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### August 11, 1994

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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# ARKANSAS BAPTIST



Volume 93, Number 16

August 11, 1994

In memory of Glendon and Marjorie Grober

## *A Legacy of* Missions Service



Glendon Grober, director of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention Brotherhood department, and his wife, Marjorie, former president of Arkansas Woman's Missionary Union, died July 28 from injuries sustained in an automobile accident.

Prior to their ministry in Arkansas, the Grobers served 30 years as Southern Baptist missionaries in Brazil. He also was the stateside coordinator for Arkansas Baptists' missions partnership with European Baptists and she was president-elect of the national Baptist Nursing Fellowship.

An Aug. 2 memorial service highlighted the Grobers' legacy of worldwide missions involvement. State convention executive director Don Moore described their deaths as "an incalculable loss to Arkansas Baptists."

SOUTHERN BAPTIST HISTORICAL  
LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES  
Historical Commission, SBC  
Nashville, Tennessee

# Convention's oldest emeritus missionary dies at age 100

By Mary E. Speidel  
SBC Foreign Mission Board

MEMPHIS, TN (BP)—William H. Berry, the oldest living emeritus missionary of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, died of cancer July 30, three days after his 100th birthday.

Berry, an Arkansas native who was a missionary to Brazil for 41 years, died the morning before his family had scheduled a delayed 100th birthday party.

About 150 friends and family gathered at White Station Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn., to celebrate his birthday and stayed for a memorial service in his honor.

"It was his wish that we go on with the party," said Berry's son, Edward Berry of Benton, also a retired Southern Baptist missionary to Brazil.

The elder Berry, a native of Magazine, Ark., died early July 30 in a Memphis nursing home. He had been ill for several months.

"He was a vital personality. He stayed very current with what's going on in the world today," said Clair Berry, his daughter-in-law, of Memphis.

Berry and his late wife, Olga, were appointed missionaries to Brazil in 1922. They served in Curitiba, Rio de Janeiro and Belo Horizonte where he filled such roles as educator, administrator, journalist, pastor, evangelistic worker, statistician and builder. He directed several Baptist schools in Brazil.

A graduate of Ouachita Baptist University and the school of journalism at the University of Missouri in Columbia, Berry started a communications agency that later became the Brazilian Baptist Radio and

Television Board. He wrote more than 30 books and hundreds of essays and poems.

"He loved foreign missions. He took his foreign mission work very, very seriously," noted Edward Berry. "He personally led me to the Lord, and then because of him and others I was led to be a missionary."

After retirement in 1963, the elder Berry and his wife lived in Memphis. She died in 1967. Since 1986 Berry had lived with his son, Bailey, and daughter-in-law, Clair.

At the time of his death, Berry was a member of White Station Baptist Church. During retirement he had taught Sunday School, served as a deacon and wrote extensively. Before missionary service Berry was a teacher and pastor in Arkansas.

Since Berry's missionary appointment in 1922, the Berry family has had family members serving continually in Brazil as missionaries for more than 70 years. Edward Berry and his wife, Lois, were appointed in 1953 and retired in 1985. Their daughter, Laura Spiegel, and her husband, David, have been missionaries there since 1979.

David Spiegel's parents — Betty and Don Spiegel of Benton — also are retired Southern Baptist missionaries to Brazil. Bailey Berry's first wife, the late Doreen Margaret Berry, was a great-granddaughter of William Buck Bagby, the first Southern Baptist missionary to Brazil.

Besides his wife, Berry was preceded in death by his son, Thomas, of Sao Paulo, Brazil, in 1992. Besides his sons, Edward and Bailey, he is survived by a daughter, Betty Crews, of Osceola; a sister, Essie Berry, of Fort Smith; nine grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

## Cover Story



### A legacy of missions 3

Arkansas Baptist missions leaders Glendon and Marjorie Grober died July 28 from injuries in an automobile accident. The Grobers left a lasting legacy of missions involvement through four decades of service in foreign missions, Brotherhood and Woman's Missionary Union.

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# Grobers' deaths called 'incalculable loss'

Veteran Baptist missions leaders Glendon and Marjorie Grober died July 28 from injuries sustained in a single-vehicle accident near Cape Girardeau, Mo.

Grober, 64, had served since 1984 as director of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention Brotherhood department. He also was the state's coordinator for Arkansas Baptists' current missions partnership with the European Baptist Convention and coordinated Arkansas Baptist disaster relief and church construction efforts.

Mrs. Grober, 63, was president-elect of the national Baptist Nursing Fellowship. She concluded five years as president of the Arkansas Woman's Missionary Union earlier this year and also served as president of the state WMU presidents' national organization.

Prior to serving in Arkansas, the Grobers were Southern Baptist foreign missionaries in Brazil for 30 years. He served as a general evangelist, an extension teacher and as executive secretary of Brazilian Baptists' national evangelism efforts. She used her nursing skills, taught religious education classes and home Bible studies and served as a seminary librarian.

The July 28 accident occurred at 4:15 p.m. on Interstate 55 just south of Scott City, Mo., near Cape Girardeau. The



Glendon Grober



Marjorie Grober

Grobers were en route to St. Louis for the funeral of their daughter Cindy's father-in-law, Robert Signaigo, who died of cancer.

Mrs. Grober reportedly was driving when the vehicle ran off the road, traveled down an embankment and then went airborne before crashing into the embankment, according to a Missouri State Highway Patrol spokesman. Grober was pronounced dead at the scene. Mrs. Grober was transported to St. Francis Hospital in Cape Girardeau where she died about 8 p.m.

Grober was widely known for his energy and enthusiasm, coordinating numerous missions projects in nations throughout the world. "I just don't expect in my lifetime to meet another man like Glendon Grober with the vision, energy and

commitment that he had for reaching the world with the gospel," noted Arkansas Baptist State Convention executive director Don Moore. He called the tragedy "an incalculable loss to Arkansas Baptists."

Moore said Mrs. Grober "shared so totally in the calling and vision of world evangelization that her life radiated the presence of the One who loved the world and gave Himself for it."

"Glendon and Marjorie were both world citizens and world-class Christians. They were tremendous people to pastor," reflected Rex Horne, their pastor at Immanuel Baptist Church in Little Rock. "They will truly never be forgotten by our people."

Funeral services were held Aug. 2 at Immanuel Church with burial at Pinecrest Memorial Park in Alexander. Memorial gifts may be made to the Grober Memorial Fund through the Arkansas Baptist Foundation.

The Grobers are survived by two sons, Mike Grober and Steve Grober; two daughters, Cindy Signaigo and Sheri Burnett and seven grandchildren, all of Little Rock. They also are survived by Grober's mother, Mildred Ward of Little Rock; his sister, Gloria Jean Couch of Texas; and Mrs. Grober's brother, Woodrow Steele of Kentucky.

## Friends, family reflect on Grobers' lives and legacy

An Aug. 2 memorial service for Glendon and Marjorie Grober highlighted the worldwide impact of their missions commitment as family members, friends and co-workers shared reflections about their years of ministry.

Speakers during the memorial service included Cindy Signaigo and Mike Grober, two of the Grobers' four children; Don Moore, executive director of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention; Julia Ketner, state Woman's Missionary Union executive director; and Rex Horne, pastor of Immanuel Church, Little Rock. Attorney William H. "Buddy" Sutton, former state convention president, spoke at the graveside service. Among the reflections shared during the services were:

■ **Cindy Signaigo:** "It has been the greatest, highest privilege, honor, blessing and joy to be the children and grandchildren...of these two wonderful Christian people. I thank God for so many days with them, for having them as parents...I just thank Him that He placed the four of us in their tender, loving care."

■ **Mike Grober:** "Dad, you are bigger than life because you never let your shortcomings limit your availability to the God you loved so passionately....If I were to attempt to sum up your life in just one word this morning, that word would be 'available'—available to your family, available to your church, available to our God. What a challenge, what a comfort. Thanks, Dad."

■ **Don Moore:** "Do you know of two people that you have ever known in all of your life that it seemed that God had put more of the heart of Christ in than Glendon and Marjorie?...I learned real quick that God had not made enough people in the world to carry out all of the ideas that Glendon Grober could come up with. But what a blessing to be associated with and inspired by a

man with such visions and such dreams....The spirit of that man will go on living in the men whose lives he has touched."

■ **Julia Ketner:** "Whatever the title, Marjorie was effective as a leader because of who she was....She loved her Lord and she loved others. Marjorie's close walk with the Lord made possible the strong leadership she gave as (state WMU) president....Marjorie's prayer life was a model for those she led. She prayed with the world on her heart....Her love for missions was contagious....She was our friend and encourager and role model."

■ **Rex Horne:** "When we begin to try to answer the 'why' or the 'why now' kinds of questions, we come up short. Some questions cannot be answered on this side. But there are some questions that can be answered. The 'what now' question can be answered. What will be done now? What effect will their lives have upon us now?...Look at the life they lived. You see, they were too busy going to the ends of the earth with the gospel; they were too busy seeking the Father's face and praying for people at home and around the world; they were too busy to be bothered by many things that seem to attract our attention here....It is not their death, but it is their life that we need to emulate and that can bring revival to a church, a city, a convention and a world."

■ **Buddy Sutton:** "When I think of Marjorie and Glendon this morning, the only thing that comes close to fitting are those words where the apostle Paul declared that he was a bond-servant in Christ Jesus. If anything would express their life, that is it—that they were bond-servants in Christ Jesus....They had given so much and done so much in the name of the Lord....We are indebted to the Grobers."

## YOU'LL BE GLAD TO KNOW



By DON MOORE  
ABCS Executive Director

It is impossible to overstate the damage that is being caused by gambling. Suicide is too delicate and sensitive a matter for stories to be reported of those who have lost their factories, farms, homes, families and fortunes in the two years that casino gambling has been operating in Mississippi. It has been discovered that there is nothing too sacred to sacrifice to get a few more dollars to gamble in hopes of hitting it big.

Most businesses in the areas of the casinos have lost revenue. In the Natchez area, 500 businesses were surveyed. Most of them had suffered a 6 to 10 percent decline in revenue since casinos came in. Yet gambling proponents are wanting this for Arkansas.

We owe it to our families, friends and fellow citizens to do two things. We must get the facts out about gambling. It creates more dependents for the state to support. It corrupts government at all levels. As a dependable source of revenue for funding state programs, it has been a failure. The facts are in our favor. But the public must know the facts.

We must get the vote out and defeat all gambling proposals that will be on the ballot in November. We cannot wait until September or October to do the work. We are having to offset multiplied millions of dollars that will be spent to get the proposals approved. We have to work smarter, harder and faster. They have the money. We have the people. We must act.

Please do the following now. Ask your church to send \$2 for each member to the Christian Civic Action Committee to fund the campaign opposing gambling. Secure and distribute materials to inform people about this evil. Get someone in your church sworn in as a voter registration deputy so that you can register every qualified voter in your church. Organize your people to make phone calls, provide transportation, distribute bumper stickers and yard signs. Pray at every meeting for God to move on His people's hearts to take a stand for right. God's people can be marshaled to defeat the awful onslaught that has come against our state from out of state.

MARTHA DEWBRE

## Woman's Viewpoint

### God's grace is sufficient



I am a person who doesn't save anything for a special occasion because I believe every day is a special occasion. Whatever I have, I use. I don't wait until "someday" or "one of these days" to see, hear, go or do.

No matter what life brings — great days, hard times, pleasures, disappointments — I try never to forget that life is special — all of it — and God's grace is sufficient for it all.

I believe in miracles and guardian angels. I know God works through both in my life on a daily basis.

I know God loves and cares deeply for me in some very unique ways. Because I am a widow He has special promises and ways of caring for me.

Healing has been a very prominent act of God's power in my body since hearing the doctor announce to me this past February, "You have cancer." Then after surgery in March, I heard the words, "Your body is cancer-free."

This was not the end because now four months and another surgery later I am still in the process of healing from a staph infection—not in Martha's stinging but in God's.

I never cease to be amazed at all God has planned for me, nor at all He has for me to learn, many times repeatedly, and in various ways.

I've found a deeper than ever meaning to Philippians 4:7, especially in reference to "God's peace that

transcends all human understanding."

