great work of art and moving expressions of the human spirit, then later revealed to be the random smearings of chimpanzees. It is difficult to imagine such a hoax in the case of the old masters whose works were characterized by both clarity and beauty because they were guided by the standards and ideals implicit in the Judeo-Christian religion from which they often drew their themes.

Modern music suffers similarly from a loss of standards. Much of modern popular music is either primitive, coarse or obscene and some is all three. Instead of

soothing or lifting the human spirit, it agitates and frenzies it.

Literature and the theatre reflect the same sort of decline. Instead of dealing with the great life themes with hope and optimism for human triumph there is instead a tunnel-vision preoccupation with the sordid and the vulgar. Aimlessness, meaninglessness, pessimism and hopelessness pervade modern literature, and this art form reveals more clearly and more dramatically than any other the logical, inevitable and unhappy end-product of secular humanism.

We have suffered a loss of standards and we will remain socially, culturally and spiritually lost (without meaning or hope) until we return to lofty ideals of our Judeo-Christian heritage.

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

Panama: A country of contrasts

Arriving in Panama City, one discovers a modern bustling metropolis. Were Spanish not spoken on every hand, one might feel that he was still in the United States. The architecture and modern conveniences are very similar to those in many parts of the United States. But the rural areas provide a marked contrast. There is no electricity and very few automobiles, and the roads are dirt, rock or very poor pavement.

Panama is between 50 and 120 miles wide and bounded by 477 miles of Caribbean coastline and 767 of Pacific.

The sea level temperature is around 80 to 85 degrees Fahrenheit most of the

year, cooling down in the evenings until one would need a light wrap.

Normally, when Panama is mentioned, one thinks of the canal. But one Panamanian writes, "Panama is far more than a canal."

The country is a blending of many races and cultures. From the time of its discovery in 1501 by the Spanish seamen, there has been a constant influx of many races.

Panama City is the third largest city in Middle America. The racial fabric was influenced by the Spanish adventurers and the early importing of African slaves.

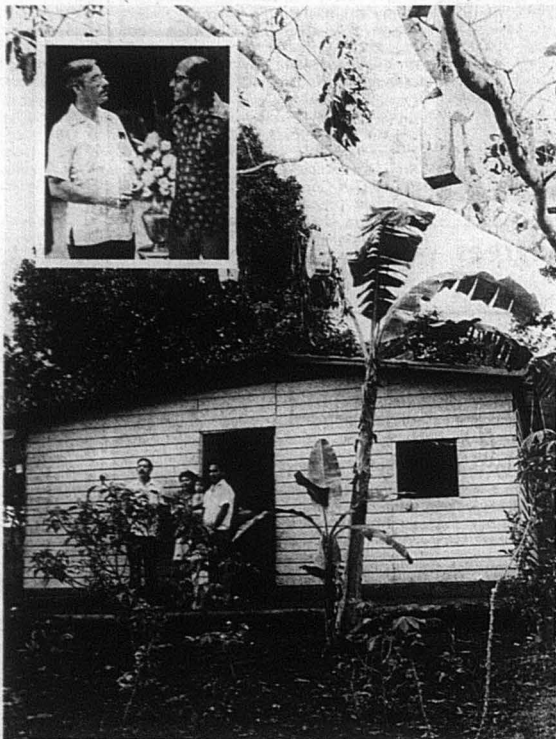
Undoubtedly, the greatest source of

Editor's note: This is the first of four articles on the editor's recent trip to observe Southern Baptist mission work in Middle America. Other articles will be carried on Honduras, Guatemala and Mexico.

income for the country is the canal, which is one of the world's greatest engineering feats. The canal, designed to connect the Atlantic and the Pacific oceans, is 50 miles long, and ships are lifted 85 feet in three lockages as they cross the Isthmus. The journey through the canal takes about eight hours, and a ship is normally in the canal waters between 14 and 16 hours.

In the rural areas, the Roman Catholic Church is more influential in the lives of the people than in the cities. Approximately 90 percent of the nation claim Romanism as their religion, though many of these only attend church occasionally. It is estimated that only about 50 percent of the population are devout Catholics.

Baptists were among the first evange-



On the cover

Missionary Jackie B. Cooper (left) talks with Edilma and Luis Toribio, recent converts, outside their dirt floor house in Panama. The Toribio children are one and two years old. Cooper (inset) confers with Alcides Lozano, a pastor for 25 years, who was recently elected as the first executive secretary for Panama Baptists.



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

Winebarger
CHURCH FURNITURE
& STAINED GLASS
LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA

America's
Foremost Name
In Church
Furniture

Area Representative
RON DODD
1745 East Lakewood
Springfield, Mo. 65807
417/883-7943
Call Toll Free 800-446-0945

licals to go to Panama. As early as 1866 Japanese Baptists began missionary work among the West Indians in Panama. In 1905 the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention began its work in the Canal Zone area.

In the 1940's Baptist work began to grow in the Spanish-speaking communities of the Republic. Today, Southern Baptists have 17 missionaries and three journeymen working in the country. There are 56 Baptist churches and 67 organized missions with a combined membership of 6,700. Until recently all missionaries could send their children to the military school. The children who began attending school prior to Oct. 1, 1979, when the process of handing the canal over to the Republic of Panama began, can attend the school without cost. Missionaries whose children initially enter the military school after this date will have to pay \$4,000 per child per year.

Jackie B. Cooper, who is the director of the Baptist seminary in Panama, where 18 students are currently enrolled, also serves as a rural evangelist.

One of the churches with which Cooper has worked is Santa Clara. The church has 34 members of which 17 were

baptized on Jan. 25. The church is located 18 miles from Panama on a dirt road in a community that has a population of about 800.

The Convention of Panama has recently elected, as its first executive secretary, Alcides Lozano. Lozano has been pastoring for 25 years at La Chorrera Baptist Church. The church had 12 members when he became pastor. There are now 245 members, and on April 19, 150 were present.

