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Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1985-1989

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

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9-26-1985

**September 26, 1985**

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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So much food,  
so many hungry

World Hunger Day Oct. 13

SOUTHERN BAPTIST  
LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES  
Historical Commission  
Nashville, Tenn

September 26, 1985

**Arkansas Baptist**  
Newsmagazine

## On the cover



(BP) photo by Don Rutledge

This elderly man and woman walked for two days across Ethiopia's highlands to the Baptist feeding and health care center at Rabel to find sanctuary from the land-ravaging drought. Southern Baptists will mark their concern for the survival of Africa's starving millions—in a world with plenty of food—on World Hunger Day Oct. 13 (see related articles on pp. 8-9).

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## In this issue

### 4 'no violation'

Wayne Allen, whose parliamentary ruling during June's Southern Baptist Convention may now be the subject of a lawsuit, defends his interpretation of the SBC bylaws.

### 10-11 SBC housing

The annual drawing for housing at the SBC annual meeting next June is fast upon us. The necessary form and information is provided this week, along with a reminder applications should not be postmarked before Oct. 1.

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OCTOBER						
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## Next month in Arkansas

**October 1-2, WMU Area Conference,** Calvary Church, West Memphis. Annual training event for WMU leadership, sponsored by Arkansas WMU.

**October 3, WMU Area Conference,** Central Church, North Little Rock. Same as Oct. 1-2 conference.

**October 4-6, State Baptist Student Convention,** University of Arkansas at Little Rock. Annual gathering of Arkansas college students for fellowship and study. Sponsored by Arkansas Student Department.

**October 5-12, Arkansas Senior Adult Chataoua,** Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, North Carolina. An annual conference for senior adults and ministry leaders to provide worship, fellowship and leadership training. Sponsored by Arkansas Church Training Department.

**October 19, GA Missions Spectacular,** Camp Paron. An opportunity for GAs and their leaders to hear first-hand about mission work from Baptist missionaries. Sponsored by Arkansas WMU.

**October 22, Church Training Convention,** Immanuel Church, Little

Rock. An annual event sponsored by Arkansas Church Training to provide leadership training for church and associational Church Training leaders, as well as pastors and staff members.

**October 24-25, Baptist Women Retreat,** Camp Paron. Annual time of missions education and inspiration for Arkansas Baptist women. Sponsored by Arkansas WMU.

**October 24-25, Music Men and Singing Women Retreat,** Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia. Annual opportunity for personal enrichment and rehearsals in preparation for the annual State Convention and Evangelism Conference. Sponsored by Arkansas Music Department.

**October 25-26, Baptist Women Retreat,** Camp Paron. A repeat of the Oct. 24-25 retreat program.

**October 28-31, National CWT Seminar,** Life Line Church, Little Rock. One of three annual seminars sponsored by the Arkansas Evangelism Department to certify participants to begin witness training programs in their local churches. Registration cut-off date is Sept. 28.

## Free rice available for distribution

Hunger is a problem in Arkansas, as well as West Africa, says Lehman Fowler, a Baptist layman from Brinkley. And Southern Baptist church groups who want to help ease hunger pangs in their own communities have somewhere to turn.

The Arkansas Rice Depot is a non-profit, interdenominational organization dedicated to getting free Arkansas rice to hungry families in the state. According to Fowler, who is vice-chairman of the group, 25-pound bags of rice will be given free of

charge to any church willing to distribute it. Usually, the rice is broken down into three-pound bags for distribution, he explained.

The Arkansas Rice Depot was launched by Arkansas' Interfaith Hunger Task Force, Fowler said. The ABCS Hunger Committee nominates a Southern Baptist to the organization's board of directors.

Persons desiring more information may contact Laura Ray at the Arkansas Rice Depot, 825 W. Third, Little Rock, AR 72201, telephone 376-2315.

## Jeff Main named admissions director at SBC

Jeff Main has been named director of admissions at Southern Baptist College in Walnut Ridge, according to D. Jack Nicholas, president of the college.

Main, a native of Evansville, Ind., has serv-

ed in the admissions office for more than three years as a representative in Southern's recruiting program. He is a former student of Southern and succeeds Jim Brewer, who left to complete further educational work.



Most of us have never known the awesome and devastating effects of prolonged hunger. The current issue of *The Commission* magazine, the major publication of the Foreign Mission Board, reports on current hunger and relief actions of the Southern Baptist Convention. A study of this and other data will disturb our conscience and make us proud of what Southern Baptists are doing in an effort to alleviate hunger. Admittedly, we should be doing much more. But, at the present time, the most effective work being done to alleviate hunger is being done by our foreign missionaries.

Yet, more must be done. The words and pictures of an article entitled, "A Trail of Tears," (*The Commission*, September 1985, page 52) will haunt anyone with a Christian conscience. The article by Robert O'Brien begins, "Look in all directions, Bernahu, and try not to believe you see nothing but dry, rock-strewn desolation."

"Push from your mind the hunger pains gnawing inside as you put one foot before the other, heading toward salvation or oblivion."

In providing help to others, we express the true nature of a child of God. Jesus said, "... Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me" (Matt. 25:40).

Matthew 25 contains one of the most vivid lessons ever spoken, and its message is crystal clear. Jesus mentioned giving a hungry man a meal or a thirsty man a drink. The list of areas in which we could help others was intended by our Lord to be suggestive, not exhaustive. But all of the things that were mentioned by Christ are things that can be done by any individual.

Second, our help is to be spontaneous and uncalculating. Those who offered the helping hand were not aware that they were helping Christ. Their response was natural, instinctive and a simple reaction of love. Those whom Christ characterized as the wicked in effect said, "If we had known that we were helping you, we would have done it gladly. But we thought we were only helping some insignificant person who was not worth helping."

Jesus makes it clear that all such help given to others is a help which is given to him. Conversely, if we withhold help from those who are in need, we are withholding help from him. It is obvious that the way to delight the heart of God is for his children to help their fellowman.

Arkansas Baptists and Southern Baptists have done a great deal in trying to alleviate the problem of world hunger. In 1984, Arkansas Baptists gave \$214,088, and in 1985 to date we have given

\$166,738. The Southern Baptist Convention gave more than \$7.2 million last year to world hunger.

Arkansas Baptists also confronted hunger needs in Ghana. Originally, Arkansans had pledged to send 240,000 pounds of rice and 5,000 blankets for the relief effort. The response to the challenge was so great that our farmers gave 320,000 pounds of rice, which represented two extra shipments. But, even so, we can not afford to rest on our past record of giving while countless hundreds are literally starving to death.

The question arises, "How should our help be provided?" The best avenue, by far, is through our Foreign Mission Board. There are several reasons. First, when we send our world hunger offering to the Southern Baptist Convention, there is absolutely no administrative cost taken from the offering. Many other such programs have a 20 percent or more administrative cost. A few programs require two-thirds of the money or more for administrative and advertising costs.

Second, our Southern Baptist missionaries are on the field and they see that the food is delivered to the point of greatest need. In some efforts, the food is sold on the black market, or on occasion it sits on the docks until it has rotted. Our Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board will not send food until there is a definite plan for it to be delivered to hungry people.

It is easy for those of us who are well fed to forget about the hungry. Unless we have a definite, consistent plan, little or nothing will be done to alleviate this problem. The following are a few suggestions on how money might be raised to help the hungry around the world:

(1) Some churches have pledged a definite amount in their church budget for world hunger. Other congregations, who have Wednesday night meals, pass world hunger offering containers.

(2) Some families have pledged to give a full day's wages to the world hunger offering.

(3) Some have proposed a fast day for world hunger. The money that would normally be spent on food would be given to the world hunger offering. This might reduce the waistline of some of us who are overweight.

(4) Others have pledged a \$10 a plate Brotherhood meal in which a light snack would be served. The profit would be given to the world hunger offering.

The method for collecting the money is not important. But it is urgent that we assist the starving people of the world. Let's resolve to do more in 1985 to eliminate this monumental problem.

# Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

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

VOLUME 84 NUMBER 37

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Letters to the editor expressing opinions are invited. Letters should be typed double-spaced and must not contain more than 350 words and must not duplicate the character of editors. They must be marked "for publication."

