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July 16, 1992

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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Arkansas Baptist



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July 16, 1992



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At a glance

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Southern Baptists set aside one Sunday, Aug. 2, as a special Day of Prayer for World Peace. It is a good time to pray for someone who does not know Jesus. World peace comes one person at a time as each person receives the Prince of Peace.

17 More SSB changes

In a series of announcements about the continued restructuring of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, President James T. Draper Jr. named nine people who will direct divisions and departments. He also announced the retirement of eight long-tenured employees from middle- and upper-level management positions.

20 Answered prayer

Cancer patient and former missionary Kathy Lloyd has received good news in recent weeks but doctors warned her not to celebrate, yet. Bone cancer forced Lloyd and her husband, Skip, from Granite City, Ill., to resign as missionaries to South Korea at the end of last year. A bone marrow biopsy taken in June indicates the cancer in her bones has been "killed."

23 James elected Europe BP

Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board unanimously elected Samuel M. James, a 30-year missions veteran to lead Southern Baptist work in Europe and laid the groundwork for a September dialogue with European Baptist leaders. Trustees also voted to discuss issues of concern between the board and the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union and announced a retirement package for board president Keith Parks.



Preparing Tomorrow's Leaders Today

Pages 9-16

Cover story

BSBB photo / Jim Veneman



On to College

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Tomorrow's leaders will have to be confident, flexible, and aggressive, according to ABCS Executive Director Don Moore. In the ABN's annual on-college edition, the BSU theme "Preparing Tomorrow's Leaders Today" is explored through challenges from Baptist leaders, news about students in Israel and Kazakhstan, and practical helps for maintaining a religious life while on campus.

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On personal worth

[The following is the last editorial written by the late J. Everett Sneed prior to his death. In his honor, the ABN is publishing it posthumously.]

There are many people who, in their own minds, question their self worth. Such an unhealthy attitude will prevent a person from being all God wants him to be and will result in a miserable, unproductive life.

The attitude held by an individual who puts himself down can be illustrated by an event experienced by one of our seminary professors. Because he was on a publishing company's editorial advisory board, he received many copies of books produced by that company. One day, he was thumbing through a book, when he discovered a blank page. Just as he noticed it, a student came by the office. The professor said, "Would you look at this! I got this book, and the page is blank." The student looked at the page for a moment and replied, "I know just how the page feels." The professor thought the student was being melodramatic and soon ushered him out of his office.

Sometime later, the professor was leading a Bible conference and mentioned his experience with the student. Later, at breaktime, the participants in the Bible conference came by one by one and said, "I know just how that student feels." Each one would mention a friend or relative that was extremely talented. They would talk about their talented friend or relative with all of his abilities, and the participants in the Bible conference would indicate they were of little value.

If an individual is to be all God wants him to be, he must recognize that he is of value. All of us have seen the motto that says, "God don't make no junk." The truth is that God considers every individual of infinite value. The Bible is clear. Man is the crown of God's creation. The Scripture says, "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them" (Ge. 1:27).

Man being created in the image of God refers to man's spiritual nature, not his body. The spiritual personality of man involves his intelligence. While animals have a rudimentary form of intelligence, man alone has the power of self consciousness.

Being created in the image of God provides man with a number of other unique characteristics. Among these are the power of will or choice, the power of rational affection, and spiritual personality. The spiritual personality or moral nature of

man provides him with the ability to know right and wrong, which is inherent in man. It is a part of his moral consciousness. Without this an individual would not be human, but would be only a beast. All of these characteristics point to the innate value or worth of man.

Again, the infinite worth of man is set forth in the atoning sacrifice God provided. The Scripture says, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (Jn. 3:16).

The individual lacking proper esteem for himself cannot have a proper relationship with others. Jesus said, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is likened to it, thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself" (Mt. 22:37-39). If an individual considers himself of no value, it follows that he must consider others of no value. The basis for loving others is the same kind of love that we have for ourselves.

The question arises, "How can an individual improve his self esteem?" First, it is imperative that he recognize the value God has placed on him. If God considers each individual of infinite worth and value, then each must consider himself of immense value.

We live in a society which places tremendous value on physical beauty. Often individuals question their worth because they are not physically as attractive as someone else they know. Low self esteem can affect an individual's personality. When

one feels that he does not measure up, it will produce feelings of inferiority.

To overcome this an individual must recognize that physical beauty is not everything. It is not nearly as important as an inner beauty. Physical beauty has a tendency to disappear as an individual grows older. Inner beauty can be enhanced as one develops it across the years.

One must make the best of what he has. If one's teeth are crooked, one can have them straightened. If a person wears glasses, he should select glasses that become him or wear contacts. One often appears quite attractive by wearing becoming clothes. Talent and personality can be developed to compensate for physical appearance.

For an individual is to be all that God want him to be, he must recognize that he is of value.

Each individual should take personal inventory and discover his strengths. These strengths should be maximized and used to enhance one's abilities.

For a person to be all that God wants him to be, the following suggestions may be helpful: (1) one should recognize his own infinite worth; (2) he should maximize his strengths; (3) he should make himself useful; and (4) he should not impose unrealistic expectations on himself.

God can help each person to become all he wants him to be. The Apostle Paul stated it well as he said, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Ph. 4:13).

Arkansas Baptist

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Paige Umholtz... Operations Manager

Diane Fowler... Production Artist (part-time)
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Letters to the editor are invited. Letters should be typed double-space and may not contain more than 350 words. Letters must be signed and marked "for publication." A complete policy statement is available on request. Photos submitted for publication will be returned only when accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Only black and white photos can be used. Deaths of members of Arkansas churches will be reported in brief form when information is received not later than 14 days after the date of death. Opinions expressed in signed articles are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the editorial position of the *Arkansas Baptist*. Advertising accepted in writing only. Rates, on request. The *Arkansas Baptist* (ISSN 1040-6506) is published bi-weekly by the Arkansas Baptist News-Magazine, Inc., 601-A W. Capitol, Little Rock, AR 72201. Subscription rates are \$8.95 per year (individual), \$6.36 per year (Every Resident Family Plan), \$7.00 per year (Group Plan). Second Class Postage Paid at Little Rock, AR. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the *Arkansas Baptist*, P.O. 552, Little Rock, AR 72203; telephone 501-376-4791.

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SPEAK UP

DON MOORE

You'll Be Glad To Know

Henry Blackaby declares that "God is always at work." We may not always know what he is doing, but he is always at work. There is comfort in this. There is trouble in this. What is he doing? What does he want to do? If we do not know what he is doing or what he wants to do, we may miss out. He may do it without us, or even without our knowing it. Wouldn't that be something! That possibility should frighten us. Such a reality should grieve us.

There seems to be little chance that we will know or be involved in what he is doing if we do not spend enough time with him and his Word for him to impress us with what he is doing.

Our country and most of our churches desperately need revival. Our families need revival. The violence, dishonesty, and immorality cannot be checked by normal means. The division and corruption that is found in many churches is appalling. The lethargy and indifference reflected in shallow commitment is shameful.

At this time, it appears that we are under the chastening rod of God. It can only get worse until God's people repent and seek his face.

Let me urge every reader to lead your church to join in a consistent, passionate appeal to Almighty God to humble us, forgive us, and restore us. Until our concern drives us to persistent prayer, we need to take steps to keep the need for repentance and prayer constantly before us.

God will not fail to hear the cries of his people. When he moves we must not fail to move with him. The work of God is far more than his people holding services. It is God doing with them and through them what they could never do on their own.

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



KAY KINCL

Woman's Viewpoint

The witness of a second nature

A young man shared his personal testimony with me years ago, ending with this statement: "I believe the mark of a true Christian is a genuine concern for lost persons that compels him to witness."

Those words pierced my soul with shame for I had been a Christian many more years than he, but I had never led anyone to Christ. I wasn't ashamed to talk about my faith, but to present the gospel and call for a response... Yikes! I could never do that!

This young man was doing it as a college freshman every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon—gospel tracts and all—as part of a discipleship program for new Christians. He saw students saved weekly. In his first year as a Christian, he personally led 16 young men on his dorm floor to Christ.

Now this young seminarian was as physically attractive as he was spiritually exciting, and I determined that since I couldn't be a soulwinner myself, the next best thing would be to spend my life with one. So I married him.

From the beginning, soul-winning visits have been a vital part of our ministry. Visit after visit I listened and watched as Rich lovingly led people to the Lord. I would have been content to

witness him witness the rest of my life if he had left me alone.

Instead, he would give me the name of a teenage girl in the church who needed to be saved and say that he couldn't take her out for a coke-visit, but I could. I would put him off for days. Then reluctantly I'd go, and victoriously I'd return.

I am eternally indebted to my husband for helping me overcome barriers and encouraging me to be an active soulwinner; it is a spiritual high we share together.

Rich continues to be a model soulwinner for me and our church. The only thing that excites him as much as leading someone to Christ is for one of his laypersons to do it.

Soulwinning is second nature to him. You have a second nature, too.

You'll never be more spiritually gifted than you are right now.

You'll never be more worthy or less scared to witness.

You'll never know greater joy.
"Now therefore perform the doing of it" (2 Co. 8:11).

Kay Kincl is a partner in ministry with her husband, Rich, pastor of Central Church of Magnolia. She is a writer, speech teacher, and mother of two.



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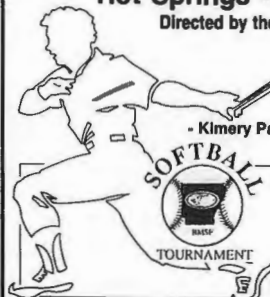
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Things that make for peace

by Michael K. Whitehead
SBC Christian Life Commission

A bumper sticker several years ago read: "Visualize World Peace." In the late 1970s, John Lennon said, "Give peace a chance." In a song later, he said, "Imagine there's no heaven... no hell... no war... And then the World will be as one." Neither idea worked, but God has a better idea.