The newly elected executive secretary said, "The best method of reaching people is to go person to person. This was the method used by Christ."

The fastest growing church in the Convention is First Baptist Church, Panama, organized in 1943 with five members. It now has 380 members and is currently constructing a building which will cost approximately \$100,000. The church is self-supporting but received a \$30,000 loan from the Foreign Mission Board to help in construction of their new property.

The pastor and congregation are praying that God will enable them to continue their rapid growth and to start new missions, so the Christian witness can have a dramatic impact on the 1.8 million population of Panama City.

Panama is a land of golden opportunity for Southern Baptists. This contrasting land, with some areas highly industrialized but other parts being very primitive, offers both challenge and opportunity. The National pastors and missionaries are excited about the opportunities that God is providing in this land that lies at the crossroads of the world.

Dr. and Mrs. S. Ray Crews of First Baptist Church, Heber Springs, Ark., will again be associates of Bible Land Travel for our third trip to the Bible Lands. This nine-day tour includes on-site lectures by Bible teachers from Southern Baptist Convention seminaries. The date is Dec. 29, 1981. Please call us at 362-6996 or 362-8131 for information and travel brochures.

SANCTUARY RENOVATION

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



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

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

English-speaking pastors needed

Three English-speaking pastors are needed to work with three congregations of American Baptists in Panama.

Pastors interested should contact Robert E. Robinson, PSC Box 1523, APO Miami 34002.

FREE!
CHURCH LIGHTING CATALOG

Phone: 1-800-324-9532



McFADDEN LIGHTING COMPANY, INC.
100 W. 10TH ST. • ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63102

	May 17, 1981	Church Trng.	Church adms.
Church	Sunday School		
Alexander, First	118	50	
Alma, Clear Creek Southern	215		3
Atkins, First	120	61	
Batesville	336	123	3
First	124	66	
Nursing Home	32		
Bentonville, First	418		
Berryville	205	75	
First	229	71	1
Freeman Heights	130	57	
Blue Eye, Mo., First	280		
Boonville	115		
First	268	112	3
South Side	283	74	
Bryan	105	63	3
First Southern	333	115	1
Indian Springs	429	175	
Cabot	370	129	
First	128	113	
Mt. Carmel	371		
Camden, Cullendale First	370		
Caraway, First	128		
Cherokee Village, First	30		
Corwys	90	61	
Harian Park	80		
Oak Bowers	211	76	4
Pickles Gap	413	199	2
Second	213		
Crossett	465	114	
First	314	111	
Mount Olive	207	133	1
Temple	158		
Danville, First	30		
Hunting Home	185	64	
Des. Cr., First	146	94	1
El Dorado, Parkview	26		
Hunting Home	338	107	2
Forrest City, First	2,197		
Fl. Smith	1,245	268	12
First	23		
Grand Avenue	91	49	2
Mission	112		
Westside	143	59	
Cassville	66	50	
Gentry, First	160	81	1
Grandview	97		
Hampson, First	240	103	
Hardy, First	175	85	
Hardy, First	116	49	
Harrison	385	178	
Eagle Heights	73	56	3
Northside	251	81	1
Woodland Heights	97	49	
Hot Springs	143	83	
Grand Avenue	336	55	2
Memorial	96	81	
Park Place	126	95	2
Reactor Heights	242	98	
Hughes, First	129	65	2
Jacksonville, First	246	72	
Jessieville	70	33	
Jonesboro	210	107	1
Friendly Hope	187	69	8
Hettleson	90	73	2
Philadelphia	62	45	1
Monticello, Second	219	177	1
Mountain Pine, First	381	199	1
Mulberry, First	419	138	1
Nashville, Ridgeway	297	32	
Norfolk, First	239	69	4
North Little Rock, Stanton	108	55	
Paragould	102	43	1
Calvary	543	126	2
East Side	139	46	
First	158	47	
Paris	501	118	10
First	175	57	1
Southside	475	139	1
Pea Ridge, First	134	70	1
Pine Bluff	584	111	1
Centennial	74	46	1
Central	107	57	
First	305	116	2
Hardin	1,063	10	
Lee Memorial	113	79	2
Southeast	163	73	
Sulphur Springs	88	38	
Watson Chapel	401	83	3
Frairie Grove, First	60	27	
Rogers, First	240	83	
Russellville, First	134	70	1
Springdale	583	111	1
Berry Street	74	46	1
Cauldie Avenue	107	57	
Elmdale	305	116	2
First	1,063	10	
Texarkana	113	79	2
Highland Hills	163	73	
Shiloh Memorial	88	38	
Valley Springs	401	83	3
Van Buren, First	60	27	
Vanderport, First	240	83	
Walnut Ridge, First	134	70	1
Ward, First	110	45	1
West Helena, Second	216	115	2
Woolster, First	112	52	

The Association:

Through associational fellowship there has come strengthening in my own ministry as ideas and concerns of others have contributed to the healing of my own hurts and fulfilling my own needs. Without this mutual help my ministry would have been much poorer.

Carl Overton

Participation in the association enables every church, regardless of how large or small, to accomplish its mission in the community.

Jimmie Garner

The task of the association is to strengthen the local church through:

1. Fellowship and cooperation among the churches.
2. Training of capable leaders.
3. The promotion of missions from the local level to the ends of the earth.

Tommy Robertson

The association provides a channel for obeying the Great Commission in mission outreach that might not be possible to achieve by churches working alone.

Freddie Pike

The association is concerned with and in touch with every facet of Baptist life. It is the denominational unit which is closest to the churches and church members. In a very real sense it is the "man in the middle". The association through its director of missions and other leaders is able to represent every area of Baptist life to the churches. It is also able to speak first hand to every Baptist agency about the needs and concerns of churches. No other Baptist unit is in this unique position.

Carl Bunch

After spending many years as a director of missions I have come to believe strongly in the importance of the association. It is the one agency capable of interpreting the needs of the churches to the denomination and bringing the benefits and opportunities available through the denomination to the churches.