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# Parliamentarian sees no violation of bylaws in SBC ruling

by Mark Kelly

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — The parliamentarian who made a controversial ruling during June's annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention sees "absolutely no violation" of SBC bylaws in the ruling, as alleged by a Birmingham, Ala., layman.

Wayne Allen, pastor of Briarcrest Church, Memphis, Tenn., defended SBC President Charles Stanley's decision to rule out of order a motion by messenger James Slotton to amend the report of the SBC Committee on Committees.

News reports had indicated a Birmingham layman, Robert Crowder, had retained an attorney and intended to file suit if the SBC Executive Committee did not take steps to remedy what he alleged were violations of SBC bylaws involved in the ruling.

Allen denied Crowder's claim Stanley had violated bylaws and messenger rights by ruling the motion out of order, ignoring points of order on the matter and refusing calls for a floor vote on the ruling.

"There was absolutely no violation of the bylaws involved," asserted Allen, who said he had based his decision on three assertions: (1) nominations to the Committee on Boards may be made only by the Committee on Committees, based on an interpretation of the language of bylaw 16(1); (2) the Committee on Committees brings nominations, rather than a report to the convention; and (3) since the bylaws do not provide otherwise, under Robert's Rules of Order,

nominations may not be amended.

Critics of the ruling have contended the nominations of the Committee on Committees, like those of the Committee on Boards, constitute a report, which becomes the property of the body on its presentation. Messengers may then deal with it as they please, it is argued.

Much of the difficulty surrounding the ruling arose out of what Allen called "abnormal" procedures specified by the bylaws.

He noted the "distinctive language" of bylaw 16(1), which he interpreted as meaning only the Committee on Committees may make nominations to the convention for the Committee on Boards. In addition, he pointed out bylaw 16(8) provides for amendments to the "report" of the Committee on Boards. He called both processes "departures" from established parliamentary procedure which "conflict" with Robert's Rules of Order.

"The crucial distinction we saw was that the bylaws specifically state the Committee on Boards' nominations can be amended," said Allen. "This is a violation of Robert's Rules of Order, but bylaws can override those rules." The bylaws make no such provision in regard to the Committee on Committees, he added.

Since no provision is made for amendments to that report, Slotton's motion was out of order, Allen reasoned. Moreover, on the interpretation that the bylaws require a person be nominated by the Committee on

Committees, Slotton would have been ruled out of order even if he had offered additional nominations, rather than an amendment, Allen said.

"The bylaws require a person be nominated by the Committee on Committees," he asserted. "That is not a normal process."

"Personally, I think we would be better off to totally conform with Robert's Rules of Order in the process of nominations and elections," he added. "Unfortunately, neither process is followed strictly."

Based on this interpretation, Allen said all three convention parliamentarians had agreed messengers either accept or reject the nominations presented by the Committee on Committees. Should they reject them, a new slate would be prepared by the committee. Only nominations presented by the Committee on Committees may be considered, however, he held.

Allen said he sees no difficulty with that procedure "if that's the way messengers want to do things." He added: "That's the way we have interpreted the bylaws and a precedent has been set. If that's not what we want to do, the thing to do is rewrite the bylaws and let the convention vote on how they want to do it."

"A convention vote is the way to resolve this thing, not a court of law," he concluded.

**Mark Kelly is a staff writer for the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine.**

## Letters to the editor

### Follow their lead

My name is James A. Garrison, and I am a first-year student in the M.Div. program at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. I am writing to publicly express my appreciation of the work which Randall Lolley and the seminary administration and staff have done to make the school's buildings and programs wheelchair-accessible.

I am physically challenged by cerebral palsy and use a wheelchair and crutches to get about. Because of Southeastern's commitment to provide an accessible environment, I am able to further my education and preparation for ministry. I would strongly urge all churches and denominational agencies to follow Southeastern's lead and make their respective programs and ministries accessible to the millions of physically challenged people in our nation. — **James A. Garrison, Wake Forest**

### More on Job

Brother James O. Young, in the Newsmagazine "Letters to the editor" (Sept. 12), says we have missed the main lesson of Job in our Sunday School lessons and makes reference to Job's "negative untruths, and lying mouth." This is quite in contrast to God's assessment of Job's words, for he says to Job's

three friends, "you have not spoken of me what is right as my servant has" (42:7).

Job complained to God, challenged God's dealings with him, repeatedly asked God to give him a hearing and bring specific charges against him so he could defend himself. Job, however, never cursed or blasphemed God as Satan had claimed that he would.

In our study of Job, we must remember the time in which he lived and the country from which he came. Job had no Scriptures to guide him, no prophets to inform him of Satan, no scripture like Romans 8:28 to tell him that all things work together for good to them that love God.

As Job struggled with his sufferings, he came nearer and nearer to the conclusion that, somehow, God would vindicate him. His main problem was his selfrighteousness, which he repented of at once when God appeared to him in the storm.

As for Elihu, the young man who claimed to be wise and God's answer to Job's needs, a careful study of his speeches shows that he added little to what Job's three friends had said. In fact, Elihu only parroted what both Job and his three friends had spoken, but with much more enthusiasm and cockiness. This is characteristic of those only ankle-deep in their theology.

The one thing Elihu contributed that helped is the thought that suffering may be purifying and disciplinary. J.B. Tidwell has well said that the purpose of Job is to justify the goodness and wisdom of God in all matters of human suffering and to show that not all suffering is punitive. — **Walter H. Watts, Ft. Smith**

### Insurance needed

Two Baptist churches have suffered heavy loss by fire and smoke damage at the hands of arsonists in recent days. These incidents spotlight churches' needs for adequate insurance coverage. Two myths must be seen for what they are: (1) churches will burn, and (2) churches and pastors can be sued.

Every church needs expertise in determining insurance needs. This should take into consideration construction and replacement costs, as well as the inflation factor. Churches need liability insurance. One of the best insurance dollars is workman's compensation for the staff.

In-depth study of insurance needs at no cost is available to Southern Baptist churches. For information, call pastor John S. Ashcraft, 562-4437. I do not sell insurance. There is a service available. — **John S. Ashcraft, Little Rock**

Don Moore

## You'll be glad to know...

...God is really blessing in many of our churches! It is a constant battle to keep from writing about our individual experiences as Shirley and I go in to the churches. Well, I'm going to yield to the temptation, even with the risk of someone saying, "He did not write about our church."

It was a happy pastor and happy people who welcomed me and a guest singer on Sunday morning, Sept. 8, at First Church, West Fork. The parking area was filled with cars as we arrived. The lovely sanctuary would be filled soon. As I waited expectantly on the front pew, things began to happen.

A young man came to greet me. Introducing himself, he told me he had heard me in the revival I preached at Cummins Prison last year. He was in the free world and faithfully serving the Lord in a church that was reaching out to minister to him.

As I reviewed the bulletin with coming events, I observed they were going to do a People Search and distribute 500 New Testaments, Oct. 20-26. This would be preceded by a Prayer for Spiritual Awakening Seminar with Glendon Grober, Oct. 6-9. My heart was thrilled that our convention was providing tools and helps in assisting a church that really wanted to be the people of God.

The time of the next Continuous Witnessing Training cycle was announced with the report that 14 people had been won and baptized in their first cycle. Again, we had equipped the pastor for this leadership role.

A new convert, about 30-35 years of age, said as she left the service, "If I had not just been saved, I would have been this morning." She and her children had been gloriously saved and ministered to with material assistance by the church family. I praised the Lord.

People from other parts of the U.S. greeted us. They had been joyfully woven into the life of the church. A very enthusiastic Acteens worker shared her joy in what she is doing.

Pastor and Mrs. Page rounded out the morning with a lovely lunch in their new home.

This was a beautiful example of how a pastor and people can be used of God and helped by the denomination.



Moore

## The Southern accent

Fred C. Tubbs

### Southern Baptists striving together

Recently, while preparing a devotion for a freshman orientation program, a verse of scripture seemed to leap from the page of my Bible and into my heart. The program theme was "Together we strive," and the verse of scripture which vividly illustrated this thought was Philippians 1:27.