His plan is the only one that really works. He sent his son, Jesus Christ, into the world to be the Prince of Peace. The angels announced his birth with a promise of peace on earth (Lk. 2:14). At the start of his ministry, Jesus promised: "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the sons of God" (Mt. 5:9). Near the end of his ministry, Jesus said, "... My peace I give you, not as the world gives" (Jn. 14:27). "I have told you these things so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart, I have overcome the world" (Jn. 16:33, NIV). At his triumphal entry into Jerusalem, he lamented for the Jewish people: "Would that you knew the things that make for peace" (Lk. 19:41).

So how does God plan to "make peace" in the world? One person at a time. There are more than 5.5 billion of us on this planet. Modern warfare has killed more people in this century than there were people living on earth in Jesus' day. But God's plan remains the same: Win over one rebel heart at a time.

When a person individually receives Jesus Christ by faith, through prayer (Jn. 1:14), Christ dwells in his or her heart (Rev. 3:20). Jesus died on the cross to pardon the sins of the world. Every person who receives Christ can experience God's forgiveness and peace with God (Rom. 5:1). His peace is that which passes all understanding (Phil. 4:7-9) and gives us the power to live in a manner which pleases God (Rom. 1:16).

What can you do to make peace in the world? The answer is something like a little girl, Holly, trying to assemble a big jigsaw puzzle of a world map. Each piece of the puzzle was shaped like a country, and there were many countries and lots of unusual shapes. She studied the picture on the box top, but still could not figure out

how to get all the pieces in the right place. Finally, in hopeless frustration, she came to her father for help. Her dad turned the puzzle box over, revealing that it was a two-sided puzzle: the world map on one side, and a picture of a man on the other. Holly and her dad turned all the puzzle pieces together to form the picture of a man. Then they turned the puzzle over again, and the world map was perfectly in order. "I see now, Dad!" Holly said, "Once you figure out how to get this one man put together, you are getting the world put together right, too!"

SBC Christian Life Commission photo



'Would that you knew the things that make for peace' (Lk. 19:41-44).

World peace comes one person at a time, as each person receives the Prince of Peace. A forgiven sinner is able to love and forgive other people, in the family, in the church, in the nation, and in the world. And a person loved by God will love every person he meets enough to want to share the powerful, peace-making gospel with every person on the planet.

Southern Baptists set aside one Sunday as a special Day of Prayer for World Peace. It is a good time to pray for someone who does not know Jesus to receive the Prince of Peace into his or her life. It is a good time to introduce family or friends to Christ. It is a good time to pray for leaders of our nation, and of the world, as they seek peace between nations. It is a time to pray and give to support world evangelism, to do our best to reach the goals of Bold Mission Thrust: to present the powerful gospel of the Prince of Peace to every person on the earth by the year 2000.

From the ABN board

Dear Arkansas Baptists,

The staff and board of the *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine* wish to thank you for all your expressions of love and kindness to the family of Dr. Everett Sneed. We are thankful for his wise stewardship in providing for his family should the unforeseen occur, and in putting together such a fine staff.

His presence will be greatly missed. We wanted to let the folks of our state know that we will be doing our very best to carry on business as usual.

Since Dr. Sneed was going to retire at the end of October, our Search committee has already been at work gathering resumes. They are now in the process of selecting those with whom they will have interviews.

Dr. Sneed was wise in having things ready ahead, and we already have Editorials ready for the next several issues.

We so much appreciate Bro. Don Moore, Bro. Jimmie Sheffield, Bro. Dan Jordan, and all the Baptist Building folks for their help and support.

We all thank you for your support, and especially your prayers. If you should have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact our staff here at the *Newsmagazine* or any of our board members.

In Christ, Nelson Wilbelm, President
Bert Thomas, Lane Strotter, Lucie Haggins, Don Heuer, Curt Hodges,
Harold Gateley, Greg Kirksey and Rick Hyde. And staff, Millie Gill, Colleen Backus, Paige Umboltz, and Diane Fowler

TRIBUTE

The staff of the *Arkansas Catholic* would like to extend to the staff and readers of the *Arkansas Baptist* our prayers and sympathy upon the death of your long-time editor, Dr. J. Everett Sneed. May our Lord's blessings be upon Dr. Sneed's family and upon the *Arkansas Baptist* in this time of transition.—Peace, Deborah Halter, Editor, *Arkansas Catholic*

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Arkansas All Over

MILLIE GILL

People

Desiree Drummond began serving June 21 as youth and children's director at Valley Church in Searcy. She received her master's of arts degree in religious education, youth concentration in May from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Miss Drummond has served as youth and children's director in churches in Texas, Louisiana, Georgia, and Mississippi.

Keith Hodges has joined the staff of Park Hill Church in North Little Rock as minister of youth, coming there from Granbury, Texas. He is a graduate of Central Baptist College in Conway and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Hodges has served as a church staff member of churches in Arkansas, Texas, and Florida. He and his wife, Marcy, have two children, Ryan Keith, and Kathryn Elizabeth.

Harold Johnson, director of student financial aid at Ouachita Baptist University, has been named to a national committee that will "review, analyze, and/or evaluate and respond to regulative, legislative and programmatic issues" developed by the U.S. Congress and/or the U.S. Department of Education.

Bryan Bolton joined the staff of Riverside Church, Maumelle, June 21 as minister of music. A junior at Ouachita University, he is the son of Mary and Tom Bolton, minister of music for First Church, Little Rock.

Reggie Lisenby is serving as interim pastor of Ebenezer Church, Warren.

George Vorbease is serving as interim pastor of Corinth Church, Wilmar.

Les Battles has resigned as pastor of Good Hope Church, McCrory.

A.D. Corder is serving as interim pastor of Grace Church, Augusta.

Paul Daniel resigned June 28 as pastor of First Church of North Little Rock to move to Kingman, Ariz.

James R. Rice is serving as pastor of Concord Chapel, Van Buren. A graduate of Oklahoma Missionary Baptist College, Marlow, Okla., he previously pastored Bethel Church in Arkoma, Okla. Rice and



Drummond

Hodges

his wife, Karen, have a son, Jonathan. Rice was ordained by his congregation to the ministry July 12.

Pete Petty began serving in June as interim pastor of Lake Hamilton Church, Hot Springs.

Freddie Martin has resigned as pastor of First Church of Callon.

Eric Vaughan has resigned from the staff of Ozark First Church to serve as minister of youth for Nettleton Church of Jonesboro.

Tommy Moseley has resigned as interim and part-time minister of music at Markham Street Church in Little Rock.

Richard Nuckolls has resigned as pastor of Emmanuel Church, Batesville, to serve as pastor of Pleasant Plains Church.

Kenny Moore is serving as pastor of Balboa Mission in Hot Springs Village, coming there from 15 years of service as pastor of First Church of Belle Chasse, La. Dr. Moore is a graduate of New Orleans Bap-

tist Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Ann, are parents of two adult children, Sheila DeSoto, and Kenneth Moore, both of New Orleans.

Bob G. Crabb has announced his retirement as pastor of First Church of Campbell, effective Aug. 2. Crabb and his wife, Martha, will reside in Jonesboro. He will be available for supply, interim, and revivals.

Harley Petty, bi-vocational youth director for Woodland Heights Church in Harrison, was ordained to the gospel ministry June 7 by First Church of Poplar Bluff, Mo. Petty is the son of ABS-C Missions Department Associate Director Pete Petty, and Bonita Petty of Little Rock. Participating in the ordination service were Host Pastor John Gilbert, Pete Petty, Lloyd Brannum, Charles Ellard, Charles Harper, Frank Hill, Marshall Boggs, pastor of Woodland Heights Church, Roger Tolliver, and Nolan Brisco.

Charles Lewis of Jacksonville has been called to serve as pastor of First Church of Corning, effective the last of this month. He and his wife, Ann, have two children, Mary and Steven.

Stacy Trusley has joined the staff of Bella Vista Church as youth minister.

Teresa Stephens resigned July 5 as youth minister at Hillside Church, Camden.

Russell Caldwell has resigned as minister of education at Markham Street Church in Little Rock.

Ronnie Brock has joined the staff of First Church of Benton as minister of youth.



Parkdale Church recently celebrated its annual homecoming with the dedication of a new 1,500 square foot fellowship hall constructed under the leadership of Pastor Kenny Worthington. Lonnie Latbam, director of missions for Bartolomew Association, was speaker. "The Heartland Singers" of Hamburg provided special music.

Matt Cason is serving as youth minister for Pleasant Hill Church, Sardis.

Sam Parker is serving as pastor of Perry Church and Joel Summers is serving as associate pastor.

Marvin E. Tate Jr., a native of Hope and a Southern Baptist Theological Seminary faculty member since 1960, has been named John R. Sampey professor of Old Testament at the seminary, effective Aug. 1. Tate, who has taught at Wayland Baptist University and pastored three churches, including Washington (Ark.) Church, holds degrees from Ouachita Baptist University and Southern Seminary.

Julle Wilhelm, a student at the University of Central Arkansas in Conway, is serving in summer music and youth director for Trinity Church of Alma, Clayburn Bratton, pastor. She is the daughter of Nelson and Elaine Wilhelm, director of missions for Concord Association.

R. Nell Bennett began serving July 5 as pastor of First Church in Dumas, coming there from North Church of Greenville, Texas. A graduate of Baylor University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, he has pastored Texas churches and served with the Home Mission Board as a church planter and summer missionary. Bennett and his wife, Theresa Jane, have a son, Matthew Robert.