Bill Burnett

Special study opportunity

The emphasis on the Home Mission Board Book Study Series for 1981 is long past (Feb. 15-18, 1981) but it would still be appropriate to have the study. The subject of the entire series is the association. What better thing could a local church do than spend this time understanding the workings of and becoming better informed about the local association? Your own associational office will be happy to contribute to your learning experience.

Conway Sawyers



Churches in Fellowship on Mission in Their Setting

Their being IN FELLOWSHIP involves oneness of purpose, shared life, mutual-



ity, and New Testament "koinonia." It's a "family" of churches and a network in which churches give and receive assistance. "In fellowship" em-

phasizes the relationship existing among the churches.

ON MISSION refers to God's mission for the churches individually and the



churches together in association. The first responsibility of each church is to deal with the question of God's mission for that church. Likewise, the

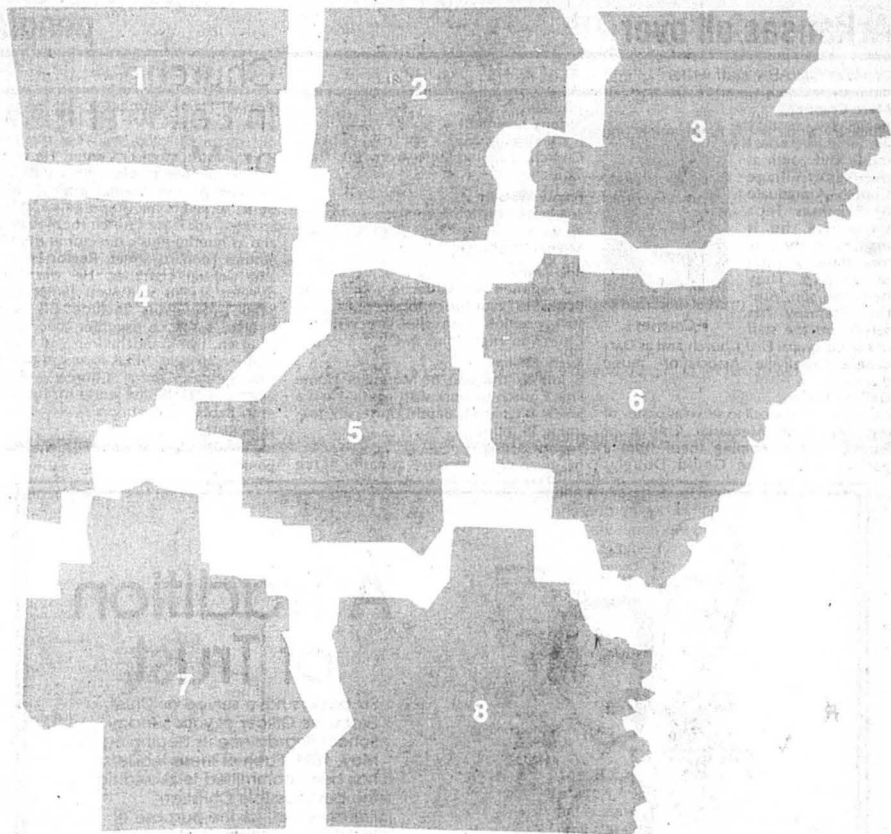
first responsibility of an association of churches is to deal with that same question—What is God's mission for us together? What is God doing in the world, and what is our relationship to that?

IN THEIR SETTING deals with everything anyone means when he says of his asso-



ciation, "Ours is a peculiar situation." The fact is that EVERY situation is peculiar, that is unique. And it is in the uniqueness of that situation that an association

of churches has a very special responsibility to be on mission.



In their setting:

NORTHWEST AREA (District 1)

Benton County, Bedford Jackson
Washington-Medison, Don Selgler

NORTH CENTRAL AREA (District 2)

White River, Troy Melton

Big Creek, Darwin Anderson

Rocky Bayou, Manuel Macks

Independence, S. D. Hacker

North Central, Wendell Bradford

Little Red River, David Miller

NORTHEAST AREA (District 3)

Current Gains, J. D. Passmore

Black River, (no director of missions)

Greene County, Carroll Gibson

Mt. Zion, (no director of missions)

Trinity, Jimmie Garner

Mississippi, Henry G. West

WEST CENTRAL (District 4)

Clear Creek, George Domerese

Concord, Ernie Perkins

Dardanelle-Russellville,

Thomas E. Lindley

Buckner, (no director of missions)

Ouachita, (no director of missions)

CENTRAL AREA (District 5)

Conway-Perry, Refua Caldwell

Faulkner, J. A. Kuehn

North Pulaski, (no director of missions)

Pulaski, C. A. Johnson

Buckville, (no director of missions)

Central, Carl Overton

Garland, (no director of missions)

EAST CENTRAL AREA (District 6)

Calvary, L. Bert Edwards

Caroline, W. T. Byrum

Tri-County, Robert Tucker

Arkansas Valley, Carl Fawcett

Centennial, (no director of missions)

SOUTHWEST AREA (District 7)

Caddo River, A. A. Brady

Little River, (no director of missions)

Red River, Charles D. Conner

Southwest Arkansas, Leo Hughes

SOUTHEAST AREA (District 8)

Harmony, Freddie Pike

Carey, Don Williams

Bartholomew, Raymond Reed

Liberty, Tommy Robertson

Ashley, Norman Lewis

Delta, Thomas Darter

by Millie Gill/ABN staff writer

Marc Cramsey began serving May 24 as minister of music and youth at the Lake Village Church. A graduate of Arkansas Tech University, he is married to the former Hazel Wesson of Lonoke. They have one son, Austin. Cramsey has served on the staff of the Delaware First Church and as Dardanelle-Russellville Association music director.