In that verse, Paul writes: "Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel" (NKJV).

Although my primary attention was focused upon the devotion for the freshman orientation program, I could not but think of our beloved Southern Baptist Convention. Just as this verse has something to say to an individual Christian and to a Christian college, it speaks volumes to us who call ourselves Southern Baptists.

The little word "strive" can have different meanings. It can mean a bitter conflict or dissension, an act of contention, an exertion for superiority or an earnest endeavor. Thus, the word is neither good nor bad in itself, but the context determines the meaning so that "striving against" and "striving together" are diametrically opposed.

In the context of Philippians 1:27, the Apostle Paul makes his meaning absolutely clear. He exhorts his Philippian constituents to "stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel." Paul is using a word picture here to emphasize unity, harmony and teamwork. The Greek word translated "striving" gives us the English terms "athlete" and "athletics." The best athletic teams are those with unity, the team striving together for a single purpose. The same principle is valid for a church, Christian college and for the SBC.

Paul emphasizes to the church at Philippi that they must conduct themselves in a worthy manner because of their Christian citizenship. As Southern Baptists, we need that reminder from time to time.

One day, a father saw his son off to college at Grand Central Station. He wanted to impart to his son a word of advice. Although the father wanted to say much, he could only utter one sentence: "Son, never forget who you are." And may we as Southern Baptists never forget who we are, where we came from and what we are to be about, "striving together for the faith of the gospel!"

Fred C. Tubbs is professor of religion at Southern Baptist College.

## Conference explores discipling laypeople

Arrowhead Springs, Calif.—The National Renewal Evangelism Conference will explore the layperson's call to discipleship and its relationship to spiritual renewal when it meets Oct. 31-Nov. 2 at Arrowhead Springs in California.

Featured speakers at the three-day event include Avery Willis, Robert Hamblin, Fred Roach, James Smith and Christine Gregory. The theme of the Home Mission Board

conference is "Crucified with Christ."

Conference equipping sessions will train participants in coordination of renewal events, leading renewal events for students, youth and children and leading lay ministry weekends.

For more information and to register for the conference, contact Reid Hardin, Home Mission Board, 1350 Spring Street, NW, Atlanta, GA 30367.

## Cooperative Program report: August

### January-August gifts

#### Summary for August 1985

Received	\$911,506.84
Budget	\$956,331.17
(Under)	(\$44,824.33)

Year	Over (under) budget to date	% increase over previous year
1980	\$157,060.07	13.07
1981	\$93,352.03	11.51
1982	(\$168,400.59)	8.46
1983	(\$119,354.43)	10.77
1984	(\$488,840.24)	2.84
1985	(\$269,930.73)	9.61

Cooperative Program receipts for September were in line with the receipts for the year. We received 95 percent of the monthly budget for August, and we have received 96.5 percent of the budget for the year. — L.L. Collins Jr.

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

by Millie Gill / ABN staff writer

## people

**Paul Parker** has joined the staff of Crystal Hill Church in Little Rock as associate pastor. He is a native of Shirley, a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University and has attended Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Betty, are parents of a son and a daughter who reside in Fort Smith.

**Don Williams** has resigned after 11 years of service as director of missions for Carey Association because of health problems. His resignation is effective Nov. 1.

**Wade Hood** is serving as youth director of Center Hill First Church near Paragould.

**Sam B. Wakefield** will join the staff of Harrison First Church Oct. 6 as minister of music and youth. He will move to Harrison from Rogers where he has served as a staff member for nine years. He is a graduate of Arkansas Tech University and attended Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Peggy, have two sons, Brent and Nicholas.

**Roger "Sing" Oldham** has resigned as pastor of Broadmoor Church in Brinkley to serve as associate professor of Greek and theology with Mid-Continent Baptist Bible College at Mayfield, Ky.

**Rick Seaton** is serving as interim pastor of Brush Creek Church at Springdale.

**Philip Clyde Potter** has begun his ministry with Siloam Springs First Church as minister of education. He was formerly minister of education and music at First Church, Carlsbad, Calif. A native of Prairie Grove, he is a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University and Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary. Potter and his wife, Cheryl Ann, are parents of two sons and one daughter.

**Mac S. Gates** is serving as interim pastor of Trinity Church in Malvern.

**Tom Tidwell** has resigned as pastor of Oak Grove Church at Van Buren to serve as pastor of Nogales Avenue Church in Tulsa, Okla.

**Sam Howell** has resigned as pastor of Woodland Church at Clarksville.

**Bill Powell** will retire as pastor of Coal Hill First Church Oct. 27 following seven years of service that have resulted in 112

additions to the church on profession of faith and 35 additions by letter.

## briefly

**Beech Grove Church** at Paragould celebrated its 75th anniversary Sept. 15 with a morning worship service, a noon meal and an afternoon musical program.

**Park Hill Church** in North Little Rock will observe the fifth anniversary of its deaf ministry Sept. 29 when the hearing impaired members, Sunday School leaders and interpreters are recognized in the morning worship service.

**Berryville First Church** celebrated payment of its indebtedness with a noteworthy service Sept. 8. The church retired a 15-year note after only 22 months in the "Challenge to Build" program. Pastor Rich Kincl also was recognized on that date with a surprise anniversary celebration, honoring five years of service.

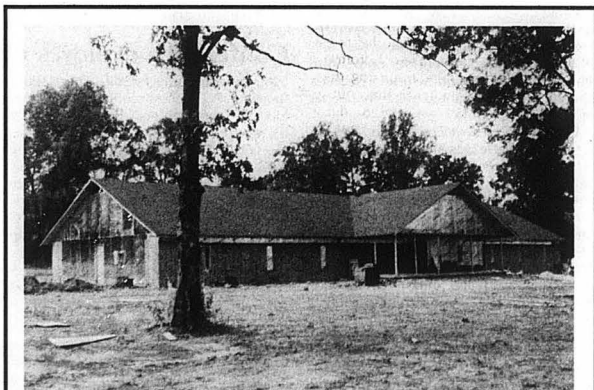
**Gregory Church** will observe homecoming Sept. 29 with a morning worship service, a noon fellowship meal and a 2 p.m. dedication service of a new educational building.

**Camden First Church** will observe homecoming Oct. 6 with a morning worship service, a covered-dish luncheon and an afternoon program. John Maddox of Wynne Church, a former pastor, and Thomas Urey of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary will be featured speakers. The church ordained James C. Bechtelheimer and Walter G. Bates as deacons Sept. 15.

**Plainview Church** in Little Rock will observe homecoming Oct. 13.

**New Antioch Church** at Brookland celebrated its 79th anniversary Sept. 15. Mark Wilkinson, a former pastor, was speaker.

**Little Rock Immanuel Church** single adults have purchased 5,000 New Testaments and 1,000 copies of the Gospel of John for distribution at a Hall of Industry booth when the Arkansas State Fair, is held in Little Rock Sept. 27-Oct. 6. They will use the booth site to witness to fairgoers, using the tract "A Full and Meaningful Life" as a tool. Charles Barfield, single adult advisor, is serving as coordinator for this second annual project.



**Volunteers needed**—Construction continues on a building for Northside Church, Horseshoe Bend, according to pastor Chester Miller. Volunteer crews from First Church, Dewitt, and Baring Cross Church, North Little Rock, have provided construction assistance on the project to this point. According to Miller, the remaining work consists of panelling, brick laying, installing windows and a baptistry and "a lot of finish work." Churches interested in providing volunteer construction help for the young congregation may contact Miller at P. O. Box 266, Horseshoe Bend, AR 72512, telephone 670-5011 or 670-5956.

## Resort communities offer prime opportunity for new churches

by Mark Kelly

In the multitude of new resort developments around the state, Arkansas Baptists are faced with one of their greatest opportunities to reach unchurched people with the gospel, according to Floyd Tidsworth, director of church extension for the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

New communities—similar to the ones at Bella Vista, Cherokee Village and Fairfield Bay—are a high priority on Tidsworth's list of places Arkansas Baptist churches might start new churches in the coming years.