Recently in yet another study of Paul's life, I've found complete contentment with what I have, because God emphatically pledged to be faithful to me. Paul again has become a role model for me as I've learned the extent of stress he endured. Although he was not a superhero, he experienced more than just a mere man is thought capable of enduring. He viewed it as a learning experience.

I must say I do wonder sometimes how I can keep on in this present physical state. Then I remember, "God is love; He loves me and nothing will touch me except if His love permits it."

I have learned that illness is not a disadvantage. God's grace is sufficient. The power to endure is from God. I must rely on Him and rejoice in Him always (Phil. 4:4) and "be joyful always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus!" (1 Thess. 5:16-18).

Martha Dewbre lives in Sherwood and is a member of Park Hill Church in North Little Rock where she is director of the single adult Sunday School department, chairman of the missions committee and a choir member. She also is Woman's Missionary Union director for North Pulaski Association. Dewbre is mother of foreign missionary Steve Dewbre and three other adult children. She has eight grandchildren.

## Personal perspectives

"True Love Waits is about raising standards and having young people take a stand not only for abstinence but also for truth."

—Geoff Moore, Christian recording artist

"I think the healing process has already begun."

—Ken Hemphill, newly elected president of Southwestern Seminary

"If you want to know what your soul is worth, turn your eyes to Calvary."

—Adrian Rogers, featured speaker at Little Rock "Spiritual Life Rally"

# A tribute to Glendon and Marjorie

Faithful, committed, enthusiastic, energetic, strong, tender, giving, visionary — the list of admirable traits goes on and on as Baptist leaders have sought to describe the ministry and worldwide missions impact of Glendon and Marjorie Grober.

Perhaps the most apt description of the Grobers was captured in a single word voiced by the Grobers' son, Mike, during his parents' Aug. 2 memorial service. The word? Availability.

For those who knew Glendon and Marjorie and observed their unwavering commitment to missions, availability readily defined one of their most endearing and enduring qualities. Whether serving as Southern Baptist foreign missionaries; leading Arkansas Baptist missions partnerships in Brazil, Guatemala and Europe; guiding statewide Brotherhood and Woman's Missionary Union efforts; responding to disaster relief needs; serving as active local church members; or ministering in countless ways to their children, grandchildren, friends and co-workers, the Grobers were always available to squeeze one more ministry priority into their already overflowing calendars.

Arkansas Baptist State Convention executive director Don Moore voiced the thoughts and feelings of thousands of fellow Baptists in Arkansas and around the world when he described the Grobers' deaths in a July 28 automobile accident

## STRAIGHT FROM THE EDITOR



By TRENNIS HENDERSON

as "an incalculable loss."

Despite the numbing shock of the unexpected deaths of two loved and respected missions leaders, the memorial service did not focus on grief and tragedy. Instead, just as Glendon and Marjorie would have desired, the service celebrated their love of missions and challenged others to help fill the gap created by their absence.

Rex Horne, the Grobers' pastor, acknowledged that it is fruitless to ask "why" or "why now" in the midst of unexplainable tragedy. Emphasizing, however, that "some questions can be answered," he added, "The 'what now' question can be answered. What will we do now? What effect will their lives have upon us now?"

Noting that the Grobers' spiritual vision and vitality provided a "winning combi-

nation" for successful ministry, Horne suggested that other Christians following their example could "bring revival to a church, a city, a convention and a world."

As family and friends around the world seek to honor the countless contributions made by Glendon and Marjorie Grober, no greater tribute could be paid to their memory than to emulate their love for Jesus Christ by personal involvement in helping spread the gospel through missions and ministry.

The Grobers' own words and actions stand as a lasting testimony to the urgency of helping fulfill Christ's Great Commission.

Marjorie, who was serving as president-elect of the national Baptist Nursing Fellowship, wrote in a recent newsletter to fellow Baptist nurses, "God the healer must have a special love for all who carry on His profession in His Name. My prayer is that we will show our love for Him by sharing the fellowship, training and ministry we have with others."

Leading Bible studies last year at a European Baptist Convention assembly in Switzerland, Glendon challenged, "Find out what the Holy Spirit is doing in our world today and join Him....God can unleash His power if you and I are faithful on benched knees."

What now? Availability. Glendon and Marjorie would expect no less of us.

## Ministry burnout: What is it?

By J. D. Stake

Director of ARSC Ministry of Crisis Support

Burnout is the most common problem for those in ministry. Herbert Freudenberger popularized the term burnout in 1980 and called it "the high cost of aiming too high." Since that time it has been a common topic of concern among those in ministry. Before the diagnosis was coined, those in ministry with burnout symptoms were generally diagnosed as suffering from stress, anxiety or depression. Although burnout is not an approved diagnosis in the American Psychiatric Association's *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual*, it is very distinct in its presentation.

The Ministry of Crisis Support, a counseling and support ministry for Arkansas Baptist ministers and their families, offers two new programs for treatment and prevention of burnout in ministry.

Program one, "Treatment of Burnout,"

is a five-step, comprehensive program to treat burnout. The program includes medical, psychological and spiritual counseling. This program was designed and is personally supervised by J. D. Stake, director of MCS, and is offered at the MCS office at the Medical Towers Building in Little Rock.

Program two, "Preventing Burnout," is a four-part, four-hour workshop. This program is available to associations, local churches, church staffs or in a community setting. It is designed primarily for those in ministry and their families.

How can you tell if you're experiencing burnout? Burnout in ministry is characterized by the presence of a variety of symptoms related to stress, anxiety and depression. Common symptoms associated with burnout include fatigue, difficulty being motivated, loss of enjoyment and enthusiasm, withdrawal, hyperactivity, sadness, loss of appetite/overeating, sleep disturbance and trouble

making decisions. Other symptoms may include nervousness, trembling, dizziness, pounding heart and abnormal breathing.

Burnout happens when we allow ourselves too much stress. Burnout is the response or the result of too much stress, too many changes, too drastic changes in a short period of time, unrealistic, high expectations, real or perceived failure, relationship problems, excessive anger and guilt, financial and family stress and pressure, inadequate time/stress management skills and an unbalanced lifestyle.

What can you do and where can you go for help? See your doctor. Make sure your physical symptoms are not being caused by a physiological problem. Consult a professionally trained counselor. Let him help you identify the root problems and help you develop an effective program of treatment or prevention.

For more information, contact the Ministry of Crisis Support, phone 225-1113, fax 225-1116.

# National celebration caps abstinence emphasis

By Charles Willis

Baptist Sunday School Board

WASHINGTON (BP)—A national celebration for the yearlong "True Love Waits" sexual abstinence campaign brought thousands of youth from across the United States together in person and by television July 29 on Washington's National Mall.

An estimated 25,000 teenagers attended the day of events sponsored by the Baptist Sunday School Board, and Youth for Christ, host of a July 27-31 youth evangelism conference also in Washington.

Thousands more viewed evening events by live broadcast on the Charlotte, N.C.-based Inspirational Network (INSP).

Begun by the Sunday School Board in April 1993, the campaign is designed to encourage teenagers and college students to pledge sexual abstinence until marriage. In subsequent months, 27 other U.S. denominations and organizations have endorsed the campaign and international interest has increased its visibility.

Throughout the morning of July 29, approximately 1,000 Southern Baptist teenagers worked under the direction of the youth department of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission to fill the equivalent of several city blocks of the mall's grassy area with signed sexual abstinence pledge cards from the nation's teens and college students. At day's end, more than 210,000 cards had been received at the mall.

President Bill Clinton met with a representative group of 150 youth and 10 adults from both the Southern Baptist and Youth for Christ groups for a 25-minute briefing at the White House early in the afternoon. Included among the participants was Richard Ross, campaign spokesman for the Sunday School Board.

Ross said Clinton "took notice of the white ribbons worn by several Southern Baptist teenagers and used that as an occasion to say the crisis related to teenage sexuality cannot be solved by government programs."

"He said his administration can make a limited contribution," Ross continued, "by such actions as changing welfare policies to discourage having babies out of wedlock, strengthening child support rules to cause biological fathers to take responsibility for their offspring and to make the process for adopting children



The U.S. Capitol provided the backdrop for more than 200,000 "True Love Waits" pledge card July 29.

born out of wedlock easier."

Ross said Clinton reminded the young people that such government actions have only limited effect and that the true answer to the crisis is "for individual teenagers to choose not to have sex out of their own internal sense of morality."

On hand at the mall to lend their support, answer news media questions or to perform at an evening concert were contemporary Christian artists, including the Newsboys, Geoff Moore and the Distance, Steven Curtis Chapman, Petra, Lisa Bevil and DeGarmo & Key.

At a morning news conference using the massive pledge-card display as a backdrop, Ross described the campaign as "a positive challenge to teenagers to make a promise to be sexually abstinent from this day forward until their wedding day."

Christian artists who spoke to the media included Chapman, who said he believes "there is hope for this generation by letting God make the rules in their lives."

Moore added his belief that "we all feel very humbled and small compared to what this (campaign) has become. True Love Waits is about raising standards and having young people take a stand not only for abstinence but also for truth."

Susan Fitzgerald, a member of Tulp Grove Baptist Church in Hermitage, Tenn.,

was among the first youth group to make public in 1993 their intentions to remain chaste until marriage.

In addressing the news conference, she said her desire is "to do with my life what God wants me to do. When I made this decision, I decided I want to be in a relationship with someone who has the same values."

Ryan Summers, a member of Second Church, Jacksonville, noted, "The Bible says abstinence is the best way. If more teenagers would wake up to this, more cases of AIDS would stop and the world would be a better place."

Prior to the evening concert, youth gathered on all sides of the displayed pledge cards for silent prayer. Smaller groups ranging from six to 40 teens with their adult leaders prayed in groups on the outer edges of the mall.

Concurrent with the Washington festivities were similar celebrations involving youth in Kampala, Uganda, and Ottawa, Ontario.

Local, national and international news media reporters covering the July 29 rally added to more than a year of intense print and broadcast media coverage.

More than 500 media outlets with a combined listening, viewing and reading audience in the hundreds of millions have reported on the campaign during the past year for audiences in the United States, Canada, England, Australia, China, Brazil, Argentina, Sweden, Colombia, Venezuela, South Korea, France, Northern Ireland and several African countries.

The Washington rally followed a June display in Orlando, Fla., of more than 102,000 abstinence cards from Southern Baptist youth. The cards, signed in their hometowns and churches, came after Bible studies, music, Christian sex education resources and other materials had been used to present the biblical view of sex within marriage.

The pledge cards read: "Believing that true love waits, I make a commitment to God, myself, my family, those I date, my future mate and my future children to be sexually pure until the day I enter a covenant marriage relationship."

The Sunday School Board is developing a True Love Waits planning kit for churches interested in educating youth and college students about the biblical view of sexuality. February will be designated as the annual "True Love Waits" month on the denominational calendar.

# Trustees elect Hemphill to succeed Dilday

FORT WORTH, TX (BP/ABP)—Kenneth S. Hemphill, a Southern Baptist church growth analyst and former pastor, was unanimously elected July 28 as president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

The secret-ballot vote by 38 of the seminary's trustees at a closed special meeting immediately elevated Hemphill, 46, to the seminary's presidency, according to chairman Ralph W. Pulley Jr., a Dallas attorney.

In a news conference after his election, Hemphill voiced commitments to the selection of professors who hold to biblical inerrancy and to the Cooperative Program. He said he would seek to enhance the seminary's sense of family and its work of producing pastors and church workers with a passion for God.

Describing his election as "humbling and exciting," Hemphill added, "While being awed by the opportunity, I am nonetheless confident God doesn't call anyone to a task He has not already equipped him for."

He pledged to trustees "my best efforts and my full cooperation." To faculty, he pledged leadership, friendship and a caring ministry. To students, he promised "a quality academic education combined with practical ministry skills taught in the context of a caring Christian community."

"We are excited and we are united," said Miles Seaborn of Fort Worth, chairman of the trustees' presidential search committee. For Southwestern, Seaborn said, "This is the brightest, most God-honoring

day that it has ever known."

Arkansas trustee Ed Saucier, attending his first meeting as a Southwestern trustee, described the mood of the trustee meeting as "obviously up-tempo" and "very conciliatory."

Saucier, pastor of Grand Avenue Church in Fort Smith, said he believes Hemphill's election is "outstanding," describing the new president as "a visionary leader who is wonderfully qualified academically."