Leo Cauthron of the Cauthron Community near Booneville will celebrate his 103rd birthday July 20. This birthday will be celebrated by the Long Ridge Church near Booneville where he regularly attends and was ordained a deacon in 1926.

Lynn Bullock has resigned as minister to students at Geyer Springs First Church in Little Rock to serve as associate pastor for Brook Hills Church in Birmingham, Ala.

Briefly

Spadra Church, Clarksville, will ordain Pastor Willis Jones to the gospel ministry July 19.

Midway Church recently organized a youth program with John Stone elected as director. Thirteen youth and six adult sponsors attended the "Passion Play" June 16. The church also conducted a vacation Bible school June 8-12 that resulted in 14 professions of faith. Bob Richardson is pastor.

Morrilton First Church launched a radio ministry July 5 with Sunday evening worship services to be broadcast over station KVOM, Morrilton.

Hot Springs First Church youth mime troupe was in Katy, Texas, June 12-15 to share their ministry with First Church of Katy.

Southside Mission in Alma recently held a revival that resulted in 79 decisions, including 39 professions of faith. William Blackburn of Fort Smith was evangelist. Tom Steward is pastor.

Conway Second Church is hosting a recovery/support group seminar for pastors Monday, Aug. 17, 9 a.m. to noon, that will emphasize why support groups are needed in the local church and about the effectiveness of support groups in the Conway church. Ron Ross, a Southern Baptist pastor from Florida with more than 10 years experience in support group ministry through local churches, will be speaker. Second Church also is providing facilitator training for key laymen Saturday, Aug. 15. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the church.

Geyer Springs First Church in Little Rock hosted a reception July 5 recognizing the service anniversaries of staff members, David Welch, Linda Halbrook, Lynn Bullock, Robert Rodriguez, and John Perkins.

Camden First Church is launching a prayer ministry with Lorain Edwards serving as coordinator.

Missionary Notes

Dirk and Libby Pearce, missionaries to Senegal, are on the field (address: BP 39, Bignona, Senegal). Son of Southern Baptist missionaries, he was born in Texas and grew up in Kenya. The former Libby Tullis, she grew up in Texas. Both consider Monticello their hometown. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1987.

Ronald and Teresa White, missionaries to Indonesia, are on the field (address Kotak POS 1, Kediri, 64102, Jatim, Indonesia). He is a native of Wynne. The former Teresa Turner, she considers Little Rock her hometown. They were appointed in 1990.

Rick and Beth Wolfe, missionaries to Indonesia, are on the field (address: Jalan Kapten, Tendeau 34, Bاندing 40141, Indonesia). He is a native of Alabama, and she is the former Elizabeth Brooks of Rogers. They were appointed in 1987.



Mission team—Monticello First Church 29-member mission team was in Ottumwa, Iowa, June 12-19, to assist Albia Road Church, the only Southern Baptist church in a town of 26,000 people, with a vacation Bible school. In the inner city, they converted the basement of an old building into a place that will serve as a worship center for Charity Mission, an outreach center to the homeless and "street people" of Ottumwa.

Hensley selected to receive award

J. Clark Hensley, Th.D, has been selected to receive the 1992 Brooks Hays Memorial Christian Citizenship Award from Second Church, Little Rock. Hensley, executive director emeritus of the Christian Action Commission of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, has been selected as this year's award recipient for his pioneering and exemplary service in family ministry across our nation.



Hensley

As a contract consultant with the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board he has been responsible for the administration of the family ministry programs including marriage enrichment, parent enrichment, senior adults, single adults, Christian home emphasis, and family counseling. A frequent lecturer, conference leader and author, he has spoken at Ridgecrest, Gorieta, numerous state Baptist assemblies and has contributed many articles and curriculum materials to denominational magazines and periodicals. He is the author of 14 books.

In 1975 he was the recipient of the Distinguished Service Award for Leadership in Christian Social Ethics from the Christian Life Commission, Southern Baptist Convention, and in 1988 he received the Family Ministry Award of Excellence, be-

ing the first Southern Baptist to receive such award from the Baptist Sunday School Board. He holds the B.A. degree from William Jewell College, the Th.M and Th.D degrees from Central Baptist Theological Seminary of Kansas City, where he taught for three years part-time in the field of psychology and counseling. From 1980-1988 he served as a trustee of the Radio and Television Commission during the time which the ACTS Television Network was brought into being. He is married to Margaret Sipes of Little Rock.

The Brooks Hays Award has been

presented annually by Second Baptist Church since 1982 in recognition of persons who have applied the Christian faith in the arena of public service in a profound way. The award provides an ongoing memorial to Brooks Hays, Arkansas Congressman for 16 years and former member of Second Baptist Church. Previous recipients include Judge Oren B. Harris, Foy Valentine, Betty Bumpers, T. B. Maston, Hezekiah Stewart, James Dunn, Robert Hingson, Bob Buice, Tom Logue, and Buddy Sutton.

The award was presented to Hensley during worship services at Little Rock Second Church July 12.

Arkansans appointed

Two couples with Arkansas connections were among the 32 people named missionaries by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board June 23 in the El Paso Civic Center in Texas. Another Arkansas couple were named representatives for Cooperative Services International.

C. Brandt and Gaila Smith will live in Taiwan, where he will start and develop churches. Since 1989 he has been senior pastor of Alexander Church in Paragould.

Born in New Mexico, Smith also lived in Pocahontas while growing up. A graduate of nation-Louis University in Evanston, Ill., he also attended Williams Baptist College in Walnut Ridge.

She is the former Gaila Watts of Texas. The Smiths have three children.

L. Clifford and Cynthia Case will live in Uruguay, where he will start and develop churches.

Case is the son of Dolores Case of Fairfield Bay and the late Virgil Case; while growing up he lived in North Little Rock. He is graduate of Ouachita Baptist University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. He has been youth and music minister at Fairview Road Church in Camden.

A native of Oklahoma, Mrs. Case, the former Cynthia Garner, is the daughter of retired Southern Baptist missionaries. A graduate of Baylor University in Waco, Texas, she also attended Ouachita Baptist University.

The Cases have two children. Elvin and Jackie McCann have been named representatives of Cooperative Services International, a Southern Baptist aid organization.

The McCanns will live in East Asia, where they will use their skills in development of CSI-related projects in developing nations of East Asia.

Born in Hampton, McCann is the son of Lexical M. McCann of El Dared. While growing up he also lived in Fordyce, Warren, and Camden.

He is a graduate of Central Baptist College in Conway and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

Mrs. McCann, the former Jackie Tuberville, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oryen Tuberville of Magnolia.

The McCanns have three children. The families will go to Rockville, Va., in August for a seven-week orientation before leaving for the field.

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Preparing Tomorrow's Leaders Today

by Don Moore
ABBC Executive Director

Tomorrow's leaders will have to be confident, flexible, and aggressive. They will be called upon to meet challenges that will demand discipline, creativity, and courage. Compassion and confrontation will be called for in the days ahead.

According to the futurists, education, communication, technology, medicine, religion, crime, poverty, and ethics are some of the more critical areas that must be addressed.

Most problems today have a global dimension. No major problem can be addressed without consideration of its impact upon the rest of the world. Ecological and economic problems may serve as the best examples of this.

With the given set of challenges, known and unknown, the question naturally may be asked, "Who is sufficient for these things?" That was a question the Apostle Paul once asked. He later declared, "We are not sufficient of ourselves" (2 Co. 2:16, 3:5).

What kind of leaders would we want to address the challenges of tomorrow? We would want them to be brilliant, but more than that, we would want them to be wise. We would want them to be discerning of the consequence of all decisions. We would want them to be honest, fair, and objective with all information. We would want them to work with compassion and seek for a just solution for all problems with all people. We would want them to have such vision as to include all peoples of all of the world. We would want them to deal with root causes and basic needs rather than superficial causes and symptomatic needs.

The qualities we would want are most likely to be found in a Christian. Christ makes all of these available to all of his children. Tomorrow's leaders need to be Christian leaders. Whether it be in education, government, or social programs, the Christian brings a number of strengths to the position not found in others.

Where will these leaders be found? Who will prepare these leaders? They will be found in the homes, churches, and schools throughout the land. Some are now emerg-

ing. Some will be discovered. All will require preparation. Most will find their academic preparation in the public and private schools of our land. The larger question is, "Who will prepare them socially and morally?"

With the well-known shortcomings of the home and with the legal prohibitions limiting the educational process, who will address the moral issues? Honesty; respect for property and persons; respect for other races, sexes, and beliefs; accountability and responsibility—these are moral issues. Precious little is done by the school, even less by the media, and far too little by the home. Unless the church steps in at critical points in the developmental process, we likely will have leaders who are very deficient in character.

The most opportune time deeply to impact developing leaders is during their college years. As they search for significance, form their own values, discover their own gifts, and look for the niche they can uniquely fill, this is the time when the church can most likely impact the leaders of tomorrow.

Baptist Student Union is there to do it. They were there for me at the University of Arkansas. They were there for thousands of others who are leaders in industry, education, finance, missions, medicine, and science. Without the spiritual dimension a leader is a liability. Without the Baptist Student Union many of tomorrow's leaders will never develop the spiritual dimension.

The approaching school year poses a new challenge and opportunity for church leaders, parents, educators, and friends to encourage their college-age young people to make BSU a part of their preparation to lead tomorrow.



In August, churches are encouraged to conduct an On-to-College celebration for students such as Ol Vang, a freshman at the University of Minnesota.

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS

The Ministry staff and members of Second Baptist Church welcome the Collegians to Conway. Our desire is to be an important part of your life while you are in Conway. Our college ministry includes a Wednesday night collegian service in the chapel at 6:30 p.m., college Sunday School classes, an all collegian assembly, college drama teams, college prayer services, and an opportunity to be a part of the Sanctuary Choir and orchestra. You can see a map of the intersection of highway 64 and 65 in downtown Conway. If we can answer any questions you might have about ministry opportunities, please call our college minister, Ryan Bowman at 327-6565.

SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH OF CONWAY

What BSU has meant to my ministry

by John Finn
Special to the Arkansas Baptist

The theme for the convention was "A million more in '54." That year I was discharged from the Navy and was saved at a tent revival. God called me to the ministry and provided the opportunity to enroll at William's College. It was there that I was introduced to BSU. The extension of unconditional love and acceptance made a lasting impression and contribution to me.

BSU taught me the importance of a daily quiet time with God. The noon devotions were sources of encouragement. The fellowship with the students and the study of God's Word were stabilizing forces for my life.

BSU provided my first public speaking opportunity. The message was terrible, but the students listened and encouraged me to "walk worthy of my vocation" (Ep. 4:10).

A Christian is to be a witness, and BSU provided witnessing opportunities. At a noon meeting I brought a message, extended an invitation, and a dear friend was saved. He was the first to accept Christ as a result of my witnessing. I was a privileged to baptize him, my first, into the fellowship of a local church. He and his lovely wife were the first to be united by me in holy matrimony.

At BSU I learned to pray with my precious wife. Together, we prayed publicly and privately about our future.

The Third Century Campaign provided my greatest opportunity for service. Our denomination has bestowed upon me many honors. None were deserved or sought. None were as fulfilling as serving as co-chairman for the campaign.

My friend who was saved at the BSU meeting recently died of cancer. Before his death, he sent for me. As we visited he said, "We started out together and I wanted to see and talk with you before the end." I took his hand and replied, "God willing, I will walk with you to the end." He faced death with a positive attitude and a smile because BSU provided the channel for the proclamation of the gospel and he was saved.

John Finn, pastor of Parkin First Church and past ABSC president, has remained supportive of BSU through assisting with fund-raising efforts.

Being a leader today

Kim Chebahtah, a senior sociology major at Southern Arkansas University, is serving with a team of five BSU students leading day camps and working in schools in Alma Ata, Kazakhstan, formerly a republic of the Soviet Union. Although originally a part of a cultural exchange with the United States, the government authorities have welcomed these Christian students to their country and encouraged them to share their faith in this predominantly Moslem area. The team members work under the supervision of



the Foreign Mission Board Student Missions Program and represent Indiana, Mississippi, Arkansas, British Columbia, and New Mexico.

Kim and her team report that Kazakhstan is a beautiful country but the people live in poverty. The people are very curious about visiting Americans. In answering their questions Kim has said she feels

very materialistic because she has so much and they have so little. She has many opportunities to share her testimony with her interpreters and with the children.



The people of Kazakhstan, while steeped in ethnic tradition, are curious about visiting Americans.

(BP) photo / Don Rutledge

Welcome to ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Pastor John Matthews and the congregation welcome students to become a part of the Walnut Street family while at Arkansas State University.

Student Welcome Dinner... Sept. 16

Collegiate Bible Study each Wednesday evening at 6:15 p.m.

Walnut Street Baptist Church
Jonesboro, AR



Arkansas BSU Directors and Campuses

Arkansas College
BSU Director
BSU, P.O. Box 300
Batesville, AR 72501
793-9101

Arkansas State University
Arlis Dickerson, director
Linda Osborne, associate
P.O. Box 730
State University, AR 72467
932-7241

ASU-Beebe
Wanda Holland, director
Box 235
Beebe, AR 72012
882-3096

Arkansas Technical University
Scott Willis, director
1404 North Arkansas
Russellville, AR 72801
967-3217

East Arkansas Community College
BSU Director
P.O. Box 83
Wynne, AR 72396
238-2175

Garland County Community College
Beverly Cooke, director
100 College Drive
Hot Springs, AR 71913
767-9389

Henderson State University
Mark Robinson, director
713 North 12th Street
Arkadelphia, AR 71923
246-6592

Mississippi County Community College
BSU Director
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Blytheville, AR 72315
763-3480

North Arkansas Community College
BSU Director
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Harrison, AR 72602
743-5901

Ouachita Baptist University
Ian Cosh, director
Box 3783, OBU
Arkadelphia, AR 71998
246-4531 ext. 539

Phillips County Community College
Terry Garrison, director
Rt. 2, Box 200 X
Lexa, AR 72355
572-3593

Rich Mountain Community College
Kay McDaniel, director
601 Bush Street
Mena, AR 71953
394-5012



Dr. Rex M. Horne, Jr.
Pastor

"HOMECOMING SUNDAY"

at Immanuel Baptist Church
Sunday, July 26, 1992

Dr. Rex M. Horne, Jr. and the members of Immanuel Baptist Church invite former members and friends to join with them in their Centennial celebration.

Growing from 17 charter members to over 4300, Immanuel has been serving the people of Little Rock, Arkansas and beyond for 100 years.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

- 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. - Morning worship with Dr. Horne, the Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra
- 9:30 a.m. - Bible Study
- 4:30 p.m. - History Room Open
- 5:15 p.m. - Burial of Time Capsule
- 5:30 p.m. - Fellowship/Reception in Dining Room
- 6:30 p.m. - Special Worship Celebration with Dr. Brian Harbour

Immanuel Baptist Church is located at 1000 Bishop Street, across the street from Arkansas Children's Hospital.
The 11:00 a.m. service is televised on KTHV • Channel 11 and broadcast on KGHT • 880AM.

Southern Arkansas University
Robert Pinkston, director
Box 1275, SAU
Magnolia, AR 71753
234-2434

SAU Tech, Camden
Teresa Stephens, director
Box 4171
Camden, AR 71701
574-2368

University of Arkansas at Fayetteville
Lynn Loyd, director
David McKinney, associate
944 West Maple
Fayetteville, AR 72701
521-4370

UA Monticello
Darrell Cook, director
Box 3073, UAM
Monticello, AR 71655
367-5381

UA Pine Bluff
Dawson Williams, director
Box 4123, UAPB
Pine Bluff, AR 71601
535-8545

UCA, Hendrix & CBC
Richard Boyles, director
Susan Burks, associate
Box 5164, UCA
Conway, AR 72032
329-5763

University of the Ozarks
Mike Kinsey, director
BSU C-Box 377
Clarksville, AR 72830
754-7754

WestArk Community College
Darrel Ray, director
813 North 49th Street
Fort Smith, AR 72903
782-1219

Williams Baptist College
Jackie Burton, director
Box 3456
College City, AR 72476
886-6741

Little Rock Metro Area

Baptist Medical Center
BSU director
11900 Col. Glenn Road
Little Rock, AR 72210
223-7468

UA Medical Sciences
Diane O'Connell, director
4324 West Markham
Little Rock, AR 72205
661-8078

University of Arkansas at Little Rock
Dan McCauley, director
Hope Coleman, associate
5515 West 32nd Street
Little Rock, AR 72204
562-4383



State Office Personnel

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George Sims, associate director
Mary Wright, administrative secretary
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- M.A.N.N.A. (5:30-6:30 p.m. Sunday) Collegiate Supper and Bible Study
- "Prime Time" (7:00 p.m. Wednesday) Mid-week Bible Study

Central Baptist Church

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*John Dresbach-University
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ASU
Welcome Dinner
Sunday, September 13, 1992

And Making Him Known.....

- Student Adoption
- University Ensemble
- University Evangelism
- University Athletics
- Student Mission Trip
- Retreats

First-time summer missionaries in Israel

by George Sims
Special to the ABN

For the first time, funds managed by the Arkansas Baptist Foundation in the Ezra Amos Fund have been made available to provide the expenses of two summer missionaries in Israel. Mr. Amos will designate his estate for missions outreach to the people of Israel. For several years, earnings from this endowment fund were forwarded to the Foreign Mission Board. Now, in a more direct involvement, a portion of the earnings will be used to sponsor two summer missionaries selected by the Student Ministry Department of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

On May 29, Darren Kilbury of the University of Arkansas and Leigh Anne Woodford from Ouachita Baptist University reported to Israel to work in youth camps at Baptist Village, near Tel Aviv. Their summer work will involve serving as camp counselors, assisting with food preparation and general camp maintenance, and building relationships with Jewish, Moslem, and Christian children and youth. Although the government limits direct evangelism, there will be opportunities to share their faith.

Leigh Anne Woodford is a recent



Darren Kilbury and Leigh Anne Woodford on their way to assume summer missionary duties in Israel.

graduate of OBU with a B.A. in psychology. She hopes to enter graduate school or seminary within the year, but wanted to be involved in a mission outreach this summer. She was a leader in BSU at OBU, serving on the Executive Council and leading the prison ministry and Big Sister programs. She formerly served as a summer missionary in New Orleans, Chicago, and Little Rock.

Darren Kilbury is a drama major at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville who was a summer missionary with the BSU Share Team last year. He has used his drama training through the BSU's "Porker Players" and will direct the fine arts teams and worship services beginning this fall.

These two students are among the 55 summer missionaries sponsored by the Stu-

dent Ministry Department. They work along with more than 1,700 students sponsored by other state conventions and the Home and Foreign Mission Boards. We are grateful for God's leadership in the life of Ezra Amos and to the Arkansas Baptist Foundation for its efforts to provide support for this and other ministries.

George Sims is associate director of the Arkansas Baptist Student Ministry Department.

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Preparing Tomorrow's Leaders Today

BSU & CHURCHES

You Are Here

by Glenn Prescott
The Student Magazine

You've just arrived at a mall in a major city. You are not familiar with the layout, so you head for the nearest map to locate the stores that are of particular interest to you. Opportunities in the Christian life are a little like being in a new mall. The choices can be somewhat overwhelming. The following will attempt to serve as your guide to involvement in missions, right now!