"To begin with, most of the people moving into those areas are people who are new to the state and who come with no real attachment to a church," Tidsworth explained. "And in addition to the permanent residents of these communities, a whole range of people associated with service industries springs up to take advantage of the commercial opportunities the new developments represent."

The success and stability of developments like Fairfield Bay and Bella Vista further demonstrates resort communities are becoming a permanent fixture on the Arkansas scene, Tidsworth asserted. "These people are not just a bunch of outsiders who are here in Arkansas temporarily," he explained. "Even the people who use them as vacation spots tend to retire there as well."

On top of that, Tidsworth observed, resort communities tend to be self-contained developments in that most of them spring up in rural areas isolated from established towns. In that respect, then, the resort population usually differs markedly from the people who live in the surrounding rural areas. Those who have come from out of state have a special tendency to differ culturally and socially from native Arkansans.

The result is that established churches outside of the resort communities should have little expectation of being able to reach those new people with existing programs, Tidsworth said. It is even conceivable that long-time residents of a rural area may resent the development of a fairly affluent resort community, he pointed out. Such local antagonisms would certainly hinder a warm welcome for resort residents in a local church.

"Resort residents come from backgrounds different than our own," he noted. "But, like everyone, they are looking for fellowship and someone who cares about them."

"They will be open to the ministry of a church, but they need one that differs in its style a little from our traditional Arkansas churches," he continued. "We're not talking about a difference in doctrine, just a style of worship and ministry that's appropriate to their backgrounds."

"Starting churches in these areas takes a great deal of patience in the early stages," he added. "These people won't come

automatically. You have to go out to them, show concern for them and build relationships with them.

"It's not like starting a church in a suburban area where half the people are Southern Baptists already. Those folks often will respond just because you're starting a Southern Baptist church."

But despite the differences, Southern Baptists can and should reach the residents of these new communities, Tidsworth asserted. "Even though they are from different backgrounds, our churches are doing an excellent job in communities like Fairfield Bay, Bella Vista and Cherokee Village," he said.

And these new community residents have a lot to offer Arkansas Baptists in return, he observed. Since many of them come from business and professional backgrounds, their leadership abilities are generally above average, he said. In addition, because of the comparative affluence of the areas, new churches in their communities become financially self-supporting much more quickly than most new missions.

The ABCS church extension program will focus on reaching "new towns" in 1986, encouraging Arkansas Baptists to launch efforts to reach new developments such as the resort communities, Tidsworth said. A three-part strategy is involved:

(1) Identify where such communities are located in the state. At least 17 resorts offering "time share" condominiums are registered with the Arkansas Real Estate Commission. Numerous other developments are certainly underway, though not required to register their activities. Much of the state's new growth in recent years can be attributed to such new developments,

Tidsworth said.

(2) Locates sponsoring and associate sponsoring churches who can make significant two- or three-year investments in new church starting. "The state convention is not in the business of going out to start new churches," Tidsworth affirmed. "But we want to assist churches and associations as a catalyst, offering them resources like our new work consultants and funds for mission site purchases, pastoral aid and building construction."

### Modeling missions

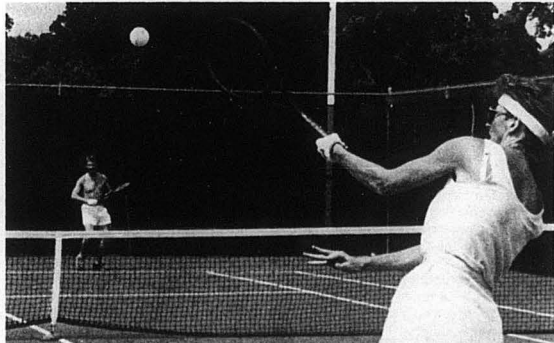


(3) Finally, new churches in resort settings will require well-qualified and fully-equipped leadership because of the above-average leadership qualifications of the prospects. "There is more hinging on the pastor in these cases than in many others," observed Tidsworth. "With very few workers initially, the pastor is the sum total of the visible Baptist work to begin with."

"Good, strong churches can be built in these communities. We have plenty of evidence of that here in our own state," Tidsworth concluded. "But it's like planting seeds. If we don't take the initiative to do it, we'll never get the harvest God intends."

Mark Kelly is a staff writer with the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine.

ABN photo / Mark Kelly



Leisure activities such as tennis form a major part of the lifestyle in resort communities such as Holiday Island, which is located north of Eureka Springs on Table Rock Lake. The multitude of such new communities being developed around the state offer a prime opportunity for starting new churches and reaching persons for Christ.



# Partnership missions can help meet world hunger needs

by J. Everett Sneed

In a normal year, 100 million Africans are malnourished and severely hungry. Ten million Africans have been forced to abandon their homes and land in search of food and water. In Angola, one-sixth of all children die before their first birthday in a "normal year."

The Pulaski Association held a World Hunger Workshop Sept. 7 at the Viny Ridge Immanuel Church to acquaint people with these facts and show them what Southern Baptists can do in response. One speaker on the program was Gerald Schleiff, who coordinated Southern Baptist disaster relief in Zimbabwe before his return to Arkansas in July. Schleiff worked with the Foreign Mission Board, making requests from the field which, in turn, would be relayed to Baptists in Louisiana who were involved in a partnership mission with Zimbabwe.

The mission program itself was worked out by John Cheyne of the Foreign Mission Board's Human Need Department. Cheyne came in late 1981 and started working with medical missionary Robert Garrett. Together they planned a program for the Batonga (often referred to as Tonga) people.

Initially, the mission was able to ship seven tons of grain each week into the Gokwe area. Later, through Cooperative Program gifts, a second truck was purchased and the feeding program was intensified. Each truck carried seven tons two times a week, or a total of 28 tons of grain.

"We were able to stave off some serious hunger problems by using both trucks to their maximum potential," Schleiff recalled.

Schleiff's job was to determine the kind of volunteers needed and write up job descriptions, which then were sent to the Foreign Mission Board. The board, in turn, forwarded this information to the Louisiana State Convention. The program, entitled, "People Who Care," resulted in approximately 200 volunteers coming to the area.

"The program had an exceedingly positive impact," Schleiff said. "Lay people who see mission work for the first time bring a freshness with them. They made a lot of impact among our African folks because they displayed a lot of love and concern."

In addition to meeting human needs, excellent evangelistic results were produced by the projects. For example, in one week-long revival, more than 800 decisions for Christ were registered.

The volunteers from Louisiana had little difficulty with language. English is the official language of Zimbabwe and all official business is conducted in it. Although the Tonga language is spoken by many, most people in the metropolitan areas speak English. "Most of our young people and professional people speak English well," Schleiff said.

Interpreters were used in house to house visitation and in preaching. But in other situations, they were not required.

Schleiff said some of the immediate

hunger problems in Zimbabwe had been alleviated by rain. The rainy season runs from the latter part of October to the end of March or early May.

"We had such an abundance of rain that, when we left to come to Arkansas in July, most of the reservoirs were full and some were spilling over," Schleiff recalled. "The heaviest rains were from January to March of this year. This allowed the planting of crops and a better outlook in the immediate future."

In the long run, the Foreign Mission Board is planning to send a career agriculturist to the area. The government is also training a number of agriculturists to go into the marginal areas and teach better farming techniques to the people.

"Before oxen can be brought into an area, the septic fly must be cleared out," Schleiff said. "The government also is trying to get more tractors into the area."

One important area in which Southern Baptists are intently involved is the drilling of wells. Southern Baptists have plans to drill 96 wells in the next two years in the Gokwe area alone. They hope two or three artesian wells will eliminate the need for pumps.

But even an artesian well will not make it possible for every farm to be irrigated. "If you have one artesian well and 20,000 to 30,000 people in an area, it is impossible for everyone to irrigate their land from it," Schleiff observed.

# Solution to African hunger crisis as complex as its causes

by Betty J. Kennedy

The temptation is to look for simple solutions to the hunger crisis in Africa, but Robert Parham of the SBC Christian Life Commission is trying to spread the word that, just as the problem is multidimensional, so are the solutions.