Hemphill has been director of the Southern Baptist Center for Church Growth, a cooperative venture by the Home Mission Board and Baptist Sunday School Board, since 1992. Previously he had been pastor of First Baptist Church in Norfolk, Va., 11 years, during which the congregation grew from less than 1,000 members to nearly 7,000.

He succeeds Russell H. Dilday Jr., who was fired by the trustees March 9 after nearly 16 years as seminary president.

"In spite of the negative in having to release Dr. Dilday, I think the trustees have hit a home run with Ken Hemphill," Saucier noted.

Asked what he might do to bring healing to the seminary, Hemphill said, "I think the healing process has already begun."



Ken Hemphill

Does he see resistance to his election? "I'd be naive if I said 'no' but I really don't," he responded.

Asked if Southwestern's faculty is too liberal, Hemphill said he is not yet in a position to judge. "No one has led me to believe the faculty is sprinkled with liberals. We do intend to keep the seminary lashed to the cross. I don't sense there is going to have to be a wrecking crew in here."

Only inerrantists will be added to the faculty, he said. As for current faculty members who don't use the term "inerrancy" to describe their view, Hemphill said, "I'm not as concerned about a term as I am a spirit, an attitude and a conviction."

Hemphill was asked if Dilday would be welcome back on the campus, but before he could answer Seaborn interrupted to rule the question "out of order." Earlier Seaborn said he would not allow questions about past board actions or anything that did not address "the future and the love and reality of this moment."

During 25 years as a pastor, Hemphill also has served churches in Battletown, Ky.; Little Stukeley, England; and Galax, Va.

Hemphill holds a doctor of philosophy degree from Cambridge University in Cambridge, England; master of divinity and doctor of ministry degrees from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky.; and a bachelor's degree from Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, N.C.

## Fired seminary president takes job with Baylor

WACO, TX (ABP/BP) — Russell Dilday, fired by trustees March 9 as president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, has accepted a new position at Baylor University.

Dilday, 63, joined the faculty of the Baptist university Aug. 1, as distinguished professor of homiletics at the new George W. Truett Theological Seminary and special assistant to the university's president.

The July 29 announcement by Baylor president Herbert Reynolds followed by one day the election of Ken Hemphill as Dilday's successor at Southwestern Seminary.

Dilday said the timing of his decision with Hemphill's election is coincidental, but it does help bring closure to a "stormy interlude" in his life. "I think it's an opportunity for us to put this relationship behind us and move on to a few things," Dilday said.

The timing was dictated, however, by a continuing dispute between Dilday and Southwestern trustee officers about terms of a severance agreement adopted by the trustees in March, he said.

Dilday said the trustees refuse to provide the full compensation package they promised in March, including an \$85,000 annual salary he said he is to receive until he turns 65 in September 1995.

The board's chairman, Ralph Pulley, said however, "everything has been done that the trustees approved."

Conditions set for receipt of the severance package were that Dilday would accept no other employment for 60 days, would not join a competitive group and would do "only those things that are supportive of the seminary and the Southern Baptist Convention."

"Once he takes another job we have no obligation to pay him further," said Pulley, a Dallas attorney. "We're not going to be involved in duplicate payment."

After four months of attempting to resolve the conflict, Dilday said it is time to move on.

In a prepared statement, Dilday said "unreasonable and arbitrary conditions enforced by the (trustee) chairman made it impossible to depend on the severance as our income from month to month," leading him to seek employment for at least another three or four years.

Noting that ministerial training is "a significant and fulfilling work" to which he feels called by God, Dilday said, "The action of the trustees did not diminish that calling....The Lord has opened another door for that calling to be fulfilled."

In his new job, Dilday's time will be divided roughly two-thirds in classroom and one third in the presidential assistant role, said Reynolds.



## Plummer to serve as stateside coordinator

After a six-month term of service as volunteer missions coordinators in Europe, Doyne and Betty Plummer are changing roles. He will serve Arkansas Baptists as stateside partnership coordinator on an interim basis.

The Plummers, members of First Church, Cabot, served from January through July as the Arkansas Baptist State Convention representatives for the ABCS's three-year missions partnership with the European Baptist Convention. Because of the recent death of ABCS Brotherhood department director Glendon Grober, who also was serving as stateside partnership coordinator, Plummer will serve as interim partnership coordinator.

Plummer said the couple's responsibilities as partnership coordinators in Europe included organization and information. "Our primary emphasis was to meet as many pastors and church leaders and talk with them about the Arkansas-EBC partnership and about some things we could possibly be able to do should they ask us," he explained.

"One of the main focuses was that if an EBC church had an interest in an Arkansas church partner for prayer and subsequent action, we asked them to give us information. We took that and created a request for Arkansas church partners," he explained. "If a church had a particular need, such as construction or revival, that also created a request."

Plummer said he and his wife were able to make personal contacts with 53 of the 59 churches in the convention.

Mrs. Plummer said they were able to

bring prior experience in short-term missions projects and flexibility to the coordinator position.

"In a way we sort of knew what to expect," she said. "But as Glendon had said in prior partnerships, 'Be flexible.' We went with the idea that whatever we encountered, we knew it was the Lord's will that we were there.

"We went with the idea that we would do whatever we could do for the partnership," she said. "And it worked."

Plummer's professional background includes management for the Internal Revenue Service. "This job basically fell right in line with that," he noted. "It was like moving from one set of circumstances to another one and I don't feel like we really required much orientation at all."

Mrs. Plummer also utilized her skills gained as a secretary for Southwestern Bell. "When I retired, I said I would never do secretarial work again," she said. "But one thing I learned is to never say never."

They also found other ways to serve. "While we were over there, we had the opportunity to do things other than what we went for," Plummer said. "Betty was able to teach crafts at the women's prayer retreat and at a church. A couple of the ladies moved into new apartments and she helped them with their curtains.

"I had background in teaching a concept called Total Quality Management and they asked me to teach that to the EBC staff and the (Foreign Mission Board) European area staff. So we were able to do some things that weren't the traditional coordinator-type stuff."

### McAlisters begin volunteer term in Europe

Veteran volunteer missionaries John and Katy McAlister will succeed Doyne and Betty Plummer as field coordinators for the partnership between European and Arkansas Baptists.

The McAlisters, who begin their service in Europe this month, know about being volunteers. They returned from Wyoming last year, where they served the Wyoming Southern Baptist Convention as Mission Service Corps volunteers through the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

The McAlisters, members of First Church, El Dorado, served a two-year term in Wyoming, the least-populated state in the nation. Mrs. McAlister served as the WBC's Woman's Missionary Union director while her husband aided in church construction efforts.

"Participating in previous partnerships and mission trips, we are

familiar with what Arkansas Baptists can do in a partnership," McAlister noted. "We feel we can tell the EBC what Arkansas Baptists can do and what is available."

Mrs. McAlister said her husband is gifted in people skills "and the Lord has gifted me with administrative and organizational abilities. It comes from 'WMU-ing' for so many years I think. Part of it is WMU training and the things we have done during mission trips.

"I have found through the years, with all of the missions projects we have been involved in, that the Lord will equip you for when you're serving Him," she added.

Plummer said one of the "major" prayer requests regarding the EBC partnership is for a future replacement for the McAlisters, whose volunteer term ends in December.

ABC associate executive director Jimmie Sheffield, who recently returned from a conference in Europe, noted that European Baptists had "spoken highly of the Plummers and asked if they would continue helping the partnership."

Sheffield said the Plummers were "open to help the churches. He generated most of the projects now on the books. He was an encourager."

The Plummers, however, said they faced obstacles during their overseas service and will continue to face challenges as stateside coordinators.

### 'Getting the word out'

Mrs. Plummer said the biggest obstacle in recruiting Arkansas Baptist churches to enter into a project "is just making them aware of the need; getting the word out that a need is there."

Her husband said travel expenses, especially air fare, also deter participation, but that travel expenses will go down after summer.

Plummer noted that in past Arkansas partnerships with Brazil and Guatemala, one of the basic expenses was hotel lodging. "In Europe, most of the churches will provide lodging with the families and much of the food."

"Overall, the cost is not going to be much higher," he explained. "For one person, you are talking about air fare of \$1,000 and maybe \$200 to \$300 for food you eat out or things you might buy. It's not nearly as expensive as it first sounds, but it scares people when they think of going to Europe."

He said Arkansas Baptist churches have already completed 10 partnership projects in Europe, including witness training, a lay renewal weekend, construction projects, a Brotherly workshop and a revival.

The only disappointments of their volunteer efforts, he said, "have been ABCS churches not being able to fill needs." He said only a quarter of available projects have been met.

"There have been two instances that we have had to cancel Vacation Bible School teams because we couldn't come up with teams from Arkansas," he noted. "Some of the construction projects really need to be done now and we haven't been able to find teams to do that. We have requests for revival teams, construction projects, retreat or seminar leaders and others. There are a lot of requests for leadership and training."

Individuals or churches interested in additional information about participating in the European partnership may contact Plummer through the ABCS Brotherhood department, phone 376-4791, ext. 5158.

## Arkansas Baptists provide leadership for Interlaken '94

Arkansas Baptists helped provide seminar leadership for Interlaken '94, an annual European Baptist Convention retreat held recently at Interlaken, Switzerland. The Arkansians participated as part of the three-year partnership between the EBC and the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

Jimmie Sheffield, ABCS associate executive director, described Interlaken '94 as "a week of intensive training, Bible study and worship."

He said the retreat is "a great experience for EBC members. They don't see each other much and it is a time for fellowship."

Arkansians led six of the retreat's 32 seminars. Sheffield led the seminars, "How to Manage Stress" and "Building Relationships."

Arkansas Baptist Woman's Missionary Union executive director Julia Ketter said the impact of Interlaken '94 was significant for the European convention which includes 59 congregations.

"They are unique in that they have to reach out to an international community," she said. "They are looking at missions not just from a WMU standpoint but a churchwide standpoint. Because of that we did more of a generic leadership conference."

Ketter co-led the event's WMU conference, "Equipping Women for Missions Leadership," with Glandia Green of First Church, Stuttgart. "The conference didn't deal so much with WMU as it did with churchwide transition. They can do missions, but they can't do it traditionally. They have their own missions emphases."

Mary Bess, chairman of Interlaken '94, said that although the retreat has concluded, "the impact has not. Lives were touched and changed which can affect all of Europe."

"From the impact of the partnership, European Baptists are in a time of transition from pure military church to an international church," noted Sheffield. He said participation in Interlaken '94 was one way "Arkansas Baptist churches can help European Baptists adjust, plan and reach out."

## Language missions focus cites 'love in any language'

By Colleen Backus

Assistant Editor, Arkansas Baptist

"On any given Sunday, ethnic congregations in Arkansas are praising the Lord in nine languages," said Jim Hausler, language missions associate in the Arkansas Baptist State Convention's mission department. "Love in any language...is Jesus Christ" is the theme of this year's language missions day, celebrated in many churches throughout the convention on Aug. 14.

Hausler, who spent 20 years as a foreign missionary to Paraguay and Argentina, began coordinating language mission work in Arkansas this spring. One of his first goals is to start new Hispanic works in the northwest corner of the state. "There is a large influx of Hispanics in the Springdale, Fayetteville, Rogers area working in poultry and related industries," Hausler explained. "We need to find Hispanic leaders to help fulfill mission potential in that area."

One Hispanic pastor starting new work in another area of the state is Mario Vargas, who is serving both Harmony and Delta associations. "There are a lot of Spanish people working from the delta region up to Pine Bluff, working in rice and cotton," Vargas explained. "Many of them only speak Spanish, so Spanish work is a great necessity." Every Sunday this summer Vargas has seen attendance increase at services he holds in Dumas. "There is great opportunity here," he said.

Hausler also hopes to build on the success of summer missionaries' efforts in the Blytheville/Leachville area and in Jonesboro. Elisabet Mendoza and Mona Villarreal, both from the Hispanic Baptist Seminary in Texas, saw 120 professions of faith this summer in the Blytheville area and Raul Rolden reported 50 professions of faith in the Jonesboro area.

Another successful Hispanic work is being carried out in Mississippi County under the direction of missionary pastor Carl Schmidt. A native of South America, Schmidt has found a way to open doors in the Hispanic community by utilizing summer health clinics. "In 1993, a Baptist doctor volunteered to hold five health clinics during the summer and he saw 80 patients," Schmidt explained, "but over 100 came to church as a result." In 1993, the clinic was held in the facilities of Leachville Second Church, but Schmidt anticipated the clinic would have better results by operating in multiple locations.