Cramsey

Delbert Kelley has accepted the call to serve as pastor of the First Penn Memorial Church of Eureka Springs, coming there from a pastorate with the Gould Douglas

Church. **Johnny Lemmons** is serving as pastor of the Concord Church, coming there from the Cash Church.

Jimmy Watson celebrated his tenth anniversary May 21 as pastor of the Pine Bluff Greenlee Memorial Church.

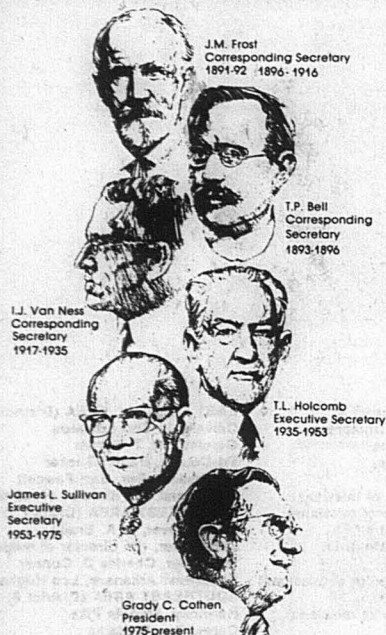
Bob James has resigned as minister to youth at the Batesville First Church to accept a similar staff position with the Green Street Church in High Point, N.C.

Kerry Phillips is joining the staff of Mountain Home First Church to work with youth. He is a junior at Ouachita Baptist University, majoring in music.

Tommy Monk has been called to serve as pastor of the

Pleasant Plains Church. **James E. Butler** of Hot Springs died May 14 at the Little Rock Baptist Medical Center. He was a deacon, Sunday School worker and choir member at Hot Springs First Church. Butler served as minister of music at Hot Springs Park Place Church for nine years and as interim music director at the Hot Springs Leonard Street, Rector Heights and Central churches. He was band director at the Southwest Junior High School. Survivors include his wife, Jerelyn, a son, a daughter, two foster children, five grandchildren and a twin brother. His son, Mike, is on the staff of Hot Springs Central Church and his brother, C. D. Butler, works for the Missouri Baptist Convention.

John Slatton has been called as pastor of the Paragould Fairview Church.



A Tradition of Trust

Six pastors have served as Chief Executive Officer of your Sunday School Board since its beginning in May, 1891. Each of these leaders has been committed to providing the best possible Christian literature—all for the purpose of leading persons to God through Jesus Christ.

This commitment has been shared by Sunday School Board employees throughout ninety years of service. The commitment is as much a sacred trust today as in 1891—a tradition of trust that will continue in the future.



The Sunday School Board
Serving you for ninety years

Grady C. Cothen, President

Third Century Campaign



Total cash contributions received in office of Executive Secretary of Executive Board during the months of January through April, 1981. Second column shows total campaign contributions to date.

The campaign will also receive \$6,000 from a deferred gift. The donor is retaining income for the life of the surviving spouse.

Church	Year to Date	Total Gifts to Campaign	Church	Year to Date	Total Gifts to Campaign
Individual Receipts	\$16,193.00	\$133,007.26	Calvary		
Arkansas Baptist Foundation		2,420.29	Antioch		100.00
S. A. Whitlow Memorial	175.00	850.00	Central, Bald Knob	300.71	2,068.39
Malvern 1st	300.00	1,275.00	Judsonia 1st		2,996.96
Russellville 1st	533.42	4,189.54	McCroy 1st	250.86	1,554.50
Arkansas Valley			Norrow, Disbanded		31.20
Brinkley 1st		1,300.00	Pleasant Grove	100.00	300.00
Clarendon 1st	246.64	1,391.49	Rose Bud		529.26
Elaine		1,250.00	Searcy 1st	250.00	3,750.00
Helena 1st	470.68	3,377.09	Temple, Searcy		
Hughes 1st	200.00	2,150.00	Tupelo 1st	70.86	459.12
Marianna 1st	168.88	1,156.84	West Point		45.00
West Helena 2nd		765.30	Royal Hill		25.00
Ashley			Carey		
Crosssett 1st	400.00	3,500.00	Bearden 1st	370.00	1,480.00
Hambury 1st			Calvary, Camden	156.46	837.94
North Crosssett 1st	90.03	573.15	Fordyce 1st	466.64	4,666.64
Shiloh	40.26	378.85	Hampton 1st	100.00	1,710.00
Temple, Crosssett	200.00	200.00	Sparkman 1st	106.00	1,050.00
Bartholomew			Thornton 1st	50.00	567.50
Corinth	48.00	144.00	Caroline		
Ladelle	67.04	255.28	Biscoe 1st	164.47	1,502.66
Monticello 1st		60.77	Caney Creek		265.00
Warren 1st	483.32	4,833.24	Carlisle 1st	409.79	4,726.14
Wilmar	75.00	925.00	Coy 1st	53.60	228.75
Benton County			Des Arc 1st	311.69	2,919.88
Bella Vista	479.24	3,106.85	England 1st		2,000.00
Central Ave., Bentonville		70.49	Hazen 1st	193.43	1,847.31
Garfield 1st		60.00	Humnoke 1st		400.00
Lowell	60.00	60.00	Keo	125.42	1,353.74
Pleasant Hill	14.19	306.63	Lonoke	200.00	1,350.00
Siloam Springs 1st	300.00	3,929.67	Mt. Carmel	140.00	1,400.00
Black River			Toltec	178.19	1,740.11
Campbell Station	100.00	300.00	Ward 1st		30.00
Imboden 1st	125.30	512.27	Wattensaw	119.84	1,059.35
Immanuel, Newport	102.00	102.00	Centennial		
New Hope #2, Hardy		50.00	DeWitt 1st		3,000.00
Newport 1st	505.22	4,189.26	North Maple, Stuttgart	112.53	886.96
Southside	25.00	75.00	Reydel 1st	100.00	855.00
Swifton	200.00	600.00	Stuttgart 1st	1044.00	7,832.00
Walnut Ridge 1st	400.00	1,600.00	Faith Bapt. Church	20.00	140.00
Buckner			Central		
Abbott	24.36	246.57	Benton 1st		7,700.00
Fellowship		160.00	Central, Hot Springs		3,000.00
Hartford 1st		500.00	Highland Heights	333.32	3,082.49
Haw Creek	99.73	1,071.73	Hot Springs 1st	120.00	2,160.00
Manfield 1st	167.25	1,551.47	Hot Springs 2nd	1000.00	10,000.00
Midland 1st	97.08	897.01	Lake Hamilton	75.00	1,050.00
New Providence		164.32	Lakeshore Heights	60.00	420.00
Pleasant Grove #2, Abbott		350.00	Malvern 1st	200.00	1,550.00
Waldron 1st		2,400.00	Riverside	20.00	190.00
Caddo River			Trinity, Benton	200.00	200.00
Mt. Ida 1st	152.39	1,556.53	Trinity, Malvern	51.99	294.61
Norman 1st		175.00	Walnut Valley	86.92	502.01
Oden 1st		300.00	Barcelona Road Mission	174.28	1,118.66
Clear Creek			Clear Creek		
Batson		50.00	Batson		50.00
Clarksville 1st		2,975.67	Clarksville 1st	393.23	2,975.67
Concord		756.59	Concord		756.59
Mountainburg 1st		66.00	Mountainburg 1st		66.00