"The crisis is not simply the lack of rain or overpopulation," he explained. "The crisis has deep historical roots, one of which is clearly military strife, riveted in the politics of colonialism."

Parham, who is director of hunger concerns for the SBC agency, grew up in Nigeria, where his parents were missionaries. He was in Little Rock recently to lead a conference on world hunger in Pulaski Association.

"The sooner we acknowledge there is no simple solution, the better," he said. He cites predictions of the crisis continuing through 1986 or 1987. "Even the Wall Street Journal has written about dealing with a continuing crisis," he noted.

Just as there are no quick solutions, there was no quick onset of the hunger crisis. Parham looks back to "colonial irresponsibility" as a root cause. He explained that, in a 1884-85 conference in Berlin, the African colonial powers carved up the con-

tinents according to their own self-interests.

"When the Berlin Conference ended, African tribes (ethnic groups) were divided and/or forced together," he observed. "The geopolitically insensitive European boundaries prepared Africa for intense struggles for national unity during the last half of the twentieth century."

"The colonial governments often used the best land to grow cash crops for export," he noted, leaving the farmer to grow his food on substandard soil, which became poorer.

The irresponsibility Parham cited did not end when the European countries granted independence to the African nations. As the colonial powers departed in this century, most African nations had not been prepared for independence, and the superpowers docked around the continent.

Parham noted that shifting alignments began. He cited Ethiopia, which successfully fought European colonization. Emperor Haile Selassie's feudal rule of the country allowed him to suppress information about the worst famine of the century in the early 1970s. Because the world did not know of their plight, 200,000 Ethiopians starved.

"The famine and stagnant economy led to his overthrow and replacement by a

socialist-oriented government now under Soviet influence," Parham explained.

Parham sees deep-rooted African political turmoil as the force that keeps nations from being bonded by any single force—any force, that is, besides the military. "The military has become a key to nationhood," Parham said. "Paradoxically, it also has become a key factor in the hunger crisis." Parham recalled the history of military conflict and civil strife. Since 1957, when Ghana gained independence, Africa has experienced more than 70 military coups, 12 wars and 13 assassinations of heads of state.

He sees a very direct connection between military and civil strife and the hunger crisis, noting that, of 28 nations currently facing a hunger crisis, battles rage in five of them. And other countries must cope with the spillover from military strife in surrounding nations. Refugees pour into nations facing their own internal strife and hunger crisis.

Parham does have suggestions for weaving broad solutions into a unifying whole. He sees the necessity of foreign governments and private voluntary organizations continuing to supply emergency help. While not solving the crisis, it will stabilize it.

Second, he sees the need for the U.S. and

# African Emergency Map

In the Denda area, an artesian well has been brought in and provides running water for a medical clinic some distance from it. Previously, there had been no water in the area. Some water is being used for irrigation purposes, but in most instances buckets of water must be carried to the farms.

"It will continue to be a struggle to eliminate hunger," Schleif said. "The desert moves down seven or eight miles each year. Africa will gradually become a dust bowl, without intensive re-forestation such as has been instituted in places like Israel."

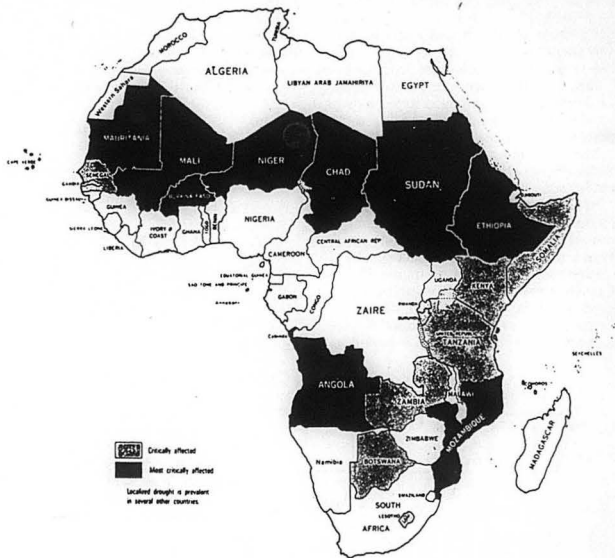
Schleif said the partnership with Louisiana Baptists has been a great help. The volunteers can relieve other people who are good farmers and provide training in special skills as well as be witnesses.

Schleif recalled that a man who now works at our seminary was trained by a volunteer to become a plumber. "This has given an African a profession. This is a sidelight to the partnership program."

Schleif observed that the people respond best when they see lay people coming as volunteers and not receiving a salary for their work.

"This has made a particular impact. The food, medical and educational programs have all helped to open doors for our mission work."

J. Everett Sneed is editor of the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine.



other governments to make long term and consistent development aid available to the small-scale farmers.

Another threat of Parham's solutions is a greater priority on agricultural development by the nations themselves. "In many cases," Parham noted, "they spend twice as much of their gross national product on defense as on agriculture."

He also advocated that Americans rethink their patterns of consumption, which can impact African agricultural decisions.

Solutions to the hunger crisis are both short-term, as food, and long-term, as teaching agricultural methods, Parham thinks. He recommends a third step in dealing with the African hunger crisis. "We need to spend equal time and money on Christian citizenship," Parham explains. "Public policy either multiplies or nullifies all our charitable efforts."

Robert Parham wants Christian citizens to confront the problem through the lawmaking process, asking national legislators to assemble the machinery to address this complex problem from the most effective angles.

Betty J. Kennedy is managing editor of the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine.

Country	Number affected	Percentage of population	Aid needs (U.S. \$ million)
Angola	500,000	6	96.1
Botswana	800,000	80	22.8
Burkina Faso	500,000	8	70.6
Burundi	n/a	n/a	21.6
Cape Verde	n/a	n/a	15.4
Chad	2,200,000	50	53.9
Ethiopia	7,900,000	24	363.8
Lesotho	n/a	n/a	23.1
Mali	1,200,000	17	93.6
Mauritania	1,100,000	69	50.2
Mozambique	2,500,000	19	121.3
Niger	2,500,000	40	80.9
Rwanda	3,000,000	55	14.5
Senegal	n/a	n/a	32.2
Somalia	n/a	n/a	60.2
Sudan	8,500,000	45	339.2
Tanzania	1,200,000	6	47.4
Zambia	n/a	n/a	44.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>31,900,000</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>1,551.1</b>

Aid needs include (1) food aid, (2) basic agricultural needs (seeds, fertilizers, tools), (3) essential health actions (basic drugs, equipment), (4) relief survival items (clothing, shelter), (5) essential water projects, (6) additional logistics needs (trucks, spare parts, warehouses). Source: United Nations Office for Emerging Operations in Africa and the SBC Christian Life Commission

## Southern Baptist Convention housing request form released

The form on the opposite page must be used by all those wishing to make hotel reservations through the Atlanta Housing Bureau for the Southern Baptist Convention June 10-12, 1986, in Atlanta, Ga. If you do not wish to use the Housing Bureau, you may contact any hotel **not** listed on the form. Use one form for **each** room requested.

**Part I** — Fill in requested information. Confirmation will be mailed to the person listed here. This person must be one of the persons who will be occupying the room.

**Part II** — From the list below, select five hotels of your choice. List the names of the hotels in order of preference.

**Part III** — Fill in all information requested for the room you wish to reserve. If you need more than one room, use a second form. Photocopies of the form are accepted.

When forms are received by the Atlanta Convention and Visitors Bureau, they will be held until Oct. 14, to be sure that all the housing requests postmarked Oct. 1 have had time to arrive. The forms will then be

opened by postmark date. **The time of day the forms are mailed is not important.**

If history is any indicator, all hotels listed by the Housing Bureau will fill from individual forms postmarked Oct. 1 and 2. **Mail this form Oct. 1.** Housing requests postmarked prior to Oct. 1 will be processed after those postmarked Oct. 1, 2 or 3.