This summer, the clinics are being held at three sites around the county. With one

clinic still left to be held, more than 150 people have come to the clinics, with nearly 250 people visiting churches. "This year we have clear fruit," Schmidt said. "At the second clinic alone we had six professions of faith."

Schmidt also uses what he calls "mini-crusades" during the summer to reach migrant workers. "We hold small crusades, like backyard Bible clubs, but for adults and children," Schmidt explained. This summer, including mini-crusades and health clinics, the Hispanic work in Mississippi County has seen 115 professions of faith.

But Hispanic work is not the only language ministry in Arkansas. Arkansas Baptists also minister to Koreans, Laotians, other ethnics internationals and the deaf. "We're looking throughout Arkansas to start more works with the deaf," Hausler noted.

Some churches throughout the state minister to more than one ethnic group. One such church is Fort Smith First Church, which converted its former three-story education building into three separate ethnic churches, each with its own sanctuary, fellowship hall and Sunday School rooms. "We have a Korean church, a Laotian church and a Hispanic church," explained associate pastor Bob Leaver. "All of the pastors have been with their respective churches at least five years and have long-standing, ongoing works."

Laotian pastor Billy Amonsinn has been pastor of the Fort Smith Laotian congregation since 1988. "It is a tremendous opportunity to serve the Lord," Amonsinn said. Tremendous, he said, because for eight years in Laos he was a Buddhist monk. "It took a while for me to convert," he noted. "I had to study, but then I realized that God is love and only He could offer salvation and the opportunity to go to heaven." Amonsinn, now the father of six children, is grateful for the opportunity "to go and visit a lot and gather God's kingdom to Him."

David Terry, language specialist with the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, offered the following suggestions for celebrating language missions day:

■ Host an ethnic fair, celebrating people in your area who are from an ethnic group.

■ Hold a food tasting with various ethnic cultures represented.

■ If there are ethnic people in your congregation, hold a "book pounding" for them, providing books in English or their language.

## '94 summer camps make spiritual impact

Arkansas Baptist camps involved more than 10,000 Arkansans of all ages in a variety of emphases this summer. Attendance figures show that summer camps are growing in popularity in Arkansas, while numbers of decisions made at the camps indicate they are increasingly vital to reaching Arkansans for Christ.

Preliminary projections indicate that Arkansas Baptist State Convention-sponsored camps involved more than 10,600 campers, an increase of 200 over 1993 figures. A projected 410 total professions of faith also reflected an increase over last year's count.

The camps are in addition to Super Summer, an evangelism training school for youth and adults held on the campus of Ouachita Baptist University June 20-24, and numerous associational camps held throughout the state.

### Music camps

Among the summer activities were three music-related camps: Young Musicians Camp for children in grades 4-6, Music Arkansas for youth in grades 7-12 and SummerSing for senior adults.

Peggy Pearson, an associate in the Arkansas Baptist State Convention church music ministries department, said Young Musicians Camp featured a first in that the 428 participating children "could choose one of four choirs that each presented a different children's musical."

Pearson said the camp, held June 27-30 on the Ouachita campus, featured "a drama emphasis. From the evaluation forms, it was what participants liked the most."

Pearson said participants told her that "the very creative, participatory worship services were well-planned, but allowed for spontaneity. Children got good training for becoming worship leaders."

SummerSing once again proved popular with senior adults as 92 participants gathered at OBU July 25-29.

Glen Ennes, an associate in the ABSC church music ministries department, said the camp is a one-of-a-kind experience for seniors. "The uniqueness of this camp is that it is the only music camp for senior adults in the U.S."

"We had activities ranging from playing tin whistles and ukuleles to choirs to Bible study and worship," he said.

Winners of the "opsimathy" award given to the oldest male and female campers, were Jim Lloyd, 79, of Park Hill Church in North Little Rock, and Retha Snider, 86, of First Church, Warren. Ennes explained that opsimathy means "learning that takes place later in life."

The 148 participants at Music Arkansas

received musical training in a variety of formats at OBU July 25-29. ABSC church music ministries department director Rob Hewell said camp planners wanted to accomplish three things during the week.

"We wanted to provide authentic worship experiences for everyone," he explained. "Worship leaders planned and led very effectively and focused on special times for worship."

He said planners also wanted to "provide high-quality choral experiences. All of the campers participated in a mass choir and (music professor) Charlie Fuller of OBU led. He did an outstanding job to help young people focus on the meaning of what they were singing."

Hewell said "music instruction, sign language, pipe organ and using computers in music" led participants in achieving planners' third goal.

Selected as senior high Star Camper, the camp's highest honor, was Brandon Warner of First Church, Ashdown. Christy Branton of First Church, Jacksonville, and Chris Riddle of First Church, Ashdown, tied in the junior high school division. Hewell said the award is given to campers "who exhibited the best participation, attitude and musicianship."

### Hart of the Hills Camp

It was a return to the "Wild, Wild, West" for two sessions of Hart of the Hills Camp for youth at Camp Paron July 25-29 and Aug. 1-5. Hart of the Hills is the annual National Baptist youth camp held in cooperation with the ABSC cooperative ministries department.

Department director Jack Kwok said the western theme was a departure from the camp's typical program. "This is the first time we used a western theme and it was reflected in the activities, such as making moccasins and other crafts and learning about native Americans."

He said 200 young men attended the first session and expected a similar amount of young women at the second session.

### RA, GA camps

Royal Ambassadors in grades 1-6 met at Camp Paron and Challengers in grades 7-12 met at Lake Sylvia July 11-15 to focus on volunteer missions.

Ozzie Berryhill, state RA coordinator, said a total of 190 participants survived daily rain showers to "focus on volunteerism. We had volunteers come each day. We had laymen speak about doing volunteer missions in India, Russia, Germany and Venezuela."

He said the emphasis on volunteerism was given "to show the guys that one of

these days, real soon, they could be volunteering to serve the Lord. We had (ABSC missions department director) Jimmy Barentine give opportunities for missions service home and abroad they could do even at their age."

Berryhill reported a larger number of younger boys participating this year. "The younger ones grabbed camp like they'd been there forever. They were eager to tackle each new thing they did."

He said a first offered at the camp was the popular "adventure course," which involved exercise, coordination and teamwork among participants.

The camp registered 10 professions of faith, and several rededications and calls to Christian service. Participants also collected \$152 in offerings, to be used in an Iowa camp project later this summer.

Sandy Wisdom-Martin, an associate in the ABSC Woman's Missionary Union department, said four Girls in Action camps involved 549 participants in ministry projects. The camps included two mini-camps July 4-6 and 6-8 and two mother-daughter camps July 1-2 and 8-9.

"The real difference this year was that the kids participated in Hope for Hurting Humanity projects," said Wisdom-Martin. "They brought clothes, food, school supplies and health kit items and prepared them for distribution."

The GAs participated in 19 ministry projects, including assembling health kits for migrants; making cards, tracts, booklets and puppets for missions use; and working in food and clothes closets.

### Arkansas Baptist Assembly

Larry Sherman, the director of Arkansas Baptist Assembly at Siloam Springs, noted a "different atmosphere" during the seven sessions held there June 20 through July 29. "Each week you could feel the Holy Spirit here," he noted.

He attributed much of spirit to the staff. "I believe the college students hired as staff came in with the right attitude," he said. "From day one, they came together. They have been willing to make it work."

Sherman said the camps involved more than 7,500 campers, "from three weeks old to 84 years old." He said more than three quarters of participants were youth.

The camp recorded 244 professions of faith and 383 rededications through the first five weeks. "We may end up with 330 to 340 professions of faith and 500 other decisions," he added.

He said a new children's worship center will be built by June 1995. The new center will seat 400 people and be fully enclosed and air conditioned.

# Summer at Siloam Springs



◀ **A message for youth**—Nationally known youth speaker Pat Porter of Lake Charles, La., was the featured speaker during two weeks of youth and adult assemblies.



▲ **Hoopin' it up**—Activities like basketball, softball, volleyball and tennis provided fun and competitive challenges for campers.



◀ **Relaxing—Vanessa Dalton** of Pulaski Heights Church, Little Rock, caught up on writing as other campers enjoyed volleyball.

▶ **Praise time**—Youth camp participants sang in evening worship services each night during a recent camp session.



◀ **Dramatic experience**—Mike Seabaugh, pastor of Crosspoint Church, North Little Rock, recounted biblical stories in costume during children's camp.

## Staff changes

**T. Dwain Miller** is pastor of Second Church in El Dorado, going there from First Church of Hampton. A native of Arkansas, he is a graduate of Baptist Christian University in Shreveport, La., and Louisiana Baptist University. He previously served churches in Arkansas and Texas. Miller is married to the former Deborah Nobles. They are parents of three children, twins Bethanie Michele and Benjamin Dwain, and Brandon Mark.

**Tim Richardson** has joined the staff of First Church in Mount Ida as minister of youth and music. He previously served at First Church of Hampton. He is a student at Henderson State University in Arkadelphia. Richardson and his wife, Marla, have two children, Latosha and Caleb.

**Mark Rutherford** began his ministry as pastor of Bay First Church July 10. He is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University and Southwestern Seminary. Rutherford previously served as pastor of Pinnacle Church in Little Rock and is a chaplain in the U.S. Army Reserves. He and his wife, Chris, have one child, Becca.

**Harold Parsons** has joined the staff of First Church in Lake City as minister of music and youth. He and his wife, Heather, who are natives of Wynne, are graduates of Ouachita Baptist University. Parsons moved to Lake City from Joyce City Church in Smackover.



## ARKANSAS ALL OVER

By MILLIE GILL

**Scottie Johnson** has joined the staff of First Church of Magnet Cove as youth director. He is a junior at Ouachita Baptist University.

**Ron LaCezze** resigned July 17 as minister of music and youth for First Church in DeWitt to join the staff of First Church in Stillwell, Okla., as minister of music.

**John M. Ambro** of Independence, Mo., has accepted the call to join the staff of First Church in Augusta as minister of youth and education. He is a graduate of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Ambro and his wife, Donna, have two daughters, Amber and Ashley.

**Shane McNary** has resigned as associate pastor for youth at Trinity Church in Benton to attend Southern Seminary.

**Douglas Wilson Jr.** is serving as pastor of Whitton Church. He is a student at Mid-America Seminary. Wilson and his wife, Kim, have two sons, Joshua and Noah.

**James A. Osborn** is serving First Church in Melbourne as music director, having previously served other churches in Arkansas and Missouri. He is a graduate of Southwest Missouri State University in Springfield, Mo.

**Greg Jackson** resigned Aug. 7 as minister of education for Central Church in North Little Rock, following 13 years of service. He and his wife, Paula, and their three children, Lindsey, Mitchell and Mary, have moved to Bolivar, Mo., where he will serve on the staff of First Baptist Church.

## Obituaries

**Edward Joseph Lemont Buffalo Jr.** died July 23 at age 58 as the result of cancer. His funeral services were held July 25 at Second Church in Little Rock where he served as a deacon. Buffalo was a graduate of the University of Arkansas and the U of A School of Law. Survivors are his wife, Dorothy Lybrand Buffalo; two daughters, Becke Buffalo of New York and Elizabeth A. Buffalo of San Diego, Calif.; two sons, Joe L. Buffalo III of Dallas, Texas, and John B. Buffalo of Washington, D.C.; his parents, Edward Joseph Lemont and Lydia Maude Buffalo of Carlisle; two brothers; and a sister.

**Jay D. Tolleson** died Aug. 1 at age 87. He had been pastor of Arkansas churches at El Dorado and Pine Bluff, as well as in Indiana and Alabama. He also served one-year terms as a missionary in the Philippines and Guam. Tolleson was a graduate of Samford University and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth "Betty" Tolleson; two sons, Charles Tolleson of Sulphur Springs and Paul Tolleson of Colorado Springs, Colo.; one daughter, Frances Shackelford of New Fairfield, Conn.; three sisters; three grandsons; six granddaughters; and 20 great-grandchildren. Memorials may be given to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions in care of Immanuel Church, El Dorado.