Third Century Campaign report

Church	Year to Date	Total Gifts to Campaign	Church	Year to Date	Total Gifts to Campaign
Oak Grove		1,000.00	Immanuel, Pine Bluff		510.00
Van Buren 1st	400.00	4,000.00	Lee Memorial	348.00	1,833.15
Concord			Linwood		100.00
Concord Association		2,000.00	Oak Grove	72.91	472.37
Booneville 1st	66.68		Pine Bluff 1st		3,000.00
Calvary, Ft. Smith		500.00	Pine Bluff 2nd	250.00	2,150.00
Central 1st Southern	84.00	779.18	Nixon	216.00	1,180.00
Charleston 1st		100.00	South Side, Pine Bluff		1,000.00
East Side, Ft. Smith	918.61	7,557.34	Star City 1st		1,073.73
Fort Smith 1st	1416.69	4,436.66	Watson Chapel	440.98	4,513.53
Glendale		104.00	White Sulphur Springs	231.14	2,072.27
Grand Avenue, Ft. Smith	800.00	7,600.00	Independence		
Lavaca 1st	200.00	800.00	Batesville 1st	693.32	5,796.61
Nixon, Booneville	66.00	66.00	Calvary, Batesville	292.00	2,902.00
St. Harmony		50.00	Calvary, Timbo		120.00
Oak Cliff	315.23	2,326.42	Cushman		56.87
Palestine		100.00	Deaha 1st		477.00
Paris 1st	439.59	4,725.62	Emmanuel, Batesville		
Pine Log	112.62	356.19	Floral	11.25	830.79
South Side, Booneville	170.32	535.12	Marcella		300.00
South Side, Ft. Smith	413.22	4,108.37	Mountain View 1st	205.66	1,907.30
Spradling	196.00	998.50	Mt. Zion	20.00	251.28
Temple, Ft. Smith	350.00	350.00	Pilgrims Rest		762.30
Windsor Park		1,600.00	Pleasant Plains		125.00
Conway Ferry			Raddell Hill	118.77	1,202.22
Casa 1st	43.24	338.41	Salado		300.00
Morrilton 1st		780.00	Sulphur Rock	59.96	515.32
Nimrod 1st		400.00	West, Batesville	412.46	1,684.79
Solpohachia		74.00	White River		170.00
Current-Gaines			Liberty		
Corning 1st		1,000.00	Caledonia		100.00
Greenway 1st	45.08	360.64	Callion 1st		1,783.70
Piggott 1st	399.92	3,335.56	Candlen 1st	250.00	1,400.00
Rector 1st	170.00	1,700.00	Ebenezer		600.00
St. Francis		101.00	El Dorado 1st		7,500.00
Dardanelle-Russellville			El Dorado 2nd		480.00
Atkins 1st	179.02	1,387.87	Galilee	60.00	679.79
Centerville	83.63	610.95	Harmony		800.00
Dardanelle 1st	214.57	2,588.92	Hillside	1446.75	1,515.00
Dover	137.30	853.75	Immanuel, El Dorado		4,461.50
Rector 1st		117.85	Joyce City	203.76	1,558.06
Ola 1st	56.26	191.70	Junction City 1st	100.00	975.00
Pleasant View		300.00	Liberty	82.48	517.50
Delta			Midway		503.64
Bellaire		750.00	Morphlet 1st	100.00	775.00
Collins		650.00	Parkview	369.27	3,180.67
Dermott		3,100.00	Smackover, 1st	300.00	1,150.00
Budora		153.00	Stephens 1st	365.00	2,585.00
Jerome		423.90	Strong 1st	321.51	2,612.65
Keisao		300.00	Trinity, El Dorado	100.00	300.00
Lake Village	500.00	2,250.00	Urbana 1st		1,200.00
McGehee 1st	400.00	2,900.00	West Side, El Dorado		1,200.00
Portland	149.91	1,248.53	Little Red River		
Temple, Dermott		300.00	Center Ridge		150.00
Tillar 1st	40.00	90.00	Mt. Olive		600.00
Faulkner			Palestine	73.79	791.76
Conway 2nd	876.45	5,468.52	Pines		565.32
Holland		150.00	Pleasant Valley		150.00
Pickles Gap	170.00	1,860.00	Post Oak		76.47
Pleasant Grove	69.10	1,037.26	Quitman		600.00
Woofter 1st	143.32	1,322.31	Little River		
Greene County			Ashdown 1st		280.00
East Side, Paragould	196.18	1,296.26	Diarka 1st	43.02	258.12
Immanuel, Paragould		200.04	Foreman, 1st	169.65	201.18
Nutts Chapel		151.86	Hicks 1st	66.11	504.61
Paragould 1st	750.00	5,250.00	Lockesbury 1st	166.89	641.46
West View	59.37	2,149.37	Mississippi County		
Harmony			Blytheville 1st	2185.00	6,655.00
Harmony Association		50.00	Calvary, Osceola		200.00
Centennial	263.20	2,540.87	Leachville 1st	200.00	2,000.00
Douglas		165.00	Manila 1st	119.00	849.00
Dumas 1st	109.00	3,590.00	Osceola 1st		2,000.00
Forrest Park	300.00	3,000.00	Wilson 1st		200.00
Grady 1st		42.73	Mt. Zion		
Green Meadows		1,456.00	Central, Jonesboro	400.00	4,000.00
Hardin	181.96	2,167.95	Jonesboro 1st	833.32	10,858.32