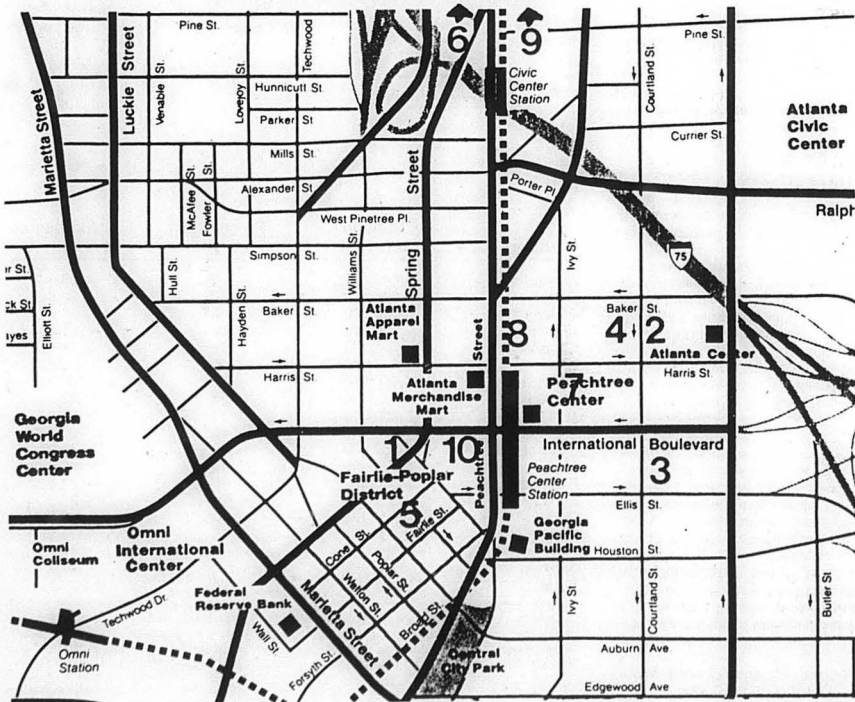
All housing forms are processed by the

Atlanta Convention and Visitors Bureau. If you have a special problem or if you need further information, contact Housing Information, SBC Executive Committee, 901 Commerce Suite 750, Nashville, TN 37203, telephone (615) 244-2355.

The Westin Peachtree Plaza Hotel is headquarters hotel. All sessions will be held at the Georgia World Congress Center.

Map no.	Hotel	Single	Double
1	American Hotel	62	72
2	Atlanta Hilton and Towers Hotel	74 - 110	92 - 128
3	Atlanta Marriott Downtown	59	72
4	Atlanta Marriott Marquis	83	93
5	Atlantan Hotel	38	44
6	Best Western Midtown Plaza	46	56
7	Downtowner Motor Inn	47	57
8	Hyatt Regency Atlanta	77	92
9	Lanier Plaza Hotel	47	47
10	Westin Peachtree Plaza Hotel	73	73

### Downtown Atlanta



**SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION**  
**JUNE 10-12, 1986—ATLANTA, GEORGIA**

MAIL TO

SBC Housing Bureau  
 233 Peachtree St. N.E.,  
 Suite 200  
 Peachtree Harris Bldg.  
 Atlanta, GA 30043

**OFFICIAL HOUSING REQUEST FORM**

• PLEASE READ CAREFULLY •

- PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE ALL ITEMS TO ASSURE ACCURACY.
- COMPLETE EACH PART BELOW IN DETAIL FOR CORRECT AND RAPID PROCESSING.
- SHOULD MORE THAN ONE (1) ROOM BE NEEDED, PLEASE USE A SECOND FORM.
- ALL CONFIRMATIONS WILL BE SENT TO INDIVIDUAL INDICATED IN PART I.

**PART I**

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Complete requested data using abbreviations as necessary.

(NAME OF PERSON REQUESTING ROOMS) NOTE: This person must be one of the individuals who will be occupying the room.

If necessary, photo-copies of this form may be used to make additional reservations.

--	--	--	--

(FIRST NAME)

(LAST)

--

(STREET ADDRESS OR P. O. BOX NUMBER)

--	--	--

(CITY)

(STATE)

(ZIP - U.S.A.)

--	--	--

(Area Code)

--	--	--	--

(PHONE NUMBER)

**PART II**

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Select FIVE Hotels/Motels of your choice.

- FIRST CHOICE** \_\_\_\_\_
- SECOND CHOICE** \_\_\_\_\_
- THIRD CHOICE** \_\_\_\_\_
- FOURTH CHOICE** \_\_\_\_\_
- FIFTH CHOICE** \_\_\_\_\_

**CHOICE BY**

Rate	Location
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**PART III**

- INSTRUCTIONS:**
1. SELECT TYPE ROOM DESIRED WITH ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE DATES.
  2. PRINT OR TYPE NAMES OF ALL PERSONS OCCUPYING EACH ROOM.

Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_

Departure Date \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Time \_\_\_\_\_

Check type of room desired:

- |                          |                             |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| _____ Single (1 bd/1 pr) | _____ Triple (2 bd/3 pr)    |
| _____ Double (1 bd/2 pr) | _____ Quad (2 bd/4 pr)      |
| _____ Twin (2 bd/2 pr)   | _____ Other (specify) _____ |

Name of all persons occupying the room, including the individual in PART I (print last name first)

1		3
2		4

**IMPORTANT:** No phone orders will be accepted. Hotel locations are shown on accompanying map. Make a photocopy of your order for your files. Housing Bureau processes reservations in order of date mailed. Confirmations will come directly from your hotel. DO NOT SEND DEPOSITS WITH RESERVATIONS. If rooms are not available at hotels of your choice, comparable reservations will be made at another cooperating hotel. If rate requested is not available, next available rate will be assigned. Changes in reservations should be made in writing to the SBC Housing Bureau, 233 Peachtree Street, N.E., Suite 200, Peachtree Harris Building, Atlanta, Georgia 30043.

NOTE: PLEASE RECHECK ALL ITEMS FOR CORRECT INFORMATION  
 DO NOT MAIL FORMS POSTMARKED BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 1985

# Your state convention at work

## Woman's Missionary Union

### Baptist Women retreats

She came to learn some new information and spend time with her friends. As she observed those around her, it was obvious



Porterfield

they had something in their lives that she did not have. She listened closely through out the weekend. Upon her return home, she talked with her pastor and accepted Christ as her Lord and Savior.

Another woman came for a time of retreat and spiritual refreshment. The Lord was talking to her about serving him in a foreign country. As he spoke, she not only listened but responded to that call. Today, she and her family serve as foreign missionaries.

Both these women attended the Baptist Women Retreats sponsored by Arkansas WMU. Their needs and life experiences were different, but the Lord spoke and their lives were changed.

You are invited to attend the 1985 Baptist Women retreats to be held Oct. 24-25 and 25-26 at Camp Paron. The second retreat is a repeat of the first. The program includes missionary speakers, Bible study by Carolyn Weatherford, small prayer groups and a Missions Fair.

Come and experience "Missions Galore!" at the Baptist Women retreats. Your life will never be the same. For more information concerning details and cost, contact Arkansas WMU, P. O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203 — Carolyn Porterfield, BW/BYW director

## Evangelism

### GNA revivals

The Good News America revivals were conceived in the heart and mind of God. These were given birth and life in the hearts and minds of Southern Baptist directors of evangelism in Nashville in December, 1981.



Shell

C. B. Hogue, then vice president over the Evangelism Section, HMB, appointed a national steering committee. This committee began to work and came up with the theme, "Good News America-God Loves You." It was the desire of this committee and all of us who have worked on it since to say to the people of America, "God really does love you."

God blessed Arkansas Baptists in the great simultaneous revival effort in 1950. There were 16,357 people won to Christ and baptized. This still stands as a record for baptisms in Arkansas Baptist life. We are praying, planning and preparing to break that record in 1986. I am sure that every church in Arkansas will want to be a part of this.

This is much bigger than just an Evangelism Department effort. The program committee of the Executive Board voted unanimously on Aug. 12, 1982 to recommend that Arkansas Baptists enter the Good News campaign. The Executive Board of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention accepted this recommendation unanimously. — Clarence Shell, director

## Missions

### Cedarville First Church

Yes, the First Church of Cedarville is first! It is the first church in Arkansas to officially commit itself to conduct a mission revival



Tidsworth

in 1986. Garland Hobbs is pastor. The mission revival will be at Natural Dam. It is not certain that a mission is needed there. There are people who need to be reached for the Lord. Many live on roads leading to Natural Dam.