"As we go about living the life that God has granted to us, we must be sure to take advantage of every opportunity to introduce someone to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Wherever our journeys lead us, we must always be ready to give everyone a chance to hear about the good news of Jesus. And remember, he has promised to accompany us wherever we go to provide the strength that we will need to accomplish this most important task" (personal paraphrase of Matt. 28:18-20).

The Great Commission is that special passage of Scripture that is reserved for missionaries and pastors. Wrong! Many believers feel that since they do not have the spiritual gift of evangelism, they are exempt from having to share their faith verbally. These are the folks who say they they simply share their faith in the life-style that they lead. Don't let anyone feed you that line. That is usually the first clue that this



Opportunities in the Christian Life are a little like being in a mall.

person is not willing to tell someone about Jesus.

What are the questions?

- Doesn't God's plan of telling all the people of the world about himself fall on the shoulder's of every believer?
- Why are particular individuals, churches, and Baptist Student Unions (BSUs) singled out and characterized as mission-minded?
- Isn't missions the task of every believer?
- What does it mean to have a heart for lost people?
- When and where do I start?

The answers to these and other questions help you to focus your attention on the monumental task of sharing the gospel with every man, woman, and child on the face of the earth. However, as you learn of

the billions of people in our world, you begin to wonder how much of a difference one person can make.

So, what can you do to get started?

- Receive evangelism training through your church or BSU and share your faith daily. The SHARE Seminar is designed especially for students
- Receive English as a Second Language (ESL) training.
- Attend MissionFest, Home Mission Week, Jericho, the Ridgecrest/Glorieta Student Conference, a World Missions Conference, a Baptist Student Convention, and other meetings where mission will be brought into a sharp focus.
- Do a personal Bible study of the book of Acts.

• Pray daily for missionaries who serve at home and overseas. Ask God to prepare your heart as you seek your role in missions.

• Learn about unreached people groups and what it means to have never had the opportunity to respond to the gospel.

How can you be involved in missions right now?

I. Local missions through your church and BSU:

- a. Student church planting teams
- b. Tutor international students in ESL
- c. Backyard Bible Clubs
- d. Ministry to convalescent centers and children's homes

Contact: your pastor or director of Baptist student ministries.

II. Home Missions opportunities:

- a. Spring break mission trips
- b. Innovators
- c. Summer and semester missions
- d. US-2 after graduation

Contact: Home Mission Board, 1350 Spring St. NW, Atlanta, GA 30367

III. Foreign Missions opportunities:

- a. Short-term volunteer trips
 - b. Baptist Living Abroad while studying overseas
 - c. Summer and semester missions
 - d. Journeyman/International Service Corps
- Contact: Foreign Mission Board, P.O. Box 6767, Richmond, VA 23230.

IV. Be Creative! Don't let the preceding list of possibilities limit your vision. Look specifically for unmet needs that you or your group could meet. Just because we have never done it that way before, doesn't mean that some things don't need to be done.

Glenn Prescott is Associate Director of International Service Department at the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. He is responsible for international Service Corps and Journeyman.

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THE ULTIMATE WORD

Conway's FBC Student Ministries

Rev. Jeffrey Julian, Student Ministries
Conway's First Baptist Church, 1719 Robinson at Davis
Conway, AR 72032 (501) 329-5648

BAPTIST COLLEGES

Teaching compassion

by Larry D. Brumley
Baptist Press

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)—Denominational colleges should seek to educate students who are not only capable but who also demonstrate compassion, Ernest L. Boyer told more than 700 Southern Baptist educators June 22 at the National Conference on Integrating Personal Faith and Professional Discipline.

Boyer, president of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, delivered the keynote address at the Southern Baptist Education Commission-sponsored conference at Samford University in Birmingham.

A product of a church-related college himself, Boyer outlined four priorities denominational institutions should follow to achieve the goal of educating students who demonstrate competence in their subject fields as well as a sense of purpose.

The four priorities are based on making "connections," Boyer said. Connections through the sacredness of language; through a curriculum with coherence that "reveals the creation of our Lord;" through cross-cultural understanding that allows students to discover the dignity of every human being by integrating faith and learning; and through a life of dedicated service.

"Denominational education means teaching students that language is a sacred

trust and that honesty is the obligation we assume when we're empowered with the use of words," Boyer said. "We are all connected through the use of symbols."

Students at denominational colleges also should study a core of common learning that gives them a more coherent view of knowledge and a more integrated, more reverential view of life, Boyer said.

"The task of the denominational college is to go beyond the disciplines and departments, which are only means to larger ends, and give to students a sense of wholeness, helping them through a core curriculum, discovering the mystery and majesty of God's creation. The harsh truth is that on most college campuses today, including almost all of our church-related institutions, general education is frankly an exercise in trivial pursuit. Students are offered a grab-bag of isolated courses, they complete the required credits, but what they fail to gain is a sense of the awesome miracle of the natural world, and all of the wonder and the mystery disappears.

"We cannot live, either socially or intellectually, in a disconnected world," Boyer said. "I'm suggesting that church-related schools and colleges have both an educational and an ethical obligation to help students discover the connections across the disciplines and to give them a more integrated view of knowledge and a more reverential, authentic view of life."

A third priority for denominational institutions is to help students gain a global perspective and help them understand connections across the cultures by becoming increasingly familiar and respectful of traditions other than their own.

"In our deeply divided world, students must begin to understand that while we're all separate and unique, we are at the same time deeply dependent on each other, and that we do in fact have very much in common," Boyer said.

"Students at denominational colleges should learn to celebrate the uniqueness of every culture. They should take great satisfaction in their own distinctive characteristics — those that make them a very special creature unique in God's creation. Students in our colleges should also learn to celebrate the connections across the cultures. Prejudice must be reduced. Hatred cannot be advanced in these places which preach Christian love."

A final priority for denominational colleges is to help students form convictions and make connections between what they learn and how they live.

"I'm convinced that education simply cannot be divorced from values. George Steiner, the British philosopher, reminded us that a man who is intellectually advanced can at the same time be morally bankrupt.

"A church-related school or college must above all help students not only get credentialed, but discover a divine meaning for their existence. I do not suggest a program of indoctrination, nor do you. Rather the goal should be to create in every classroom a climate that makes honorable the quest that encourages the search for deeper meaning — one in which professors are models for their students as they themselves integrate faith and learning."

Boyer said he is convinced America's young people are ready to be inspired by a larger vision.

"And so it is, when all is said and done, the purpose of the denominational college is to educate students who are not only capable, but have compassion. In the end they must learn that it's more blessed to give than to receive."

Larry Brumley is assistant vice president for university relations at Mercer University in Macon, Ga.



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More SSB changes

Personnel, organizational change announced in Sunday School Board restructuring

by Linda Lawson
Baptist Sunday School Board

NASHVILLE (BP)—In a series of announcements about the continued restructuring of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, President James T. Draper Jr. named nine people who will direct divisions and departments.

He also announced the retirement of eight long-tenured employees from middle- and upper-level management positions, effective on dates ranging from Sept. 1 to Nov. 1.

The organizational structure and nominations to nine of 18 positions that report directly to vice presidents of the board's four operational areas were affirmed June 25 by the board's trustee executive committee and general administration committee. They were announced June 26 to employees. Official approval awaits action by the full trustee board, which meets Aug. 17-19 at Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Conference Center.

Three will be nominated as division directors. They are: Harry Piland, 63, director of the Sunday school division for 14 years, will become director of church growth and Sunday school; Roy Edgemon, 57, director of the discipleship training department since 1978, will become direc-

tor of discipleship and family development; and Roland Maddox, 55, owner and president of a Memphis, Tenn.-based real estate development and sales company, and a former trustee of the board, will direct the newly-created church program support division.

The newly-created marketing research department will be directed by Doug Anderson, 47, director of the family ministry department since 1982. Jim Shull, 51, director of the procurement and administrative services department and a 22-year employee, will lead the production services department.

Four department directors will continue in their present positions: Van Simpson, 49, director of the information systems department since 1974; Richard Bell, 53, director of the property management department since 1986; Steve Lawrence, 48, director of the human resources department since 1980; and Larry Haslam, 52, director of Gloriaeta Baptist Conference Center since 1973.

Employees retiring are: Dessel Aderholt, 62, director of publishing analysis, a 33-year employee; Martin Bradley, 64, director of the corporate planning and research department, 38 years; Andy Dodson, 53, director of the distribution ser-

vices division, 27 years; Jimmy Edwards, 54, vice president for marketing and distribution, 23 years; Johnnie Godwin, 55, vice president for general publishing, 22 years; Bill Graham, 57, director of the book store division, 30 years; Ken McAnear, 58, director of Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, 35 years; and David Turner, 56, director of business development planning, 33 years.

Draper said those retiring have accepted a retirement option commensurate with their years of service to the board, pending trustee approval.

Draper said the restructuring process guided by employees through four task forces reduces both the number of levels of management and the number of positions at middle and upper levels.

"Implementing a structure with fewer middle- and upper-level management positions means we have more people who have been employed at this level than we now have positions," Draper said. "While I am convinced reducing management levels and positions is the best approach for the long-term future of the Sunday School Board, these personnel decisions are extremely difficult in the short term."

Draper also distributed an organizational chart of components to employees, noting that additional structural changes likely will be made as vice presidents work with division and department directors.

The new structure is headed by Draper and four vice presidents of operational areas — Michael Arrington, corporate services; Gene Mims, church growth and programs; Charles Wilson, trade and retail markets; and E.V. King, finance and administration.