**Chloe B. Casey**, the oldest member of First Church in Heber Springs, died July 21 at age 99. A lifetime resident of Cleburne County, she was a retired public school teacher. Survivors are six daughters, Violet McPherson and Bernice Lay, both of Little Rock, Irene Green of Vacaville, Calif., Charlie Casey of North Little Rock, Anita Spurlock of Lonoke and Rosemary Vance of Heber Springs; one brother; one sister; 13 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

**Ralph S. Hawkins** of Heber Springs died July 21 at age 72. He was a member of First Church of Heber Springs where he had served as treasurer for the past 25 years and was chairman of deacons for more than 10 years. Hawkins worked for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at Bull Shoals and Greers Ferry Dams where he retired as

## Mount Lebanon celebrates centennial

Mount Lebanon Church of Peace Valley, near Ash Flat, celebrated 100 years of ministry July 17 with an 11 a.m. worship service, followed by a noon fellowship meal and a 1 p.m. celebration service.

Jimmy Barrentine, director of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention missions department, and former pastor Ray Taffar of First Church in Henderson were speakers. Barrentine also brought anniversary greetings from the state convention, noting that in 1894 churches of the ABCS met in session and addressed several issues that are still vital, including a commitment to state missions, establishment of a children's home, affirmation of the autonomy of the local church and resolving that the concept of a free church in a free state was best assured when a clear wall of separation existed between the two.

Special music was presented by Bonnie Chapman of First Church in Horseshoe Bend, Doyle Montgomery of Franklin Church and Wayne Richardson of First Church in Mammoth Spring.

Pastor Jack Richardson noted that when he began serving the congregation in 1988 the average attendance was six and currently is averaging 30. "As with many country churches, it has always been a struggle to build, but we now have five Sunday School classes, two of which are a young adult class and a children's class," he said.

"Our goal is to keep evangelism our number one priority, while teaching the basic doctrines to allow our members to grow spiritually," he concluded. "With the future of the church looking good, our efforts will continue to be to reach and teach younger families as we believe they are the future of the church."

superintendent after 41 years of service. Survivors are his wife, Lyla Smith Hawkins of Heber Springs; one son, Clinton Hawkins of Oxford; two daughters, Beverly Watkins of Conway and Angela Huenefeld of Sherwood; seven grandchildren; and one great-grandson.

**Nathan L. Poff** of Heber Springs died July 18 as a result of a drowning accident on Greers Ferry Lake. He was a member of First Church in Heber Springs. Poff was one of three physicians chosen to form the Arkansas Caduceus Club and was the only physician to serve two consecutive years as its president. Poff was also a member of several medical organizations and was one of the founders of the Cleburne County Hospital. Survivors are his wife, Carolyn Kennedy Poff of Heber Springs; three sons, Leroy Poff of Germantown, Md., Larry Poff of Winter Haven, Fla., and Ken Kelly of Philadelphia, Penn.; two daughters, Jennifer Beam of Fayetteville and Robin Kelly Goss of Columbia, Mo.; one brother; two sisters; and three grandchildren.



1994-95 officers for the Fellowship of Retired Baptist Workers are (left to right) Irene Branum of Little Rock, second vice president; James Tallant of Wynne, first vice president; R.B. Crofts of Benton, president; and Erlene Bauer of Little Rock, secretary.

## Retired workers challenged to ministry of intercession

### Church news

**Lake City First Church** hosted a recent mission trip to St. Maarten, an island in the Dutch West Indies. The "Operation Impact" campaign included 28 volunteers who conducted Vacation Bible School and revival services, provided a free dental clinic and were involved in personal witnessing. Pastor Mike McDaniel said the efforts resulted in 10 professions of faith, a VBS high attendance of 295 and more than 140 patients served through the dental clinic.

**Malvern Third Church** youth mission team was in Iowa July 8-16 to assist in staffing Metro Association children's camp in West Des Moines. Youth minister Neil Franks led the music and pastor Rick Hyde served as camp preacher. Bob Hill, pastor of Cornerstone Church of Altoona, Iowa, was camp director and project liaison.

**Hot Springs Second Church** honored Mary Nelle York and her husband, Dean, July 24, in recognition of her 23 years of service as preschool director. She was presented a love offering at the evening reception given in the couple's honor.

**Douglasville Church** will observe homecoming Aug. 28 with activities that will include a 12:30 p.m. potluck dinner. Pastor Glen Smith said all former members are invited as special guests.

**Park Hill Church** in North Little Rock will host Lamell Harris in concert Saturday, Aug. 27, at 7 p.m. Ticket information is available by calling 753-3413.

A call for a ministry of intercession for revival and spiritual awakening was extended to members of the Fellowship of Arkansas Baptist Retired Workers July 20 by Arkansas Baptist State Convention executive director Don Moore.

Vice president John Maddox presided over the annual meeting held at Park Hill Church in North Little Rock. He noted that the 200 present marked the largest attendance in the organization's 10-year history.

Noting that today's baby boomer generation has "come to dead end streets in today's decaying society," Moore emphasized that many of them are seeking God.

He challenged the retired workers to spend more time with God, reflecting on His love and then sharing His love with those they come in contact with each day. "Love can liberate the spirit, buoy the mind, penetrate society and season relationships," he said. "By sharing your love and interceding through prayer, God will daily nurture your soul to continue in His work, letting you go out in glory as you witness to the baby boomers as well as your children and grandchildren."

In a testimony about his daily walk with God during the year of the illness and death of his wife, Shirley, Moore shared humorous reflections about his expeditions into household tasks such as ironing and cooking. He encouraged the workers to not reflect on the past nor look to tomorrow, but to live one day at a time with joyous and loving attitudes. "It is easy

to establish a bond of love with those you are trying to reach for God if you do it with joy and laughter," he affirmed.

"In this past year, God has revealed to me that laughter helps folks stay alive, that loving is a basic attribute from which comes redemption and that life in its essence is today," he concluded. "Therefore, God has put a hope in my soul that evolves around today and reaching people for Christ."

Another highlight of the annual meeting was a "Supporting Missions in Retirement" testimony from retired missionary Francis Bumpus Hatton, whose husband had died a few days earlier as a result of leukemia.

"Though I am retired, my desire is to assist in seeing that the message of salvation continues to be shared at home and abroad," she said, sharing how she had contributed more than \$3,000 to mission causes from monies gained from her sewing hobby. "I used very inexpensive material remnants for this clothing I sold," she explained. "You too can turn your hobby, whatever it may be, into a way of spreading the good news of salvation, doing it with a 'happy face.'"

Other meeting highlights included the singing of favorite old hymns under the direction of James Burleson, minister of music for First Church in Maumelle; an Arkansas Baptist Foundation update by president David Moore; memorial moments led by Bernes Selph, pastor emeritus of First Church in Benton; and special music presented by Ray Pack, a member of Calvary Church in Little Rock.

## Sunday School training offers help for children's teachers

Warning that "the worst enemy of a teacher is satisfaction," Jackie Edwards encouraged teachers and leaders of children's Sunday School classes to take advantage of training opportunities at the 1994 State Sunday School Convention.

Edwards, an associate in the Arkansas Baptist State Convention Sunday School department, said one way to challenge a sense of satisfaction "is to learn about the new and exciting changes being made in the children's Sunday School curriculum published by the Southern Baptist Convention. They are tremendous."

The convention will be held September 23-24 at Geyer Springs First Baptist Church. The theme for the convention is "BREAK-THROUGH: Witness to Win."

Edwards said the changes "will be discovered, discussed and dispensed during the Friday evening session of the convention," while Saturday morning conferences will focus on methodology.

Saturday topics will include teaching children Bible truths through the four avenues of drama, music, games and art. Participants will have a choice of three of the four topics.

A conference for children's division directors also will be offered on Saturday. It will offer helps in administration and organization for division directors and coordinators.

Conference leaders will include Kathy Strawn, a member of Second Church in Little Rock and a curriculum writer for *Bible Learners*; Rob Sanders, manager of

the children's Life and Work biblical studies section for the Baptist Sunday School Board; Edith Wiley, a member of Calvary Church, Searcy; and Roma Zeltner, a member of Westside Church, Fort Smith, and a curriculum writer for many SBC publications.

In addition to help for children's Sunday School teachers, Edwards said the program will feature help for outreach leaders, care group leaders, basic adult work and those involved with homebound ministries. Separate classes also will be held for age-grade teachers and for teachers using the three different Southern Baptist educational curriculum series.

Conferences for general officers, teachers of all age groups, and church architecture also will be offered. Approximately 35 conferences will be offered during each of the four conference sessions. The general conference will feature Bill Taylor, executive pastor/minister of education and administration for North Phoenix Baptist Church, Phoenix, Ariz.

The convention will begin on Friday at 6:30 p.m.; the base conference will begin at 7:45 p.m. and conclude at 9:15 p.m. Saturday preschool conferences will begin at 8:30 a.m. and conclude at 12:45 p.m.

There is no cost for the convention or any of the conferences. Participants are responsible for their own meals and lodging. For more information, contact the ABSC Sunday School department; phone 376-4791, ext. 5128.

## Bivocational evangelism conferences set for three locations in September

Church staff and laypeople from smaller membership churches and churches with bivocational ministers will have opportunities for worship and evangelism training during three Area Evangelism Conferences in September. The conferences will be held Sept. 12 at First Church, Lamar; Sept. 13 at Brownsville Church in Greers Ferry; and Sept. 15 at First Church, DeWitt.

Clarence Shell, director of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention evangelism department, said the conferences are being held in three locations because "many bivocational and small church pastors are not able to attend because of their work schedules. So we sought to take a worthy and effective conference to them to

promote Here's Hope," he explained.

Here's Hope is the Southern Baptist Convention's 1995 simultaneous evangelism emphasis.

The conference will feature music and worship as well as training in youth witnessing, witnessing with laypeople and an orientation to Here's Hope led by state evangelism leadership.

Leading in worship each night will be Dale Holloway, director consultant with the Home Mission Board. "He is a delightful speaker with humor and great truths to help participants," Shell noted.

There is no cost for the conferences. For more information, contact Shell at the ABSC evangelism department; phone 376-4791, ext. 5132.

## Ouachita's '94 Fall Pastors' Conference focuses on Galatians

The Center for Christian Ministries (CCM) at Ouachita Baptist University will sponsor its annual Fall Pastors' Conference, Sept. 22-23 on the Arkadelphia campus.

Conference participants will study the book of Galatians, which is the focus of Southern Baptists' 1995 Winter Bible Study.

The director of the conference at OBU will be William Steeger, chairman of the division of religion and philosophy and director of the CCM at Ouachita.

The conference begins at 1 p.m. Sept. 22 and concludes with lunch on Sept. 23.

There is a \$35 registration fee that includes John Stott's *The Message of Galatians*, a commentary on Galatians, as well as printed notes and study helps, including an extended outline, a commentary bibliography and background treatment. The fee also includes a banquet dinner, fellowship breakfast and discussion lunch.

Following a workshop format, the conference provides assistance in interpreting biblical texts, developing sermons, improving teaching methodology, and deepening personal pastoral devotion.

### 'Hands-on experience'

"We will also provide hands-on experience in Ouachita's religion computer laboratory, curriculum laboratory and related facilities," Steeger noted. Ouachita's computer lab is a first-in-the-nation laboratory that allows fast, easy research on religious topics.

He said lodging accommodations for conference participants are available through First Church of Arkadelphia and local motels.

Workshop leaders from the Ouachita faculty include J. Scott Duvall, assistant professor of New Testament studies; Terry Carter, assistant professor of religion; and Steeger.

For more information on the conference, contact Bill Steeger at the OBU religion department, P.O. Box 3787, Arkadelphia, AR 71998-0001; phone 245-5599.

# Religious liberty battle continues in Europe

By Mike Creswell  
SBC Foreign Mission Board

LILLEHAMMER, NORWAY (BP)—The battle for religious liberty continues in Europe despite changes in Eastern Europe, Baptist leaders have warned.

Freedom of religion was a major discussion topic during the European Baptist Federation's congress in Lillehammer, Norway, the mountain resort city which played host to the Winter Olympics. More than 3,200 Baptists from 41 countries, including many from Eastern Europe, attended the July 26-31 congress, held every five years.

Many speakers agreed religious freedom has improved during the past five years, especially in Eastern Europe. But Baptists still contend with governments and with state churches, such as the Roman Catholic Church and the Orthodox Church in some areas, speakers said. Unlike in the United States, Baptists are a minority religious group throughout the region.