The Cedarville church is now putting together a revival team. A meeting place is already reserved for June 9-14 of 1986. Clarence Shell in the Evangelism Department and I are working together on mission revivals for Good News America. We need at least 100 mission revivals. About 20 of these would be in existing missions at the date their association is having revivals. About 80 revivals are needed where existing churches are reaching a small percentage of the people. — Floyd Tidsworth Jr., church extension director

## Christian Life Council Society's threat

A Memphis pediatrician, Dr. Elizabeth Holland, was recently in the annual meeting of the National Coalition Against Pornography. Having just spent a year in Africa, she observed that while many children there are physically starving, they are greatly loved. On the other hand, America's children, though well fed physically, are starving for love and affection.

Holland added, from her experience as a pediatrician, the growth of the pornography industry in our country accounts for much of what happens to America's starv-

ing children. That should make us mad! We must not be ignorant and apathetic about the sickness of pornography in our society.

John Finn, director of the Christian Civic Foundation, has published a book, *Smudgesters Guidebook*, which can help deal with this serious problem. Every pastor and church should have a copy.

We must awaken to the devious threat of pornography and get involved in stamping it out. It is spreading even in homes through the rental and purchasing of X-rated video cassettes. Copies of the book are available through the Christian Civic Foundation, 410 Medical Arts Building, 1120 Marshall, Little Rock, AR 72202 at a cost of \$2 each.

"Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things" (Phil. 4:8). — Bob Parker, director

## Church Training

### Joint project planned

Three departments of our state convention are joining hands in a cooperative effort to train Sunday School workers and



Holley

other adults in witnessing. The project is a joint effort of the Evangelism Section of the Home Mission Board and the Church Training and Sunday School Departments of the Sunday School Board. The objective is to train a million Sunday School workers in witnessing over the next five years.

The Church Training Convention on Oct. 22 at Immanuel Church in Little Rock will be one of several opportunities for interpreting this project this Fall. Freddie Pike, Sunday School director, and Clarence Shell, Evangelism director, will join me in making a presentation at that time.

It is suggested that churches provide the six-session training program beginning on Jan. 19, the Sunday following Witness Commitment Sunday. An Equipping Center Module, *Training Sunday School Workers in Evangelism*, has been prepared especially for this study. We recommend that all adults be involved in the study during this six-week period.

Associations will be offering conferences to help churches prepare for this special project. For additional information or assistance, contact the Church Training, Sunday School or Evangelism Departments of your state convention. — Robert Holley, director

*Family and Child Care*  
**Education sponsorship**

We are indeed grateful for Christian friends who undergird our ministry by responding to the needs of the children who come into our care.

The troubled children to whom we minister have special needs and some require special care. We believe that our children deserve the opportunity to realize his or her full God-given potential.

School has begun for all our children at the Children's Home, Group Home for Boys in Jonesboro and emergency receiving homes. We want to make sure that their basic needs our met. Arkansas Baptists have shown a special concern for our children in the past, and we are convinced that you will continue to give support as you know the needs.

A gift to the Education Fund will help provide school supplies—paper, pens, library fees, annuals, school plays, school pictures—and other expenses.

Like other sponsorship programs, you may sponsor a specific child. If you prefer, you may simply contribute to the General Education Fund.

You as an individual or as a group such as Sunday School classes, WMU groups or Brotherhood may become involved in our sponsorship program.

If you wish to sponsor a child, contact Mrs. Eula Armstrong, P. O. Box 180, Monticello, AR 71655 or John Ross, P. O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203. — **John A. Ross, director of development**

# Church Training Convention

**Immanuel Baptist Church, Little Rock**  
**Tuesday, October 22**

10:00 a.m.-12:10 p.m.    2:00-4:10 p.m.    7:00-9:15 p.m.



**For:**

Pastors, church staff,  
 Church Training leaders, church  
 secretaries, media library staff,  
 ass'n'l. Church Training leaders

**Features:**

- Church Training Fair (open 1 hr. before each session)
- General officers conference for larger churches (700+ members)
- Conference for church secretaries
- Conference for media library staff

**Featured speaker**

(a.m. session)



*Don Moore*  
 Executive Director, ABSO

**Conferences**

- **General officers (large churches)**  
 William Caldwell
- **General officers**  
 Luell Smith
- **Adult leaders & members**  
 Bill Latham  
 Jim Blakeney
- **Youth Leaders**  
 Margaret McArthur
- **Children's leaders**  
 Catherine Prewett
- **Preschool leaders**  
 Jimmie Sheffield
- **Church secretaries**  
 Jack Lewis
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**Evangelism**

**Sunday School**



*Robert Holley*



*Clarence Shell*



*Freddie Pike*

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## Bailey Smith resigns to enter evangelism

DEL CITY, Okla. (BP)—Bailey E. Smith, pastor of First Southern Church, Del City, Okla., since 1973, announced Sept. 15 he is resigning to enter full-time evangelism.

Smith, 46, is a native Texan, a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University in Arkansas and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

He was elected president of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma in 1979. In June 1980 he was chosen president of the Southern Baptist Convention and was reelected in Los Angeles in 1981.

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## Arkansas Baptist Ministers' Wives Luncheon

Tuesday, Nov. 19, 1985 10:15 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Banquet Room, Evans Student Center, Ouachita Baptist University

Tickets \$5 before Nov. 1, \$6 at the door

Send self-addressed, stamped envelope with check payable to ABSB Ministers' Wives Conference to:  
Mrs. Ruth Carawell, 5401 Crystal Valley Road, Little Rock, AR 72210.

## Couple wanted

Family looking for childless couple, ages 55 to 65, to care for elderly parents. Nursing skills desired, but not required. Responsibilities include presence of one person in home at all times, some cooking, no housekeeping. Benefits include free mobile home and utilities, salary in \$20,000 to \$25,000 range, depending on skills and experience.

Christian couple may apply with one-page statement of qualifications and biographical information to Box 5142, North Little Rock, Arkansas 72119

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## Youth directors:

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## Ministers:

Holy Land brochures available...

## Others:

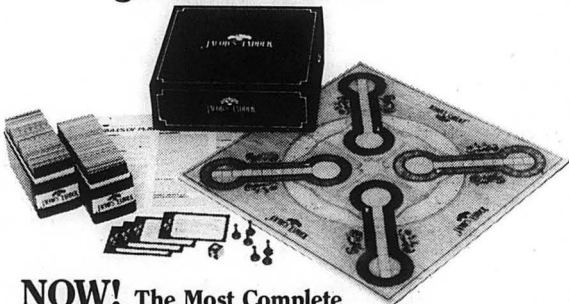
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## International

### *How Christ's Body lives*

by William H. Elder III, Pulaski Heights Church, Little Rock

Basic passage: Ephesians 4:17 to 5:20

Focal passage: Ephesians 4:27 to 5:2

**Central truth:** Christians are to manifest Christlike virtues as they live in a non-Christian world.

What difference does being a Christian make in our lives? If it doesn't make a difference, if that difference is not apparent, then our passage this week would suggest that we ought to look again at whether or not we can legitimately claim the name Christian. The lesson focuses on the fact that the Christian life is a different life than the kind of life lived without Jesus. Well, how is it different?

For one thing, it is constantly renewing itself. In other words, it does not become drab, dull and boring. It is always alive, exciting and fresh. Those without the living relationship with God through Christ become callous, jaded and worn out (v. 19).

However, faith not only preserves the self, it transforms it into what God intended it to be all along, his image (v. 24). In Genesis 1:26 we see that we were created to be God's images, his likenesses in the world. We are intended to be his representatives, his flesh-and-blood revelations in the world.

Sin enters our lives when we decide to be our own representatives. And, when that happens, we turn away from our intended identities and develop our own counterfeit versions. We cut God and his growing power off. No wonder we run out of steam and fall in line with all the other selfish, lifeless robots who trudge, steely-eyed, down the road to despair and death.