Third Century Campaign report

Church	Year to Date	Total Gifts to Campaign	Church	Year to Date	Total Gifts to Campaign
Monette 1st		1,500.00	Arkadelphia 2nd	280.00	3,000.00
Mt. Zion		1,500.00	Beech Street, Gordon	328.51	2,432.83
Philadelphia	80.00	780.00	Belzine 1st		150.00
North Arkansas			Bethel		30.00
Batavia			Center Point		
Bear Creek Springs		500.00	Curtis	67.88	695.14
Bellafonte		200.00	Harmony Hill		200.00
Berryville 1st	50.00	200.00	Park Hill	238.04	1,604.88
Boxley	40.00	390.00	Prescott 1st	200.00	1,340.00
Cassville		1,310.00	Richwoods	75.00	465.00
Deer		113.00	Third Street, Arkadelphia	91.58	404.23
Deer		156.00	Rocky Bayou		
East Heights	240.00	2,460.00	Belview		171.16
Elmwood			Melbourne 1st		1,500.00
Emmanuel, Harrison		55.25	Southwest Arkansas		
Eureka Springs 1st		200.00	Beech Street 1st	400.00	1,694.38
Everton		426.00	Bradley		925.00
Freeman Heights	427.93	1,810.06	Calvary, Texarkana	214.34	1,132.34
Gaither		55.05	Canfield	22.02	257.04
Grandview 1st	66.45	840.38	Central, Magnolia	1327.00	13,208.88
Green Forest 1st	265.29	1,114.97	Fooke 1st		1873.02
Grubb Springs		330.00	Hope 1st	819.99	7,119.00
Harrison 1st	733.32	733.32	Immanuel, Magnolia		896.57
Hopewell (see below)			Immanuel, Texarkana	20.00	260.00
Jasper 1st		659.97	Lewisville 1st		250.00
Lead Hill 1st	75.79	579.48	Memorial		1,000.00
Northvale		650.00	Rose Hill		60.00
Osage (see below)		80.00	Shiloh Memorial		650.00
Parthenon		93.97	South Texarkana		801.82
Rock Springs	27.77	432.42	Stamps 1st	200.00	2,000.00
Rudd		257.00	Tri County		
St. Joe 1st		150.00	Calvary, West Memphis	395.79	1,404.72
South side, Harrison		30.00	Cherry Valley	269.04	1,076.16
Trinity		222.15	Forrest City 1st	300.00	2,121.14
Union		100.00	Forrest City 2nd		559.11
Valley Springs	114.80	966.81	Parkin 1st		2,700.00
Woodland Heights	185.14	1,432.86	Union Avenue, Wynne		100.00
Lakeland		150.00	West Memphis 1st		7,000.00
North Pulaski			Wynne	385.50	5,011.50
Baring Cross	630.00	9,200.47	Trinity		
Bayou Meto	374.83	1,031.39	Trumann 1st	340.00	3,620.00
Bethany	169.49	1,527.53	North Central		
Calvary, No. Little Rock	554.98	5,549.67	Clinton 1st	195.00	2,338.00
Graves Memorial	127.00	1,447.57	Leslie 1st	230.00	690.00
Indianhead Lake	120.15	1,342.07	Formosa		10.00
Jacksonville 1st	680.56	6,798.31	Washington-Madison		
North Little Rock 1st	800.00	3,400.00	Calvary, Huntsville	54.18	388.44
Park Hill	1666.68	16,666.68	Farmington 1st	60.00	260.00
Pike Avenue, NLR	531.93	4,856.00	Fayetteville 1st	786.09	12,797.20
Remount		710.00	Huntsville 1st		100.00
Sherwood, 1st	254.01	254.01	Johnson		100.00
Ouachita			Liberty	155.33	1,774.27
Dallas Avenue, Mena		250.00	Prairie Grove 1st	228.65	1,436.34
DeQueen 1st	450.00	3,600.00	Holling Hills		1,455.00
Mena 1st	86.68	866.80	University, Fayetteville		800.00
Wickes 1st	67.88	443.05	West Fork	100.00	700.00
Pulaski County			Winslow 1st	79.67	574.04
Archview	410.63	703.15	White River		
Bryant 1st Southern	100.00	100.00	Cotter 1st		600.00
Calvary, Little Rock		170.00	Flippin 1st	135.23	1,097.51
Crystal Hill	121.50	1,660.50	Gasville (see below)		
Forest Highlands	549.37	2,199.37	Lone Rock	9.96	236.09
Forest Tower	31.49	253.28	Midway		632.71
Garden Homes		25.00	Mountain Home 1st	701.49	10,429.53
Geyer Springs 1st	335.00	11,335.00	New Hope	59.31	383.15
Immanuel, Little Rock	450.00	9,450.00	Whiteville, Gasaville	100.00	100.00
Lakeshore Drive	277.40	1,480.19	Yellville	215.69	1,483.86
Life Line		3,125.00	Special Church Gifts (Not Endowment)		
Little Rock 1st	50.00	225.00	Hopewell, North Arkansas		42.90
Little Rock 2nd	166.68	1,325.09	Osage, North Arkansas		240.00
Martindale	220.26	2,019.17	Gasaville, White River		1,120.00
Parkway Place		1,554.00			
Pine Grove	123.11	1,223.39			
Pleasant Grove		1,960.85			
Pulaski Heights	1333.38	10,846.64			
Shady Grove		300.00			
South Highland	308.32	2,643.18			
Sunset Lane		1,250.00			
Tyler Street, Little Rock	201.26	1,960.85			
Vine Ridge Emmanuel	118.87	924.27			
Woodlawn	245.01	1,769.60			
Red River					
Arkadelphia 1st	1946.25	7,115.33			