The federation has set up a task force to document violations of religious liberty so they can better address religious liberty questions. It also is setting up a network of attorneys across Europe who can specialize in religious liberty issues.

The Bulgarian government sent agents posing as Baptists to the congress in Budapest, Hungary, five years ago, said Theo Angelov, president of Bulgarian Baptists and federation vice president. "They posed as Baptists, but they actually were there to report back on what was said in the meeting," he recounted.

"For Baptists to (now) be able to come freely to the congress without worrying that somebody (in government) will listen to them is something very, very special for us," he said during a press conference. But he warned that the Bulgarian government, working with the Bulgarian Orthodox Church, has waged a harsh anti-evangelical campaign during the last two years.

Public buildings have been denied Baptists, forcing them to meet again in private homes as during the repressive communist years. A media smear campaign also has been directed against evangelicals, he said. Most recently the government has alleged that a "pastor's mafia" is taking over Bulgaria's educational system and culture, Angelov said.

"The situation is getting worse each day," warned Angelov. To meet the needs of church buildings in Eastern Europe, the federation is setting up a church building program in Bulgaria in which low-cost, prefabricated church buildings can be constructed quickly.

## CIS religious leaders pledge to promote peace

MOSCOW (ABP) — Religious leaders from across the former Soviet Union have banded together to appeal for an end to ethnic, social and political strife in the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Baltic States.

The historic gathering of 180 religious leaders convened in Moscow at the invitation of Russian Orthodox Patriarch Alexei under the banner of the International Interconfessional Conference on Christian Faith and Human Enmity.

The group included representatives of evangelical, Protestant and Roman Catholic churches, according to the European Baptist Press Service. Several Russian Baptist leaders played leadership roles in the conference.

The leaders adopted an appeal recognizing that efforts to build statehood under new historical realities in the former Soviet Union have brought mistakes, resulting in cultural, social and political tensions and in some cases outright violence.

They pledged "to make a new beginning in our common work to put

an end to God-defying violence so that peace with justice and accord can be established in our lands."

The religious leaders urged state authorities and the people of their nations to "stop all fratricidal strife" through "reasonable concessions and compromises, among other means." They asked for those involved in conflicts to solve them through dialogue, embracing principles of love and respect for others, and to "promote reconciliation and to oppose enmity."

The leaders expressed "profound concern" over human-rights violations and a shared commitment to "generally accepted principles of respect, including the right to the freedom of conscience and equality of people of different nationalities, religious and other convictions before law."

The leaders pledged that the individual churches and associations they represent will continue to seek an end to strife, but stated that "it is only together that we can serve the cause of reconciliation."

Even when religion is not banned outright in Bulgaria, more subtle controls have been in effect, charged John Floyd, Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board director for work in Europe. Southern Baptist missionaries and other Christian workers have had problems getting visas to remain in the country, he said.

### Spiritual hinderances

"After all the recent events in Europe, we're again seeing people trying to build walls and fences — new fences, new spiritual hinderances," Angelov said. "New hatreds are growing up in place of the old in many places on our continent."

Roman Catholicism is the main force Baptists must deal with on the Mediterranean island of Malta, said Edwin Carvana, pastor of one of two Baptist churches there.

"Catholics are trying to stop Baptist growth," Carvana charged during a seminar on religious liberty. On Malta, Baptists are seen by Catholics as "separated brothers" or heretics, he said.

Carvana said he offered to jointly sponsor a meeting to discuss the deity of Christ, but the local Catholic priest refused. "Had I shared a program with the priest, it would have made Baptists look legitimate," he said.

Catholicism also is a problem in Latvia, where Baptist children are forced to attend Catholic religion classes in public schools, said Janos Tervits, a Baptist pastor there.

Amid incidents of religious oppression, Baptists also face growing secularism and an increasing presence of Islam across Europe, Baptist participants said. Baptists from Germany, England, France and the Netherlands told of rapid increases in the number of Muslims in their countries and the challenges to missions that creates.

Two million Muslim Turks now reside in Germany, said Ursula Goldbach of Bensheim, Germany. And schools for Muslim students are increasing in the Netherlands, said Riet de Boer of Nieuw-Weerdinge, Netherlands. Muslims greatly outnumber Baptists and other evangelicals in several European countries.

While France generally is considered a Roman Catholic country, that's no longer true, said Jean-Pierre Dassonville, general secretary of home missions for French Baptists. "It's a secular country, but Catholicism still has a strong impact on people's thinking." Major cities in Eastern Europe are moving quickly from non-Christian communism toward non-Christian secularism found in Western Europe, warned Karl-Heinz Walter, the Europe federation's general secretary.



### **Detained Christian leader returns from Iran**

RICHMOND, VA (BP)—An Iranian-born American resident imprisoned in Iran for 12 days returned home July 22.

The resident, Hassan Shahjamali, had visited in Iran with family members and friends, including Christian leader Mehdi Dibaj. Dibaj, an Assemblies of God minister, and Tateos Michaelian, chairman of the Council of Protestant Ministers in Iran, were found murdered in early July.

Shahjamali, a Christian convert from Islam, left the United States for Iran May 29 to visit his family, encourage Iranian Christians and share the gospel with interested Iranians. But at an airport in Shiraz, Iran, July 1, police arrested him and jailed him for 12 days.

International concern for Shahjamali was high because of the two murders and indications of a new wave of violence against Protestants inside Iran. The violence forms a pattern of ongoing persecution against Christians in the predominately Muslim nation. Christians charge that government surveillance of Iranian believers has intensified during recent weeks.

### **Volunteer remains in coma in Argentina**

BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA (BP)—Southern Baptist volunteer Paul Sutherland remains in a coma in critical condition in Buenos Aires after suffering a brain contusion in a July 20 fall.

Physicians at Buenos Aires' British Hospital told Sutherland's family he will be disabled if he recovers. Kathleen Clark, Southern Baptist missionary in Argentina, said July 27.

But even as Sutherland, 66, a layman from Sanford, N.C., lay in intensive care, missionaries saw the first results of his Christian testimony. An Argentine man Sutherland had witnessed to in an airport sought out Baptists for further spiritual guidance.

As for Sutherland's physical condition, "there's no improvement, really," said Clark. She said doctors indicated "perhaps he'll be stabilized enough to be evacuated" to the United States in the next few days.

Sutherland suffered head injuries July 20 when he fell from a ladder while painting the library at the international Baptist Theological Seminary in Buenos Aires. On July 21 he underwent two surgeries in less than 24 hours—one to remove a large blood clot from the right side of his brain, the other in part to relieve pressure caused by swelling around the brain.

### **'1,995 in '95' church-starting goal set**

GLORIETA, NM (BP)—A goal of starting 1,995 Southern Baptist mission-type churches in 1995—almost 500 more than last year—was announced during the July home missions conference at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center.

"The Father alone can make this kind of challenge a reality," said Charles Chaney, Home Mission Board vice president for church extension.

Last year, Southern Baptists started 1,500 churches, an average of more than four new churches a day. The 1995 goal will require 5.4 new churches per day.

The 1,995 in '95 campaign involves no new strategy but focuses special attention on existing plants, Chaney said. The Bold Mission Thrust goal for church starting is 50,000 churches by the year 2000. As of Dec. 31, 1993, Southern Baptists had 46,712 churches and mission-type churches.

### **Disaster officials call for more volunteers**

MEMPHIS, TN (BP)—As Southern Baptist disaster relief efforts in the wake of flooding in the Southeast continue, officials extended their call for more volunteers for cleanup and long-term rebuilding efforts.

Bob Simpkins, director of Brotherhood for the Kentucky Baptist Convention, emphasized the need for volunteers to work primarily in southwest Georgia, which suffered the most damage from flooding due to the remnants of Tropical Storm Alberto. He asked that all prospective volunteers call their own state convention's Brotherhood office first.

By the end of July, feeding units had provided more than 319,000 meals and child care units had served more than 1,000 children.

Georgia Baptists were still operating feeding units in Perry, Cordele and Albany while North Carolina's unit continued to serve in Albany. The Tennessee child care unit, after serving for two weeks, was relieved by an Arkansas unit July 29.

### **Ceremony highlights HMB construction**

ATLANTA (BP)—The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board held a traditional "topping out" ceremony in July for its new national office building.

Members of the HMB building committee, representatives of the building's contractors and staff shared an outdoor barbecue lunch with more than 150 construction workers while a traditional evergreen tree and American flag were placed atop the five-story structure celebrating completion of steel and concrete work for the facility.

Building committee chairman Ralph Smith of Austin, Texas, urged the construction workers to be proud of their part in the board's ministry. "You will have a vital part as our missionaries feed those who are hungry, minister to people who are hurting and share the love of God across our country. Thank you for the great and wonderful job you are doing."

HMB president Larry Lewis also thanked the workers for their part in making possible the agency's future ministry. In addition to explaining the board's work in church starting, ministry and evangelism, Lewis shared a brief explanation of the gospel.

The \$19.9 million building north of Atlanta will replace the board's facilities near downtown Atlanta, which have already been sold. Proceeds from that sale will pay for most of the construction costs. The new facility is scheduled for completion next spring.

### **Missionary lost in mountains found safe**

GLORIETA, NM (BP)—A home missionary lost in the mountains near Glorieta Baptist Conference Center nearly 24 hours, credits prayer and the efforts of nearly 100 people with saving his life.

Charles Joyner, church strategist in Seattle, was attending Home Missions Week, July 23-29. He left the conference center Thursday at noon for a six-hour hike to Mount Baldy, west of the center. He became disoriented on the trail when a severe thunderstorm set in about 5 p.m.

Joyner was wearing only a T-shirt, shorts and jogging shoes, all which were rain-soaked. He had no rain gear, no shelter and only a few pieces of fruit as night approached.

Joyner's wife, Daisy, reported him missing when she returned from the evening worship service about 8:30 p.m. and found he was not yet home.

Glorieta security staff notified New Mexico State Police and search and rescue crews responded from Santa Fe, Los Alamos and as far away as Albuquerque.

Joyner told Baptist Press he had stumbled across three cabins just about dark. He found dry wood, matches, water and warm clothing in one of the cabins and was able to spend the night warm and dry.

Joyner made an "OK" sign the next morning that a helicopter spotted about 10 a.m. A rescue team was able to pick him up exhausted but unharmed.

**Jonesboro fellowship addresses race relations**

National and Southern Baptists will gather for a regional fellowship Aug. 29 at Highland Drive Church in Jonesboro. The fellowship is one of 11 regional fellowships held annually with three National Baptist groups.

Jack Kwok, director of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention's cooperative ministries department, said the fellowship is designed to "nurture righteous race relations" in Arkansas. He said the regional fellowships create relationships "and out of those relationships other projects grow."

He said the Jonesboro fellowship was planned locally by area Baptist leadership. The program will feature singing, special music and a message by Herman Lewellen, pastor of First Missionary Baptist Church in Jonesboro.

The fellowship program also will feature the responsive reading of the Harare Declaration, which Kwok described as "a

statement on racism adopted in Harare, Zimbabwe, by the Baptist World Alliance in 1993."

Kwok said the fellowships can be a first step in fostering "righteous race relations. There are many people who know what the right thing is and the right thing to do, but are waiting for someone to give them permission to do it."

He said that permission is given in the fellowship. "Many people don't know where to start. This is a good place. It is a controlled worship service where we affirm our unity and appreciate our diversity in the Lord."

Kwok said good race relations is vital among Christians. "We have a prophetic principle that racism as a doctrine is heresy and racism as a practice is sin."

Other fellowships scheduled later this year include El Dorado on Oct. 23, Malvern Nov. 7, Hope Nov. 13 and Eudora Dec. 5.

For more information, contact Kwok at the ABSC cooperative ministries department; phone 376-4791, ext. 5159.

**Arkansas churches celebrate Foundation Sunday on Sept. 11**

Foundation Sunday, set for Sept. 11, will highlight the ministries and service of the Arkansas Baptist Foundation.

Foundation president David Moore emphasized that the Foundation is important to Arkansas Baptists. "It provides a fabric for Christian stewardship for people not only now in their lives, but also through their death and their estates in order to fund Baptist ministries and causes," he explained.