Within the structure are created three independent strategic operating units — church growth and programs, Baptist Book Stores, and trade publishing. Draper said marketing, sales, customer service, accounting, purchasing, and some other services will be decentralized to give strategic operating units needed accountability. The position of director of the marketing division is being deleted.

Draper said, "Change is difficult, and we are undertaking the greatest number of organization changes made at one time in our history."

"Continue to pray for yourselves, especially for those most impacted by the changes. Pray for the trustees and the senior executive team. Remember that our goal, under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, is to assist local churches and believers to evangelize the world to Christ, develop believers and grow churches by being the best worldwide provider of relevant, high-quality, high-value Christian products and services," he said.

MP

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M.P. Production, Inc. has been providing full scale sound, lighting, and concert production services for over ten years for political leaders such as President Reagan, President George Bush, Governor Bill Clinton, religious leaders and artists such as the Reverend Billy Graham, Larry Lee Ministries, Sandi Patti, Petra, Russ Taft, The Imperials, also major contemporary entertainers such as Patti LaBelle, Ray Charles, The Kentucky Headhunters, REO Speedwagon, plus corporate clients such as Wal-Mart stockholders, Tyson Foods, ARA Services and the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*.

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CLC responds to Supreme Court actions

Graduation prayer

WASHINGTON (BP)—The Supreme Court's decision prohibiting prayer at a public school graduation was decried by representatives of the Southern Baptist Convention's religious liberty agency as a denial of religious expression.

In a June 24 opinion by Justice Anthony Kennedy, the court ruled, 5-4, that a Rhode Island school board coerced student participation in religion and thereby violated the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment when it enlisted a Jewish rabbi to offer an invocation and benediction at a junior high commencement.

"The outrageous Supreme Court decision in the *Lee v. Weisman* case is one more general step in the encroachment of the secular state upon a religiously pluralistic society," said Richard D. Land, executive director of the Southern Baptist Christian

Life Commission. "Once again, the court has confused secularism with religious pluralism."

Casey abortion decision

Richard Land also issued the following statements in response to the Supreme Court's *Planned Parenthood vs. Casey* decision June 29 upholding the Pennsylvania's abortion-restriction law, except for spousal notification, but reaffirming the 1973 *Roe vs. Wade* opinion.

Land said, "I am pleased that the Court has affirmed the right of states to require parental consent for minors, ban sex-selection abortions and abortions on babies viable outside the womb. It's also encouraging that the Court has upheld the right of states to require that pregnant women receive information about fetal development and abortion procedures that give them the basis upon which to give truly informed consent to an abortion procedure.

"I am perplexed, however, that the Court concurred in striking spousal notification. This is an anti-marriage, anti-family decision, not to mention blatantly anti-male. It

is a mystery to me how justices, all but one of whom are married, can fail to understand how destructive this ruling is to the marriage relationship. It denigrates spousal and paternal responsibilities.

Solicitation banned, leafletting upheld

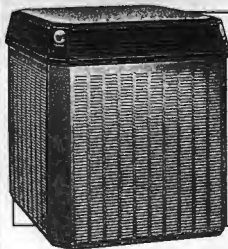
In a significant religious liberty case, the Supreme Court recently ruled a ban on solicitation of contributions in an airport terminal is constitutional but a ban on literature distribution is not.

On June 26, the Court ruled 6-3 the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey was within the law in prohibiting requests for immediate donations in its three airports by the Hare Krishna, a form of Hinduism. In a second opinion, however, the court ruled 5-4 the ban on leafletting was unconstitutional.

The decision was a mixed blessing for many religious groups. CLC general counsel Michael Whitehead said, "... The court has drawn a puzzling, crooked line that includes the freedom to talk and give away tracts but excludes the freedom to solicit donations (for them)."

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Across the Country

Southeastern receives ATS probation notice

WAKE FOREST, N.C.—Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C. has received notice from the Association of Theological Schools (ATS) that the Commission on Accreditation has placed the seminary on probation for two years. ATS indicated the school had failed to show the conditions cited in the June 1992 "show-cause" order had been remedied.

President elect Paige Patterson received the communication from ATS during his second week of transition with President Lewis A. Drummond. Patterson said while this action was not unexpected, never the less it was "not a particularly pleasant welcome" to the school.

Penn/South Jersey executive to head Beeson doctoral work

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Wallace A.C. Williams, executive director of the Pennsylvania/South Jersey Baptist State Convention, has been appointed the first director of the proposed doctor of ministry program at Beeson Divinity School, Samford University, in Birmingham, Ala.

Williams, at the Penn/South Jersey post for five years, will join the Beeson faculty on Aug. 24. Beeson officials anticipate the first doctor of ministry class will be admitted in January.

June CP, designated gifts up

NASHVILLE—The Southern Baptist Convention Cooperative Program total received by the Executive Committee for June rebounded with a 28.83 percent increase over the same month a year ago, according to Harold C. Bennett, Executive Committee president/treasurer.

The June 1992 total was \$12,789,989 compared to June 1991 of \$9,927,427. Designated gifts for the month were even higher, percentage-wise, over the same period a year ago: \$13,127,622 compared to \$9,829,844 or a 33.55 percent increase.

Graham association confirms evangelist has Parkinson's

MINNEAPOLIS—Billy Graham is "in the early stages of Parkinson's disease," according to a statement released by the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association July 2.

The statement was a response to an article that day on Graham's health in the *Charlotte (N.C.) Observer*, said the evangelist's media relations director, A. Larry Ross.

The BGEA statement said Graham, 73, learned about three years he is in the early stages of Parkinson's during a routine checkup at the Mayo Clinic.

WMU names four to national staff

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)—Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union has named Karen Simons as director of the Churchwide Involvement Section.

Simons, who previously was Churchwide Editorial Group manager, succeeds Lynn Yarbrough. Yarbrough resigned her position earlier this month to work with Cooperative Services International.

In her role, Simons is responsible for directing the work of more than 30 people whose work centers on involving the entire church in missions.

Simons, a native of Greenfield, Tenn., has been with WMU since 1985.

Rob Sanders has joined the national WMU staff as manager of the Age-Level Editorial Group.

Sanders, a native of Springfield, Mo., is

responsible for the production of age-level magazines. WMU publishes five monthly magazines and three quarterly magazines for use by preschool boys and girls, school-age girls, and women.

He was previously children's specialist in the Discipleship Training division of the Baptist Sunday School Board.

Ron Tonks, a native of Vancouver, British Columbia, has joined the national WMU staff as archivist. Previously, Tonks was professor of history for Tennessee State University in Nashville, Tenn.

Becky Nelson has joined the WMU staff as products editor. Nelson is a native of Tyler, Texas, and is married to William P. "Buddy" Nelson, pastor of Riverchase Baptist Church in Birmingham. Nelson is responsible for editing products for youth and adults.

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Accepting Resumes—Pastoral position. First Baptist, Atkins. P.O. Box 202, Atkins, AR 72823. 716

Position Wanted—A youth minister/pastor seeking a position with a church or youth. I love working with youth. Contact Larry Kinsey, P.O. Box 1166, Texarkana, AR 75504. Call beeper/903-798-2842 or phone message/501-653-5042. Resume available upon request. 716

Position Available—An experienced, evangelistic, dedicated man of God needed to pastor a small Baptist church in SW Arkansas, which has a plan to win their community to Christ. Attn: Ron Mitchell, Memorial Baptist Church, Box 280, Waldo, AR 71770. 716

For Sale—Peavy XR-1200 stereo powered mixer 12 channels, 400 watts, dual 9 band EQ, compression. Excellent working condition. \$500. Joel Nolte, 501-935-0885. 716

Wanted—Part-time minister of youth. Position includes duties on Friday evenings, Saturdays and Sundays. Basic salary would include \$125/week plus mileage & expenses. If interested please send resume before August 1, 1992 to Trinity Baptist Church, Washington & Elm, Pittsburg, KS 66762. 716

Needed—Part-time music director. Send resume to Brookwood First Baptist Church, 6811 Brookview Drive, Little Rock, AR 72209. Also need organist. Call 565-6276. 716

Available—Southern Baptist Minister for revivals, interim, bi-vocational (full-time or part-time). 895-2887 730

For Sale—Church furnishings/equipment, modern, like new. First Baptist Church, Horseshoe Bend, 670-5707. 716

For Information—on "Assured Peace" with Roller-Drummond, and cemetery lots in beautiful River Wood in Maumelle call Kenneth Moore 501-568-4866. 716

Organist wanted—Paid position. Bingham Road Baptist Church, Little Rock, 888-2140. 84

(BP) photo / Gary Whitehouse



Kathy Lloyd (second from right) was seen participating in a quilting project with other American and Korean women in South Korea in this 1989 photo. Bone cancer has forced her to leave the mission field, but "If I can't go, someone else can go," she said. "Maybe that's why God has brought me back... to challenge people" to go overseas as missionaries.

Answered prayer

Former missionary continues improvement

by Ferrell Foster
Illinois Baptist

HENDERSON, Ky. (BP)—Cancer patient and former missionary Kathy Lloyd has received good news in recent weeks but doctors warned her not to celebrate, yet.

First, a bone marrow biopsy taken on her birthday, June 19, indicates the cancer in her bones has been "killed."

Second, a blood marker test that tracks cancer cells in the blood stream has dropped to 35, after a high of about 170. Below 31 is considered "no cancer," Lloyd said.

And third, other tests indicate her heart, lungs, bladder and kidneys have not been damaged by her cancer treatment.

The former missionary also was blessed with a shorter hospital stay than expected in June. She was dismissed after only 18 days. Doctors had told her to anticipate a four- to six-week stay.

She attributes the good news to answered prayer.

Lloyd and her husband, Skip, from Granite City, Ill., resigned as missionaries to South Korea at the end of last year because of the cancer that had spread rapidly through her bones. She was given six months to two years to live.