Our text teaches that this doesn't have to happen to us, if we will choose to "put on the new man" which is created in the likeness of God. But how do we do that? We're not left to guess. We're really talking about discipleship. Following Jesus means walking under the authority of God and always in the direction of righteousness. The two are inextricably linked.

And then there's the element of "true holiness" (v.24) to which we are called. This isn't a call to being "holier than thou," to thinking that we're better than other people. Not at all. True holiness is authentic spirituality. It's searching for God in whatever happens to us. It's looking for his wink and his wave as he leads us on into a "new day" each and every day.

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## Life and Work

### *Healing broken relationships*

by Max W. Deaton, Otter Creek First Church, Little Rock

Basic passage: 2 Corinthians 12:1-13:14

Focal passage: 2 Corinthians 12:19-21;13:5-10

**Central truth:** Broken relationships can be healed only when both parties love and work.

Most of the problems that plague the church involve personal relationships. In the Corinthian church, the Apostle Paul dealt with them in love and in a straightforward manner. He desired unity; however, he did not compromise the truth.

When relationships are broken, the goal should be to restore, not hinder; to build up, not tear down. Yes, heal broken relationships within the church fellowship. It must be done.

"Fellowship" means a mutual relationship. A mutual relationship requires everyone to be wholly committed to God's will. Only when we know God's will and do it will we know peace within and with one another.

In verse 20, the author identifies two elements necessary for healing: (1) I must expect the best from you. (2) You must expect the best from me. Attitude is so very important.

There are elements typical of a divided church: (1) Debates (eris), strife or quarrelling. Eris was the pagan Greek goddess of strife. (2) Envy, a burning jealousy. (3) Wrath (thumos), a picture of dry, burning grass. (4) Strife, fighting, either with blows of the fist or with angry words. (5) Backbiting, speaking against someone without that person's having an opportunity of defense. (6) Whispers, just simple, old gossip, which can kill a person. (7) Swellings, the idea of a toad, all swollen up with pride and conceit. (8) Tumult, disorder and disharmony, a summary of all the others.

The question is, how does one heal broken relationships? Two things are necessary: a desire for reconciliation and love. If one doesn't desire broken relationships to be healed, they won't be. If one truly loves, in due time, desire will come.

The Apostle Paul was concerned about the Corinthian's eternal destiny. It is good for each disgruntled member to "examine" whether he is "in the faith."

In verse 12, a public display of oneness and love is denoted: a greeting which indicated a giving up of all remembrances of wrong and was symbolic of reconciliation (Hobbs).

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## Bible Book

### *Jerusalem's plea*

by Vester Wolber, Ouachita Baptist University

Basic passage: Lamentations 1:1-5:22

**Central truth:** The mystery of suffering is profound.

The author of this book, in keeping with Job, experienced difficulty in understanding the place of suffering in society. He did understand a few basic points that may help us to grapple with the problem, and additional insight has been given by other biblical writers.

(1) The root cause of all suffering is sin. Job's friends contended for a direct relationship, that if one is suffering it is a direct result of his sin. These men were totally out of touch with the real world and learned nothing from life. They suffered from that not-so-rare disease of the human species known as religious abstractionism, for which there is no known cure apart from an injection of common sense. The test of this book says, "Our fathers sinned, and are no more; and we bear their iniquities."

(2) God is just in meting out punishment. In the Jerusalem case, says the author, "The Lord is righteous" (1:18) and "has done what he purposed, has carried out his threat; as he ordained long ago, he has demolished without pity" (2:17).

We live in a morally grounded order in which the law of "sowing and reaping" operates, one in which the consequences of wrong conduct are sometimes hard to live with. Much of the suffering that we endure comes as a result of our own stupidity in making wrong-headed decisions or from our own perversity in wrong-hearted actions.

But the harvest of consequences for sin is not confined to the sinner; it is unevenly distributed in society with a disproportionate share falling upon those closest to the sinner.

(3) Even so, justice is not evenly distributed in this life. It is not difficult to understand why a thinking observer of life, seeing all the injustice in the world, can conclude that God is not just. The fatal flaw in such a conclusion grows out of the assumption that this order is the final one, that there is no life beyond death. The New Testament makes it quite clear that after this world order is passed there is to be another and before that one is finally established there is to be a great tribulation judgment in which justice is meted out.

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## Biblical authority key to morality, says Honeycutt

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—In a world of crumbling moral values, Christians must turn to God and Holy Scripture for guidance and authority in moral decision making, a Southern Baptist seminary president said.

Roy L. Honeycutt, president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., delivered the keynote address at the two-day annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission.

"The authority of the Bible is foundational for our moral imperative," Honeycutt said. "Holy Scripture gives us an objective point of reference without which we would be awash in a sea of subjectivity."

Honeycutt urged Southern Baptists to affirm the authority of Scripture "not as a legal code" for moral behavior but as "a dynamic living experience with God." That experience, he added, "is a relationship that focuses on wholeness."

The Bible, he pointed out, is "the inspired witness to the authority of God. The Bible is not an end in itself but points beyond itself to God. Ultimately, our moral imperative is grounded in the authority of God whose revelation is recorded in the Bible."

Honeycutt noted some persons believe the Bible is the product of the church. "Both the church and the Bible are products of the gospel of Jesus Christ," he declared. "The gospel was preached, persons were won to Christ and First Century churches were begun before we ever had a New Testament."

"We read and understand the Bible but we are transformed only by the gospel of the risen Lord."

"Read the gospel, teach the gospel, live the gospel," he urged, "and in the process you will create foundations for your personal moral imperative."

## Christian Life Commission adopts 1985-86 plans

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—The Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission in its annual meeting adopted a \$950,000 budget and approved a series of conferences dealing with issues such as world hunger, peace with justice and gambling.

During the Sept. 11-12 meeting, commission members also joined the agency's staff in a special dedication service for the agency's offices in the new Southern Baptist Convention Building. The staff moved into its new quarters in January.

In addition to back-to-back conferences on peace with justice and world hunger scheduled for Jan. 20-22 in Charlotte, N.C., the commission also approved plans for regional and associational conferences to assist Christian Life Committees in local Baptist churches and associations.

The conferences are part of an intensive educational effort during 1985-86 aimed at helping Southern Baptist families and individuals cope with moral issues. Plans include expansion of the agency's printed and videotape resources on abortion, hunger, economics, family violence and television morality.

The 1985-86 budget reflects an increase of \$51,000 over the previous year. With an anticipated increase of only 1.8 percent in Cooperative Program funds, the budget does not include a cost of living increase for employees. The commission, however, ask

ed its executive committee to examine the budget at a later date and to authorize a cost of living increase of up to four percent if funds allow.

In other actions, the commission:

—Authorized the staff to lead in the establishment of a national anti-gambling organization to spearhead grassroots opposition to the expansion of gambling throughout the country.

—Commended the national Project SMART (Stop Marketing Alcohol on Radio and Television) campaign and expressed specific support for the Fairness in Alcohol Advertising Act. The legislation, introduced in the House, would require TV and radio stations which broadcast alcohol ads to provide equivalent time for public service announcements and programming regarding alcohol abuse.

—Approved plans for support materials for the new Sanctity of Human Life Sunday adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention in June.

—Affirmed the agency's growing involvement in the nation's capital in support of moral values.

—Reelected Charles Wade, pastor of First Church, Arlington, Texas, chairman, and David George, pastor of Immanuel Church, Nashville, Tenn., vice-chairman, and elected Roy Rhodes, an attorney from Tallahassee, Fla., secretary.

## RTVC fills new controller post

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)—Jerry Stamps, a certified public accountant and five-year employee of a national accounting firm, has been named to the newly created position of controller for the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission.

Stamps, 27, came to the commission Sept. 1 from the Fort Worth office of Peat, Mar-

wick, Mitchell and Co. where he was responsible for planning, supervising and reviewing audits.

His new duties for the Radio and Television Commission include managing all accounting and financial reporting functions, internal control and cost analysis, budgeting and long-range planning.

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