Moore said the agency's money management role is increasingly vital today. "Work for the Lord is getting more and more expensive and it's taking megadollars to get it done in the vast world of need we live in," he pointed out.

The Foundation has several stewardship plans available. "If we can help people plan their estates to not only give now but, in the future, accomplish something with their estate for God's work, we think we've accomplished a great service," he added.

Moore encouraged pastors to consider preparing a stewardship-oriented sermon in promoting Foundation Sunday.

Moore said the state Foundation has experienced good growth in the past year. "At the beginning of 1993 we had \$33 million in assets and at the end of 1993 we had \$40 million. This year we have \$44 million as of July."

He said that endowment base is used to help fund Ouachita Baptist University and Williams Baptist College, the Arkansas Baptist Children's Home and Family Ministries, Baptist Student Unions and state and local missions efforts.

For more information or ideas on promoting Foundation Sunday, contact Moore at the Arkansas Baptist Foundation; phone 376-0732.

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## Little Rock 'Spiritual Life Rally' features Adrian Rogers' sermon

Adrian Rogers, former Southern Baptist Convention president, was the featured speaker for a recent "Spiritual Life Rally" held at Robinson Center Auditorium in Little Rock. The one-night rally, sponsored by six Little Rock-area churches, followed a week of mission projects conducted in the area by youth from Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, Tenn., where Rogers is pastor. The events also included a Saturday night youth rally at Little Rock First Church.

Jim Lagrone, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church in Bryant, welcomed participants to the Friday night rally, describing it as a time to "celebrate what God has done in our lives but also to be challenged by what God can do."

Prior to Rogers' message, physician John Redmond shared his testimony about his recent conversion to Christianity. Redmond, chairman of the department of urology at the University of Arkansas College of Medicine, acknowledged that he had reached the pinnacle of his career as a renowned professor and author. But the death of his mother in January forced him to come "face to face with my own mortality."

"Before January, I had not been to Sunday School or not read a Bible in over 30 years," he noted. Yet the lifelong witness of his parents eventually led him to the Bible for answers.

Asking Jesus Christ to "live in my heart and change my heart forever" produced an "instantaneous change," Redmond shared. "I felt a sudden peace like a weight had been lifted off of me. I felt like I had a purpose for life."

Challenging others to discover the joy of salvation, Redmond concluded, "With

God's help, I will never look back."

Preaching from Mark 8:34-36, the same passage Redmond cited in his testimony, Rogers asked the crowd, "What shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul?"

Emphasizing that "you are a soul. You have a body," Rogers noted, "This body is only the wrapper. The real you is your soul made in the image of God."

### 'The worth of a soul'

Describing the worth of a soul, Rogers said worth is measured by a combination of creativity, possibility, durability, rarity and desirability.

"Your soul is the handiwork of the Almighty," he emphasized. "You're not an orphan of the apes. You're not an accident; you are an incident, created in the image of God.

"Jesus Christ so desires you, so loves you that with His rich, red, royal blood He purchased you," Rogers shared. "If you want to know what your soul is worth, turn your eyes to Calvary."

In addition to the worth of a soul, Rogers detailed "the tragic waste of the soul."

Noting that "nobody ever gains the world," he added, "What part of the world you do gain, you can't keep....Add up everything you have that money cannot buy and death cannot take away—that's what you're worth."

Rogers said the eternal loss of a soul is an immeasurable loss, an irreplaceable loss, an irreversible loss and an inexcusable loss "because you don't have to lose it."

"Don't feel sorry for me because I'm a Christian," Rogers said. "If I had 10,000 lives, I'd give them all to Jesus Christ."

"How foolish people are for not giving their hearts to Jesus Christ," he concluded. "The devil will give you many good excuses but he can't give you any reasons for not being saved."

Acknowledging that most of the rally participants were active members of area churches, Rogers encouraged them to recommit themselves to being soul-winners. A spokesman for First Church, Little Rock, said the response to the invitation included one profession of faith and more than 100 people pledging to become more involved in personal witnessing.

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# Pro-life, pro-choice advocates deplore slayings

By Tom Strode

SBC Christian Life Commission

WASHINGTON (BP)—Pro-life and pro-choice advocates alike have condemned the recent slayings of an abortion doctor and a bodyguard outside an abortion clinic in Pensacola, Fla.

"It is obscene to shoot someone down in cold blood in the cause of the sanctity of human life," said Richard Land, executive director of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission. "People who are truly pro-life believe in the sanctity of the born as well as the unborn—including doctors who perform abortions."

John Lanney of American Baptist Witness for Choice said, "These are not religious actions, nor are they consistent with any Christianity I know. Jesus preached a message of love, especially for those who are outcast and marginalized. He repeatedly decried this very kind of religious intolerance."

Lanney's statement was released through the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice, which recently accepted the American Baptist group as one of its members. The group is not an official agency of the American Baptist Churches in the USA.

Paul Hill, an outspoken advocate of using force to stop abortion, was charged with murder in the July 29 shotgun slayings of John Britton, 69, a physician, and James Barrett, 74, a volunteer escort. Barrett's widow, June, was injured.

Even pro-life groups which disagree on tactics almost unanimously expressed agreement in opposing the killings.

"We unequivocally condemn the taking of these lives in Pensacola," said Patrick Mahoney, a spokesman for Operation Rescue, in a written statement. "Neither the violent nor the vigilante have any place in the pro-life movement."

***"It is obscene to shoot someone down in cold blood in the cause of the sanctity of human life."***

—Richard Land  
CLC executive director

The National Right to Life Committee, which, unlike Operation Rescue, rejects civil disobedience as a strategy, called the shootings "deplorable and reprehensible. Killing is not pro-life. No person who is truly pro-life could kill another human being in the name of protecting unborn children."

At least one anti-abortion organization, however, appeared to defend the killing of Britton.

In a written statement, Advocates for Life Ministries, based in Portland, Ore., said Paul Hill "may have been...justified in shooting" Britton, but "if Mr. Hill killed James Barrett and wounded his wife where they posed no imminent threat to Hill's

life or the life of another, we are not able to say it was justifiable.

AFLM holds the position that "one may be justified in using any reasonable force to protect human life. And that any force reasonable to protect the life of a born person is justifiable to use in the defense of the unborn."

President Bill Clinton condemned the killings, adding, "I am strongly committed to ending this form of domestic terrorism that threatens the fabric of our country."

Pamela Maraldo, the president of Planned Parenthood Federation of America, asked Clinton and Attorney General Janet Reno to "bring the full weight of their offices to bear on anti-choice terrorists and excise their malignant presence from our nation." Planned Parenthood operates the country's largest chain of abortion clinics.

On Aug. 1, the Justice Department announced it had sent federal marshals to protect abortion clinics in at least 12 cities. The locations include two abortion clinics in Little Rock which were among the targets of recent anti-abortion picketing.

The clinics receiving protection were chosen based on previous violence and the perception of potential violence, the Justice Department spokesman said.

The National Right to Life Committee and other organizations denied that Hill, who defended the 1993 shooting death of abortion doctor David Gunn at another Pensacola clinic, is representative of the pro-life movement.

In the last year, many in the news media "have given Mr. Hill a national spotlight, providing him undeserved attention and likely increasing delusions of self-importance," NRLC said in a prepared statement. "The media has also created the illusion that he represents a constituency within the pro-life movement."

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## Baptists seek to aid Rwandan children

By **Bartry Croll**  
SBC Foreign Mission Board

**NAIROBI, KENYA (BP)**—To help stem the rising tide of death in Rwandan refugee camps outside Goma, Zaire, Southern Baptist workers will concentrate on saving children's lives in two UNICEF camps.

Many are still infants. They will be fed by powdered formula mixed with water pumped from nearby streams and purified by solar-powered systems to be provided through the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. Southern Baptist water technicians will operate the systems.

UNICEF workers have set up seven camps for children who have become separated from their parents. In many cases, their mothers and fathers were buried in mass graves with other Rwandan corpses that had been rolled into mats and left along the roads to decay.

Southern Baptists have promised to provide teams of doctors and nurses, recruited by the Brotherhood Commission, for clinics in the children's camps for three months beginning in early August. They will bring powdered formulas, medicine and medical devices for children.

The children's camps are located in the region around 15 sprawling camps, where up to 2 million Rwandan refugees are settling in. Thousands are dying from dehydration as cholera and dysentery sap their bodies of needed fluids.

"I've been in war, but I've never seen anything like this," said Foreign Mission

Board missionary Clyde Berkeley, who returned in late July to his base in Nairobi, Kenya, from a survey trip to the area. "There's just complete disregard for dead people. They don't have the time to think about them. They don't have the strength to think about them."

The refugees belong to Rwanda's Hutu majority, whose militias slaughtered hundreds of thousands of the rival Tutsi minority after a Hutu president died in a mysterious plane crash April 6.

As Tutsi forces took control in the country, Hutus fled, fearing revenge attacks. A portion went into Tanzania to the east. The majority poured over the Zaire border to the west and settled around Goma. Tutsi leaders have asked the Hutus to return without fear of reprisal.

Only a few are doing so. Many are packing up and moving farther inside the border, deeper into Zaire.

Southern Baptists have mobilized missionaries in the area for the relief project, for which the Foreign Mission Board has already released \$250,000. Veterinarian Stan Lee, a missionary to Rwanda, will be the team leader for the project, Berkeley said. Another missionary to Rwanda, Katrina Knox, a nurse, will be the medical coordinator.

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## BAPTIST STUDENT UNION

### Cypert, Kisor to serve as BSU directors

Two new Baptist Student Union directors began work on Arkansas campuses Aug. 1. Dani Cypert is serving as director at two campuses, North Arkansas Community Technical College at Harrison and Arkansas State University, Mountain Home. Mary Kisor is serving at Garland County Community College in Hot Springs.

Mrs. Cypert has worked for the last two years as assistant BSU director at Arkansas Tech University in Russellville. A native of Russellville, she is a graduate of Arkansas Tech University. She also has served as associate BSU director at Montana Tech in a semester missionary capacity. She recently married Tim Cypert, pastor of Yellville First Church.

"Dani's position is a little unusual because she will be working on two campuses," said George Sims, an associate in the state student ministries department. "She will start a new work at Mountain Home as well as continue the work at Harrison. She'll be able to handle the load because of her strong BSU background."

Mary Kisor is replacing Beverly Cooke as BSU director at Garland County Community College.



Dani Cypert

Mary Kisor

"Mary will be building on work done in counseling, planning program and Bible study," Sims noted. "Her strengths lie in her ability to relate to a more mature student body."

Mrs. Kisor has been the co-director of Lake Hamilton Church Academy Preschool. She has almost completed a degree from Southwestern Seminary and is a graduate of School of the Ozarks, Point Lookout, Mo., and Moraine Valley Community College in Palos Heights, Ill. She is married to Howard Kisor, pastor of Lake Hamilton Church in Hot Springs.

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## Convention Uniform

### How to love God

By J. R. DeBusk, pastor,  
South Side Church, Pine Bluff  
Basic passage: Deuteronomy 6  
Focal passage: Deuteronomy 6:1-25  
Central truth: Love for God is  
fundamental.

As events drew closer to the time for entering the Promised Land, Moses recognized he must prepare the nation spiritually. He could not enter Canaan, so he preached a series of sermons concerning the Israelites' discipleship. Deuteronomy is a record of those messages.

A recurring theme in these sermons is the importance of a loving God. In chapter 6, Moses shared a "how to" manual for loving God.

■ You are to love the Lord through careful obedience. Verse 6:13 challenges God's people to demonstrate their love by keeping the commandments of God. In the previous chapter, Moses had restated the Ten Commandments (vv. 5:1-21). Obedience is not a chore when it is motivated by love.

■ You are to love God through an exclusive commitment. Verse 6:4 is the fundamental statement of monotheism. "Hear, Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord." The number one is unique in that it is the only singular number. Love for God cannot be shared or divided. Verses 6:13-15 reminds Israel again of the exclusive commitment one must make to God.

■ You are to love God with intensive devotion (v. 6:5). The totality of our being should be given to a loving God.

■ You are to love God with an unceasing loyalty (v. 6:12). In several instances throughout Deuteronomy Moses cautions the Israelites not to forget but to remember the Lord when they enter the Promised Land.

■ You are to love God through verbal testimony. The Jews were to be unashamed in passing on their love for God to the next generation (vv. 6:7-9; 20:25).