A process involving chemotherapy and "harvesting" and transplanting cells began

in the spring. At press time, Lloyd was hoping to return to St. Louis the week of July 6 for a second transplant.

She pushed for the new round of treatment so it would coincide with Woman's Missionary Union week July 4-10 at Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Conference Center — and with the prayer support she anticipates.

The earlier cell harvesting and the first transplant occurred during Illinois and national WMU meetings, and both times special prayers were offered on Lloyd's behalf.

News accounts of Lloyd's situation have appeared in various state Baptist newspapers and she has received letters from around the country affirming prayer support in her behalf.

"I think it is just so evident ... the prayer support has made a difference through it all," Lloyd said in a telephone interview. And she asked Baptists not to stop praying, yet.

"The transplant was probably the most horrible experience I've ever had," Lloyd stated. But it did "what it was supposed to do."

"We were real excited" after receiving the biopsy results, the Indiana native said. But the doctor said it's too early to

celebrate. That should come after two or three years of good reports.

"To us it's very encouraging to show this result this quickly," Lloyd said. "It's given us some assurance that I do have some time at least. I can plan past Christmas."

The second transplant is required to kill any "stray" cancer cells. "The idea is to get in there and annihilate" any remaining cancer cells.

Lloyd expressed concern for women in the St. Louis hospital who received the same treatment. One has permanent nerve damage; another has lost her hearing.

"Those women do not have the same prayer support I have," Lloyd said. "And I don't see how you could get through something like that without a strong faith in God. . . . It's a ministry that our churches could definitely pick up."

Patients at the hospital already have benefited from the support given to Lloyd.

Baptists in the St. Louis area had been asked to donate blood for use in Lloyd's treatment. While in the hospital, Lloyd was told by hospital officials that more blood was donated for her than she needed, and she granted permission for it to be used for other patients.

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Convention Uniform

Be faithful to God's Word

by Earl Humble, retired, Walnut Ridge

Basic passage: 1 Timothy 1:3-11,18-20

Focal passage: 1 Timothy 1:3-11,18-20

Central truth: There are influences all about us that might prove to be a threat to the stability of our faith.

There were people in Paul's day, as in ours, with an axe to grind. It was to their advantage to teach God's Word like they wanted it, rather than like it was and is. Paul gives the names of two such men in verse 20, but probably there were many others. Verse 4 implies that these troublemakers were Jews, for Jews were given to myths and endless genealogies. Whatever they were teaching, it was not the gospel. There is no place for speculation in the interpretation of God's Word. We must faithfully interpret His Word and teach it like it is.

There was an unhealthy emphasis on the Law of Moses in Paul's day, even as in our day. Paul always upheld the validity of the moral law. It was the ceremonial law that Jesus, Paul and others taught had passed away. In verses 8-10 a dozen or so particular sins are named, which evidently were common at that time. These are all contrary to sound teaching. Only the gospel will deliver from such a lifestyle. Before we leave this section, let us notice verse 5. Here Paul says the goal of their instruction is love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. That would be our goal today.

Paul urged Timothy to be faithful to his calling, to fight the good fight, and to keep a good conscience. He reminds the young pastor that some had suffered shipwreck of their faith. He names two men whom he says he has delivered over to Satan that they might be taught not to blaspheme. Deliverance to Satan is an apostolic act of faith, in the consignment of sinful professed Christians to Satan. This implies the belief that God will remove his normal restraints on Satanic power and let Satan deal with the sinner as he will for a time.

Our generation is paying dearly for our failure to preach Bible doctrine for at least two generations. We hear even our own people saying, "All churches are equally good." We hear, "It doesn't matter what we believe so long as we are sincere." Let's get back to the Bible. Did you ever hear anyone saying, "Don't preach doctrine, just preach the Bible?" To preach the Word is to do both.

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Life and Work

Our place of service

by Mitch Tapson, Mount Carmel Church, Cabot

Basic passage: 2 Samuel 2,5

Focal passage: 2 Samuel 2:4-7; 5:1-3,10,12

Central truth: God needs all of us for service.

Have you ever said or thought, "I'll never be as good as he is." Those that we know or read of who have obtained success in some area of life often intimidate us into feeling inadequate or inferior.

In spiritual circles we become even more intimidated because those that are successful or visibly prominent have been blessed by God, something over which we have no control. Denominations and churches have narrowed down the perspective on what positions truly serve God. If you are not a pastor, missionary, or deacon, are you really needed to serve God?

David was the shepherd boy who became king. He was chosen by God (1 S. 13:16) to lead the nation in its "golden years." King David certainly was a great personage of the Old Testament. David though, reluctantly became king because God's anointed king, Saul, was still alive. After Saul's death the country rallied eventually around David, and he then reigned for 40 glorious years.

David realized he had been chosen by God as a service and blessing to others (2 S. 5:12). David had not been chosen by God to exalt David or for David's benefit.

What about you? Are you important? Does God use others, but you are too inadequate for his use? A man told me once that I could be as great as the apostle Paul. I quickly denied this man's compliment. He told me that he did not intend to compliment me, but to encourage me. Paul was not great because he was more able and qualified than any other men. No, Paul was great because he was chosen to serve a great God and Savior.

Jesus contended that a cup of cold water becomes a vessel of blessing if done in service to God. Perhaps the very person you look up to is great because of someone else's prayers and counsel.

The saddest fact of all is that we have so few who are allowing God to use them in service. We have allowed a few "chosen" ones to do all the work for God's kingdom. We are laborers together and God will give the increase as we yield ourselves to him.

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Bible Book

True or false religion

by Bruce A. Swihart, East Side Church, Paragould

Basic passage: 2 Kings 9:1-3,24-26; 10:17,28-31

Focal passage: 2 Kings 10:28-31

Central truth: How people live and what they practice is determined by what they truly believe.

It has been said that religion is that which binds a person. Everyone is bound somewhere, somehow—to a throne, to a government, to an authority, to something that is supreme—something to which they offer sacrifice and burn incense, and bend the knee. How is it possible to tell if you are a person of true faith who truly worships God or if you are a spiritual fake?

It will help us to look carefully at Jehu, king of Israel.

(1) He had proper credentials. God chooses leaders to fulfill his purposes. Jehu had been born heir to the throne of Israel. He had been anointed king by a man sent from the prophet Elisha. His anointing came because it was the will of the Lord (2 K. 9:1-3).

(2) He had a positive cause. Jehu set about to exterminate the worship of Baal from Israel. He was the instrument of God's wrath to punish unfaithful leaders who flagrantly and obstinately opposed God. Israel had become corrupted by the worship of other gods. Jehu's endeavor was a dramatic and drastic action to establish clearly the authority and sovereignty of the one true God.

(3) He had pagan callousness. Jehu "was not careful to keep the law of the Lord, the God of Israel, with all his heart. He did not turn away from the sins of Jeroboam . . ." (10:31). The motives of his heart never changed. It is true that he defeated the priests of Baal. But he continued the popular worship of "golden calves" in Dan and Bethel rather than truly worshipping the Lord.

True religion is summed up in Luke 10:27. The evidence of true religion comes by loving the Lord God with all your heart, soul, strength, mind, and your neighbor as yourself. The way you live is determined by what you truly believe. To say you believe something yet practice something else is the essence of false religion. Knowledge of biblical truth leads to opposition to all other ways of worship. Are you practicing true or false religion?

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Lesson
Date:
AUG. 2

LESSONS FOR LIVING

Convention Uniform

Holy living is God's norm

by Earl Humble, retired, Walnut Ridge

Basic passage: 1 Timothy 4:1-16

Focal passage: 1 Timothy 4:1-16

Central truth: Exremists come and go, but the true church fellows divine revelation.

Paul begins this chapter with a prophecy of a coming apostasy. Some professed believers would be captivated by deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons. Teachers would lead others astray in the realms of marital relations and dietary rules. Paul's advice in verse 4 is supported by Jesus in Mark 7:15-19 and by Peter's experience on the housetop in Joppa (Ac. 10:9-15).

It was not to be an option of Timothy to preach Bible doctrine, but the very heart of his ministry. As Timothy communicated divine truth to others, he would nourish himself. Any church that finds fault with the pastor for preaching Bible doctrines deserves what it is about to receive.

Paul warns Timothy of worldly fables which abound where the gospel has not come. He also urges self-discipline upon the young pastor. Paul does not deny the importance of physical exercise, but he contrasts it with the eternal merits of godliness.

Paul counsels Timothy to so live that his youthfulness would not be a handicap to his ministry. He must be an example to all who know him. This chapter is a veritable gold mine for preachers and teachers, young or old. Verse 13 probably refers to public reading of the Scriptures, as some versions give it. But private reading also is important. We are not likely to do too much reading of the Word.

We are not to assume by verse 14 that a spiritual gift is actually transferred to the candidate for ordination just because others laid their hands on his head. This was only the outward symbol of what the Holy Spirit had already done. Paul wants Timothy to take care and see to it that he follows these instructions that all may see his progress.

Verse 16 is another passage that should not be taken too literally, for Paul would never write or say anything that suggested salvation by works. Timothy could not actually save himself or others. He was already a child of God himself. With others, he could be only the instrument toward their salvation.

Life and Work

Serving in humility

by Mitch Tapson, Mount Carmel Church, Cabot

Basic passage: 2 Samuel 7

Focal passage: 2 Samuel 7:20-22, 25-29

Central truth: The humble servant is God's most useful instrument.

As King David reigns over the nation, he finds himself constantly at war to secure his leadership and to safeguard the borders. Many affairs of state consume his thoughts and prayers in the early days of his reign. The establishment of his leadership requires a diligent, strong hand.