Little

International

May 31, 1981
Hebrews 12:1-3
by Bob Little
Ashdown First Church

Perfector of our faith

This chapter presents a summary of the Christian life. The writer uses the analogy of an athletic contest—a race. The grandstands are filled with such as those referred to in this chapter. They encourage the participants by shouting, "It pays to be faithful, to give your best." The runners are not running against each other, yet they must have a winning attitude. There can be no half-hearted participants, there is simply no room for them. The runner who keeps picking them up and laying them down finishes.

The goal (Heb. 12:1-2)

The Christian life is a race with a definite objective. Jesus is not only our example but the one to whom we are to continually look. To look around us, at the crowd or other attractions, would invite an unsteady run and the sure possibility of stumbling. To keep from growing weary we must be careful that unnecessary burdens are not carried. Jesus made it and because he did we can too.

The opposition (Heb. 12:3-4)

There is nothing easy about the Christian life. No runner runs a race without feeling resistance. There will always be heard the suggestion to quit, give up. We are encouraged to remember what Jesus went through, and the faithfulness of many other runners who endured and made it. So, don't give up too soon, don't slow down, don't stop; keep on going until you get to the end.

The discipline of God (Heb. 12:5-13)

The Christian will face hardships. These hardships and afflictions are not for the purpose of hindering our progress but enable it. God uses life's circumstances to build us up.

God is a loving Father. He explains that a father who cares for his child will discipline him. Because God loves us and cares what happens to us he will not stand by and watch us destroy ourself. So, as we run this race, God will use circumstances, or whatever, to help us keep our attention on Jesus. When we sin, take on unnecessary weight, he will use whatever means necessary to convict and bring us to repentance. Remember, it is because we are his children that he disciplines us. He does not discipline those who do not belong to him.

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

For sale 1965 Ford church bus

6 cylinder. 54 passenger. Low mileage since major work. Best offer.
501-655-8201 or 655-8428

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

SEE PASSION PLAY OF CHRIST'S LIFE ON EARTH

Internationally acclaimed outdoor drama. Visit the many local attractions of "LITTLE SWITZERLAND" and take a scenic train ride. "AAA" rated. Heated pool. Several large new rooms ideal for church groups. For brochure, church and group rates write: **SWISS VILLAGE MOTEL**, Rt. 1, Box 5, Eureka Springs, Ark. 72632, or call (501) 253-9541. Jack and Mae Rush, your new hosts.

Get the message

John delivered God's message to seven Asian churches. Was there a danger they would not get the word? Like casual readers, they could miss the point. Each church was warned, "He that hath an ear, let him hear."



Walker

Each message was based upon knowledge of the local situation. The Messenger affirmed, "I know." After affirming his knowledge, he declared details of the churches' life.

Laodicea, of all the churches, needed to get the message. This church was not commended.

Accused

Laodicea was a banking, trading and medical center. Major Roman roads converged at Laodicea. The city was so rich that it refused Roman aid when hit by an earthquake around A.D. 60.

The city was satisfied and complacent. And this attitude infiltrated the church. The local congregation was "neither hot nor cold."

Self-satisfaction led to delusion. Laodicea's believers boasted, "I am rich and well off; I have all I need." They probably had money in the bank, untouched by local needs. They were blind to their real condition.

Spurned

"The Amen" could not stand a lukewarm church. He promised to spew them out of his mouth. A nearby spring, at Hierapolis, promised weary travelers refreshing water. When they tasted the warm mineral water, they immediately spit it out. Laodicea was sickening to Christ. Complacency was rejected.

Rebuked

Christ rebuked the deluded people. Instead of being rich, they were miserable, pitiful, poor, naked and blind. Luke-warmness caused the church to be caloused.

Did such a congregation have any hope? It did. "As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten" (v. 19).

Advised

Christ counseled the church to buy wisdom. In life's trading center they were to buy true riches from their Lord. In-

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.

Life and Work

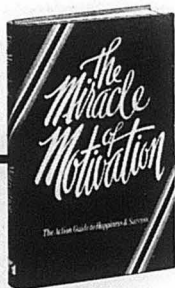
May 31, 1981

Revelation 3:14-22

by James A. Walker
Stewardship Director
Arkansas Baptist State Convention

stead of buying Laodicea's famous black wool, they were advised to purchase white clothes to cover their nakedness. The god Asclepius could not heal their blindness, but Christ could.

The ever present Christ stood at this church's door. He desired an open door to sup with them. Our hope is in the difference between "will spew" and "will sup."



THE MIRACLE OF MOTIVATION.

Every chapter of this practical book takes you another step on the road to success. In this book you'll find action chapters, Motivational Memos, and the Success Seeker's Easy Index—tools to help you achieve your goals and realize your dreams. Author George Shinn says, "You too can turn your failures into brilliant opportunities. You too can set imaginative and daring goals and reach them." Cloth, \$8.95.



GROUPS — Reserve NOW for THE GREAT PASSION PLAY (thru Oct.)
Tickets, lodging, meals and swimming all for just \$16 each
at **KELLER'S COUNTRY DORM RESTAURANT**
Rt. 1, Eureka Springs, Ark. 72632
Call 501/253-8418 today!