## Life and Work

### Christian giving

By Art Horne, minister of education,  
Central Church, Magnolia  
Basic passage: II Corinthians 9  
Focal passage: II Corinthians 9:6-8,  
12  
Central truth: God gives us grace to  
abound in every good work.

"For Macedonian Christians, giving was not a chore but a challenge, not a burden but a blessing. Giving was not something to be avoided, but a privilege to be desired," George Sweeting said. But can we say this about the Corinthian Christians? They had agreed to give to needy Christians in Judea as had the Macedonians, but they had been remiss in doing so. Which group is the best picture of Christians today? The Macedonians had action. The Corinthians had words, but had to be reminded to act.

There are three truths in this passage: there is promise in sowing liberally; giving is a testimony to others; and giving cheerfully pleases God. The principle of sowing and reaping covers a large amount of the Christian discipline, such as the sowing of the Word and of good works. This passage is about money. The Christian response to a need is to give with the glad intent to bless the recipient. It is not to give in order to receive more. We are to "sow" liberally as one would sow when scattering seeds.

We also may be expectant that God would bless our motive in giving. So we give in hope! Next, our giving is to result in people giving thanks to God. We must learn to give in ways that allow recipients to retain their dignity in Christ and to praise God for the way He has met the need. This kind of giving will abound in thanksgiving to God (v. 9:12).

Lastly, God sees our thoughts and intentions in giving. He is not impressed by large amounts (though surely He is grieved by petty amounts in Christian giving). But more than this, God is powerful enough to give us grace to give cheerfully. We can be thankful for opportunities to give. We give as the result of the condition of our hearts. Verse 9:6 tells us that we shouldn't give from a troubled heart, for God loves a cheerful, ready giver.

Many times our difficulty lies not in the opportunity to give, but in our attitude in giving. Verse 9:9 states that God can make every grace "super-abound" that we may "super-abound" to every good work! May we trust God as we discover the grace that allows us to meet needs that result in thanksgiving to Him!

## Bible Book

### The righteous, the wicked

By Jack J. Bledsoe, retired DOM,  
Carey Association  
Basic passage: Proverbs 10:1-15:33  
Focal passage: Proverbs 10:1-15:33  
Central truth: The righteous are  
blessed, the wicked are punished.

Chapters 10-15 of Proverbs consist of aphorisms in the form of contrastive or comparative couplets which emphasize the differences between the righteous man and the wicked man, and the ultimate results of the behavior of each.

It is most difficult to zero in on any one couplet. To look at them is like gazing on the many-faceted sides of a diamond. Everywhere you look you see statements that emphasize the approval and blessings of God that comes to those who live within the laws of God and the punishment that comes to those who live according to the flesh.

A man who follows the injunction to seek after wisdom, as outlined in chapters 1-9, will conduct his life in a way that is pleasing to God and will result in the blessings of God upon him. By way of contrast, the man who ignores the search for wisdom conducts his life to please himself and is bereft of the blessings of God. Rather, he will receive the wrath of God upon him.

Read each couplet carefully, evaluating the truths contained in it as it applies to you. You will be thrilled to rejoice in those actions in your life that tip the balance toward a life of righteousness, knowing that what you do is pleasing to Him.

However, you will be troubled in your heart and soul in those actions that you may find that tip the scales toward wickedness, in which He finds no delight. Wisdom dictates that we seek to involve ourselves in paths of righteousness.

## Convention Uniform

### Moral responsibility

By J. R. DeBusk, pastor,  
South Side Church, Pine Bluff  
Basic passage: Romans 13:12-14;  
14:13-23

Focal passage: Romans 14:13-23  
Central truth: One's faith can be discredited by his conduct.

During recent months there has been much discussion about health care and its rising costs. Experts agree that one of the major causes of this escalating cost is drug and alcohol abuse. The cost in terms of health care, lost productivity and human life is staggering. Yet, our nation rushes forward with increasing consumption of alcohol and continued drug abuse.

Love is a debt which Christians owe to all men. One aspect of love is ethical responsibility and moral action in the face of evil. Paul encouraged believers to "cast off the works of darkness," and "put on the armor of light" (Rom. 13:12). This verse emphasizes each Christian's personal responsibility. Followers of Christ should fill their lives with the Lord Jesus (v. 13:14).

Christians have been set free from sin and the law. Believers do not live under legalism. But this freedom is not an open door for self-indulgence. Paul warned that the exercise of freedom may damage the faith and discipleship of a weaker brother (vv. 14:13-23). Paul encouraged each one to recognize the power of his influence on others.

Three valuable principles are found within verses 14:13-23. These principles will be helpful to anyone who takes seriously their responsibility to influence others in a positive way.

■ Do not become a stumbling block or an obstacle to another's faith (vv. 14:13-16). Some things may not harm you, but your example would injure others. The moral welfare of others must be considered.

■ Place high value on the Kingdom of God and its principles (vv. 14:17-19). One should follow the practices which will impact the lives of others for Christ.

■ Practice self-denial for the sake of others (vv. 14:20-23). Drinking alcoholic beverages is specifically pointed out as a corrupting influence on others (v. 14:21). Paul warned that if there is any doubt or question about a practice, the Christian should abstain (v. 14:23).

## Life and Work

### Deciding to encourage

By Art Horne, minister of education,  
Central Church, Magnolia  
Basic passage: Romans 13:12-14;  
14:13-23

Focal passage: Romans 13:13  
Central truth: Christians are to live in such ways as to encourage and build up others in their relationship to Christ.

Are Christians independent of other Christians in the way we live? Would interdependence better describe Christian relationships? This passage deals with a relevant subject: judging other Christians.

It seems that every day headlines in Christian communications show Christians criticizing others. Many critics are not biblical in dealing with offenses of others. Many use these public forums to deal with perceived problems that, according to the Scriptures, should be handled by first going to the individual and seeking resolution. As a result of ignoring biblical mandates, many Christians are hurt when encouragement is most needed!

How should mature Christians live in relationship to other Christians? Verse 14:10 asks why we are judging our brother in light of the fact that we all soon will stand before the judgment seat of God. If we are to judge, we should live our lives in ways that will not be a stumbling block to another. What a difference in attitude! In the question of moral living, the use of beverage alcohol and drugs (legal and illegal), we are to make choices that will encourage others to grow in Christ.

Instead of asking what is wrong with a certain behavior, ask other questions. What benefit will there be to the cause of Christ in participating in such a behavior? Would it cause others to become Christians? Would others be helped by our actions? Would it strengthen our relationship to Christ? Is this action scriptural? Will it help our relationships with other Christians? As we ask these types of questions and study God's Word, we will be more apt to live in ways that will glorify Christ, edify other Christians and cause unbelievers to respect Christians and the church.

Ask God to reveal your behaviors that do not please Him. Seek His forgiveness. Do you know of others that you have hurt by your actions? Ask forgiveness. May our actions always bring glory to Christ and may people who watch the Christian community be touched by the integrity and love we show toward others!

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## Bible Book

### Good Christian behavior

By Jack J. Bledsoe, retired DOM,  
Carey Association  
Basic passage: Romans 13:12-14;  
14:13-23

Focal passage: Romans 13:12-14  
Central truth: Our behavior influences others and may cause them to stumble.

It seems today that we are making a quantum leap from Job and Proverbs to Romans. But a closer look reveals that Paul is writing to the Roman Christians about many of the same issues that we have been studying during recent weeks.

We have looked at the suffering of the righteous, and we have discovered that God vindicates the righteous man who trusts in Him. We have looked at the prudence of seeking after wisdom, which leads us to place our trust or faith in God, instead of following the impulses of our fleshly lives. We have seen the contrast that God draws between the righteous and the wicked.

As Christians today we live under the new covenant of grace and not under the old covenant of law. But Paul warns us that we must live in the light, and not the darkness. This is to emphasize that we pursue wisdom that leads to right living or not only will we endanger our own spiritual best interests, but we may very well be influential in leading others astray who are watching our lives. He urges us not to feed the flesh which will destroy us, but to live in the brilliant sunlight of God's redemptive love. Others will see us and be inspired to do better themselves.

Many weak Christians are unable to survive when they see those of us who are supposed to be strong engaging in activities that may compromise our faith. Dietary requirements and observances of feasts and special days brought real problems to New Testament Christians, forming a basis for comparison between those who observed them and those who abstained. We do not have these exact problems today, but there are many other activities that can compromise our convictions and cause our brother to stumble.

We are to avoid the very appearance of evil, not just because it is the right thing to do, but because others are watching and are influenced by our actions. It would be tragic should our actions cause our brother to stumble spiritually, because of his misplaced confidence in us. Keep the Faith.

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## NEWS DIGEST

### Gore, religious leaders affirm nation's religious liberty

WASHINGTON (ABP) — Vice President Al Gore joined a diverse group of religious and civil-liberties leaders July 14 in affirming that both church-state separation and the free exercise of religion are indispensable parts of the American experience.

More than 80 individuals and six religious and civil-liberties organizations signed a statement, called a "Shared Vision," which affirmed the nation's religious-liberty heritage. The statement was presented to Gore in a ceremony by James Dunn of the Baptist Joint Committee, James Rudin of the American Jewish Committee and Oliver Thomas of the National Council of Churches of Christ.

It's no accident, Gore said, "that the United States of America is by far the most religious of the industrial democracies around the world...I don't believe it's an accident that we have that distinction, on the one hand, and simultaneously the First Amendment protections and tradition of tolerance on the other hand."

The statement encourages an active role for religious people in government and politics but discourages making religious affiliation a campaign issue, invoking divine authority for policies and platforms, or characterizing political opponents as ungodly.

### Senate amendment seeks to protect legal school prayer

WASHINGTON (ABP) — The U.S. Senate attached an amendment to a major education bill that threatens the loss of federal funds to schools which ban constitutionally protected prayer after rejecting a more stringent approach July 27.

The Senate adopted an amendment offered by Sen. Nancy Kassebaum, R-Kan., to the Improving America's Schools Act (S. 1513), which would authorize \$12.5 billion in spending next year and set learning standards for local schools.

The Kassebaum amendment warns that a school district can lose federal education funds if a federal court decides it violates constitutional rights with respect to prayer and then refuses to correct its policy or practice.

The Senate rejected, 53-47, a more general amendment offered by Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., that would deny funds to local school districts that fail to safeguard constitutionally protected prayer.

### Officials refuse permanent casino ban near camp

PASS CHRISTIAN, MS (BP) — Mississippi's gaming commissioners declined to issue a much-anticipated permanent ban July 21 on casino construction in the residential area around the Mississippi Baptist Convention's Gulfshore Assembly in Pass Christian.

Paul Harvey, executive director of the Mississippi Gaming Commission, cited advice of legal counsel as the reason for turning down Baptists' hopes of fully protecting the camp from encroachment by the gambling boom along the Mississippi Gulf Coast. The commissioners accepted Harvey's suggestion that they continue to consider casino applications on a case-by-case basis.

Commissioner Robert Engram stressed all three commissioners have said they do not intend to approve a casino at Henderson Point. "That should be enough," he said.

MGC chairman Stuart Irby Jr. said the "sense of the commission" is Henderson Point is an unsuitable site, and any applicants should be "sufficiently discouraged."

### Court allows teacher to sue over teaching evolution

SAN FRANCISCO (ABP) — A California high school biology teacher may sue his employer on grounds that requiring him to teach evolution as a fact rather than a theory violates his religious beliefs, according to a federal appeals court.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled July 25 that the teacher, John Pelozo, may attempt to prove that the Capistrano Unified School District in Orange County "supported atheism" by requiring the teaching of evolution as an undisputed fact.

While the court voiced skepticism that Pelozo could prove the allegation, which would require demonstrating that the district ignored its own policies which describe evolution as a scientific theory, it said he should have a right to gather evidence to build a case against his longtime employer.

### Annuity Board expands toll-free telephone services

DALLAS (BP) — Beginning Aug. 1, the Southern Baptist Annuity Board extended the hours of operation for its 800 toll-free line to 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Central time. This customer service expansion recognizes the board's primary service area extends from the Eastern time zone to the Hawaii time zone.

In May the Annuity Board also enlarged the 800 service by increasing the number of telephone lines by 70 percent and hiring additional customer service specialists. The toll-free number is 1-800-262-0511.