At the opening verses of chapter 7, we find that peace has finally fallen over the land and David's reign. The Lord himself has established peace from their constant warring. King David's immediate thoughts, expressed to the prophet Nathan, are concerning the welfare of God's honor and David's expression of thankfulness. David, out of a grateful heart, has felt the need to do something tangible for the Lord—something visible, permanent, magnificent, worthy. . . a temple.

"Look! Here I am living in this beautiful cedar palace while the Ark of God is out in a tent!" (7:2 LB). Nathan is pleased with David's sentiments and encourages him to proceed. But during the night Nathan receives a word from the Lord of a two-fold nature: (1) God has never dwelt in a permanent structure, and does not intend to now. (2) God intends to permanently establish the posterity of David.

When this vision is shared with King David, he is overwhelmed with its meaning. "O Lord God, why have you showered your blessings on such an insignificant person as I am?" (7:18 LB). David acknowledges his weakness and dependency before his maker. He is who he is, because of God.

If you are reading this, you are probably a worker in your church. Allow me to issue a warning and an admonition. Beware that pride can attach itself to anyone at anytime. Very-casual personal pronouns such as "me, mine, my, and I" are used far too often. Make sure that first response to praise is, "The Lord did it." Do remember it is a wonderful privilege to serve the God of the universe. Of all the virtues a man could have, I believe that humility is the hardest, but the most outstanding, of them all.

Bible Book

A sick nation

by Bruce A. Swihart, East Side Church, Paragould

Basic passage: 2 Kings 11:1-4, 17-18; 12:1-5

Focal passage: 2 Kings 12:1-6, 16-18

Central truth: Preoccupation with selfish interests always weakens a nation.

When any nation refuses to allow the Lord to be their king, it begins to decline and eventually is destroyed. Our nation is showing the very same signs of spiritual sickness that doomed Judah and brought about the judgment of God. What are the signs of a sick nation?

(1) Insensitive people. After miraculously being spared during the evil purge of Athalia, Joash was made king at age seven. Under the instruction of the priest Jehoiada he "did what was right in the eyes of the Lord" (12:2). However, the people ignored their king's reforms and continued their sin of idolatry, loving other things more than the Lord. They were spiritually blind and morally bankrupt.

(2) Indifferent priests. Joash instructed the priests throughout the land to collect offerings from the people in order to repair the temple. When God's house is kept in poor condition, it is a sign of indifference on the part of those charged with that responsibility. After 23 years of collecting money, no repairs had been made. The priests were using God's money for their own purposes (12:16). The priests had acted irresponsibly. When the clergy becomes corrupt it is a sign of a sick nation.

(3) Inept politicians. Hazael, king of Aram, attacked Jerusalem. There was not a good relationship between the priests and the king which caused Joash to make an unwise decision. He compromised in order to appease Hazael. When government officials make unwise decisions, it eventually affects the entire nation. Our nation is suffering from governmental officials who have no interest other than serving themselves.

Our nation is in grave trouble because politicians, preachers, and people are self-serving rather than Christ-centered. We are prone to blame others for conditions we do not like. A nation is no better than its individuals. Take a look at what is wrong with our country by examining your own spiritual condition.

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James elected Europe VP

September meeting to be sought

by Robert O'Brien
SBC Foreign Mission Board

EL PASO, Texas (BP)—Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board trustees unanimously elected Samuel M. James, a 30-year missions veteran, to lead Southern Baptist work in Europe and laid the groundwork for a September dialogue with European Baptist leaders.

Trustees, meeting June 22-24 in El Paso, Texas, also voted to discuss issues of concern between the board and the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union and announced a retirement package for board President R. Keith Parks.

In other action, trustees voted to begin mission work in Aruba, an island off the coast of northwest Venezuela in the Netherlands Antilles, and appointed 32 missionaries and reappointed two others.

They also passed a resolution congratulating Southern Baptists and Foreign Mission Board staff and missionaries for a job well done in reaching new levels in giving to the annual Lottic Moon Christmas Offering and in overseas baptisms and church starts. The resolution noted that trustees "are grieved that there is a perception that 1991 was less than a banner year for Southern Baptists and the Foreign Mission Board."

The missionary appointment service was held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Mexican Baptist Convention of Texas, which convened in El Paso on the 100th anniversary of Baptist Spanish-speaking work in Texas' westernmost city, bordering Juarez, Mexico.

James, 60, area director for East Asia since 1985, was elected as vice president for Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa. He succeeds Isam Ballenger, who took early retirement, along with Europe area director Keith Parker, in protest of what they termed the trustees' "global agenda" to enforce theological orthodoxy overseas.

Ballenger's and Parker's action followed a controversial decision by trustees to defund the Baptist Theological Seminary in Ruschlikon, Switzerland.

Trustees voted unanimously at the June

meeting to "affirm that we have only one global agenda and that is evangelism that results in churches." They said they "do not have a global agenda to export any perceived controversy to any Baptist body with which we partnership."

In related actions, trustees confirmed "the general tone" of a visit and a letter from board leaders to European leaders in May. They said they "desire discussions with the European Baptist Federation to develop future partnership" on the basis of "mutual trust, happy cooperation and equal partnership in all our relationships."

Trustees also "unreservedly and unequivocally" expressed agreement with the Dorffwell Statement adopted by European Baptists last January in the wake of the defunding of the Ruschlikon seminary. The statement, voted at a meeting in Dorffwell, Germany, said future cooperation will call


for mutual respect, spiritual freedom, moral integrity, genuine consultation and reciprocal sharing between Southern Baptists and European Baptists.

FMB trustees said affirmation of the Dorffwell Statement "is not a new policy, but a new expression of principles we have historically supported, do now support and will continue to support."

Board staff and trustees hope to meet with European Baptist leaders in September at a time and place to be announced to discuss future relationships.

The motion on Woman's Missionary Union reaffirmed the Foreign Mission Board's "deep appreciation for its long-time relationship with (WMU) and for the enormous support this relationship has brought to the cause of foreign missions."

Parks' modest retirement package was recommended "at his own request and consistent with this lifestyle of sacrificial service," according to a motion passed by trustees, who took note of the "meritorious service" of Parks and his wife, Helen Jean.



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WORLD

ZIMBABWE HUNGER RELIEF

Filling mouths, classrooms

by Donald D. Martin
SBC Foreign Mission Board

BEITBRIDGE, Zimbabwe (BF)—In drought-stricken Zimbabwe, middle-school students once too weak to walk to school are back in the classroom because of a Southern Baptist feeding program.

Southern Baptist missionaries in Beitbridge, Zimbabwe, have helped transform 25 schools into feeding centers for hundreds of local families in the city's eastern district.

"April was hard on this country. Many of the area's schools closed because students had no food or energy," explained missionary Ron Langston, a church developer from Jonesboro, Ark.

"We're eliminating a lot of that now with the food program. We're making sure every school, child and family get food."

Donations by Southern Baptists to the Foreign Mission Board's hunger relief fund provide for the year-long project.

Langston, missionary Ed Moses from Orlando, Fla., and local Baptists recently completed their first month of distributing corn, beans and salt to about 20,000 people. They plan to feed 40,000 every month by this fall.

The project will channel nearly \$700,000 in relief funds toward the Venda people, a group primarily made up of herders. For the past seven years Langston and his wife, Janice, also from Jonesboro, have worked among the Venda, who number about 75,000 in the Beitbridge area.

Beitbridge, situated on Zimbabwe's border with South Africa, has never been a lush area. Zimbabwe traditionally is one of the continent's breadbaskets but rainfall around Beitbridge averages only 12 inches a year. In comparison, semiarid New Mexico averages 15 inches a year.

So when the current drought hit Beitbridge, the area turned to desert.

"There's nothing in the fields," Langston said. "There's not a sign of anything green. There's no grass at all — nothing for (the Venda people's) cattle or goats." In many places the ground is hard as cement.

In desperation, people in the area have begun eating the gourd-like fruit of Baobab trees, which has a sour, pasty taste. And many have been forced to stand helplessly as they watch their herds slowly die.

"Almost every day when we go out, we see cattle dead or dying on the side of the road. The people can't even eat the meat because the starving cattle's organs stop working properly and it makes the meat bad," the missionary said.

More than 100,000 head of cattle have died during the current drought, according to reports. The government is trying to relocate surviving herds to less affected areas. Meanwhile, cattle owners have rushed to slaughter their herds before they starve, slashing market prices for beef. Drought-stricken cows now sell for as little as \$4.

The lack of rain extends through much of southern Africa.

It reportedly has wiped out between 50 and 90 percent of the staple corn crop in the region. Relief groups estimate starvation threatens some 130 million people in eastern and southern Africa. They call it the worst drought in 80 to 100 years. Some believe the region will not import between 9 and 11 million tons of corn to offset the area's crop losses.

This has prompted some African government leaders to question the wisdom of depending so heavily on corn as a staple food. Several countries are considering planting drought-resistant sorghum or millet. Langston and Moses have incorporated the same ideas into the Beitbridge relief project.

'There's not a sign of anything green — nothing for the cattle or goats.' In many places the ground is hard as cement.

"After this one year of food distribution, we want to follow up with an agricultural project using sorghum, which should be able to grow in this area," Langston said.

The missionaries plan to request a volunteer agriculturist to work in Zimbabwe for about two years through the board's International Service Corps to help with the next phase of the project.

Other missionaries in Africa also have requested long-term volunteer help in meeting hunger needs, including a nutritionist to help oversee the feeding of some 40,000 refugees in another country.

The Beitbridge program also has helped start two new churches in the first month of food distribution.

A man at one of the new churches said it best: "We have seen that Baptists really care for the Venda people."

"I believe we're going to see a lot of Christian growth and maturing because of this project," Langston said.