Hacker

Bible Book

May 31, 1981

I Samuel 16:1-17:58

by S. D. Hacker
Independence Association

God's preparation of David

With deep sorrow over King Saul's failures, Samuel prepared to anoint another to take Saul's place. David, the appointee, is the principal figure of this third section of I Samuel. God rebuked Samuel for his prolonged mourning over Saul's human failures. This time the choice of king would not rest on magnificence of physique and prestige, but on qualities patterned after God's own heart.

Saul's deterioration

The Bible records in I Samuel 16:14, "An evil spirit troubled him." God's sovereignty over all forces of good and evil are still under the government of God. God allowed Saul to be king; therefore, he also had the authority to remove Saul when he failed.

David's preparation

David was groomed for the throne step by step. The shepherding of sheep provided his school of preparation. Note (1) his responsibility to his father's expectation; (2) his life laid on the line in defending his sheep; (3) his scouting for shelter and defense, for food and rest; (4) his constant search for ways to express the yearnings of his heart toward God. Good leadership qualities were being formed in David as he worked with the sheep. His talents and his gallantry against Goliath opened the door for him to the palace.

Contrasts of Saul and David

As commander-in-chief of the military, Saul was utterly incompetent. David, conscious and sure of the strength of God and aware of the true greatness of his people, went out to battle the Philistine champion with very little human resources and was divinely victorious. Insults, curses, spears and swords wielded by unbelievers could not withstand the power of God then; neither can they do so today.

Conclusion

David demonstrated his fitness for the kingly position; he clearly understood his people's strength was in the power of God. The forces of Satan will continue to threaten all who take a stand for God. Now is the time to acknowledge our total allegiance to the Lord God. Only those things done in the strength and power of the Lord will bring victory.

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.

Wanted: Christian couple

to teach in Christian school.
Circle H Youth Ranch at Nimrod.
Would prefer one have training in special education.
Housing, utilities, groceries, etc., furnished.

Call Don Grendell, 432-5221

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

Stewardship

Convention expenses

Distance and inflation send convention costs out-of-sight this year. Churches or conventions aren't in a position to issue a carte blanche to convention messengers for convention expenses. How can Baptists attend the convention in Los Angeles with a sense of responsible stewardship?

Those who attend conventions should keep an itemized list of all expenditures and report these to the sponsoring body.

It's not too late to cut some expenses the second week in June. These tips will also save money for families who plan a

personal, not convention, accounts.
• Avoid rip-offs. Learn from past experiences. — James A. Walker, Director

Sunday School

Start new classes and departments

When has a Sunday school reached its maximum enrollment? There may be several answers. If there are no prospects, there is no growth. If there is no work force (leadership), there is no growth. If there is no more space, there is no growth. And if the organization is full, there is no growth.

When is the organization full? Again there are several answers. An organization is full when the space for each unit in the organization is full. An organization is full when each unit has reached a ceiling enrollment. An organization is full when the ratio of leaders to members has reached maximum level. And an organization is full if it has remained the same over an extended period of time.

Many Sunday schools have reached their maximum enrollment because their organization has remained the same year after year. How long has it been since there was a new department or class created in your Sunday school?

The third basic action of Sunday school growth is to start new classes and departments. In earlier articles the basic actions to make a commitment to growth and identify and enroll prospects have been discussed.

The principle is stated, reaching people depends upon the creation of new units designed to meet growth potential at hand. New classes and departments provide the Sunday school the greatest help in reaching new people. Existing classes and departments tend to become content. Existing classes are often more concerned with absentees than they are with prospects.

Growing Sunday schools keep on starting new classes and departments. New classes and departments thus provide more leaders to be involved in outreach efforts. As more people join the outreach team, more work is done and more people are reached.

Sunday school leaders should study their present organization to see where new classes and departments are need-

ed. Present enrollment plus prospects should be considered. Build the organization to include present enrollment and prospects.

Planning for growth precedes growth. Following the principles of growth in a balanced fashion will produce growth. Leadership will be the key to planning and producing growth. New classes and departments should be started in areas where needed as quickly as necessary planning and preparation can be made. It is not necessary to wait until the beginning of the new Sunday school year. Do it now!

The Sunday school enrollment goal for the Southern Baptist Convention is 8.5 by '85. What is the goal for your Sunday school? New classes and departments are a must if we are to meet our goals.

The next article in this series will relate to the fourth action: enlist workers. — Don Cooper, associate director Sunday School Dept.



Cooper

Family and Child Care Say it with a memorial gift

When my mother died more than nine years ago, our family received many cards and flowers from friends as an expression of love and sympathy. They meant so much to us during that time of sorrow and the thoughts have lingered through the years.

In addition to cards and flowers we received another very meaningful expression of loving concern. It was a card from the church where I was pastor acknowledging that a gift had been made to the church in memory of my mother.

Memorials are scriptural. They are used of the Lord to keep important events before his people. The Lord's Supper is a vivid example of a memorial.

Many people make memorial gifts to Arkansas Baptist Family and Child Care Services. They wish to perpetuate pleasant memories and Godly influences through the lives of others. Flowers are beautiful but their beauty is temporary. Memorial gifts invested in young lives continue to beautify the earth.

In addition to memorial gifts, many are making contributions in honor of some person. It may be a parent, child, pastor, teacher, neighbor or friend.

If you are interested in making a memorial or "In Honor" gift, send it to Arkansas Baptist Family and Child Care Services, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203.

Homer W. Shirley Jr., Director of Development, Arkansas Baptist Family and Child Care Services.

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

summer vacation.

- Make motel/hotel reservations early and request a room rate when the reservation is made.
- Share a room with a fellow pastor or a friend while at the convention.
- Make little use of room service.
- Ask a travel agent to book flights far in advance and request the lowest possible rate.
- Couples or friends can travel together and share car expenses.
- Use public transportation, buses or limousines, while in the host city.
- Shun expensive restaurants. Expense accounts should cover a lifestyle practiced at home.
- Eat a light snack once a day.
- Charge personal items or gifts to