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Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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NOV. 30 1981

November 26, 1981

Arkansas Baptist

NEWSMAGAZINE



Annual meeting reports
begin on page 2

Annual meeting elects president, changes budget formula



ABN photo/Mike Gill

Elected in Fayetteville were (left to right) Dillard Miller, pastor of First Church in Mena, president; Jon Stubblefield, pastor of Central Church in Magnolia, first vice president; and Winfred Bridges, pastor of First Church in Paragould.

Messengers to an annual meeting that was preceded by only two weeks by the death of the state convention's executive secretary frequently heard reference to their loss, but also banded together to conduct Arkansas Baptists' business.

Part of that business was electing a new president to succeed John Finn, who was completing his second one-year term. The more than 1,000 messengers from local congregations chose Dillard Miller, pastor of Mena First Church, as presiding officer for the 1982 session and also named new first and second vice presidents.

Elected first vice president was Jon Stubblefield, pastor of Central Church at Magnolia. Named second vice president was Winfred Bridges, pastor of First Church at Paragould.

Also nominated for president were Joe Atchison, pastor of South Side Church in Pine Bluff, and Jack Bledsoe, pastor at Des Arc First Church. Messengers chose between Miller and Atchison a run-off ballot.

In the opening session of the meeting the body extended to Minette Drumwright the privilege of sharing with them her thoughts on the death of her husband. In that same session L. L. Collins, interim executive secretary, called for Baptists to commit themselves to working together for Drumwright's goals to unify Arkansas Baptists.

Messengers conducted the yearly business of adopting next year's budget, but also took a major step in changing the formula for dividing funds for state and SBC

work.

Six recommendations from the convention's Executive Board, two committee reports, five changes to the constitution and bylaws, nine resolutions and board and committee members election were other business matters considered.

The messengers later voted to appropriate money from a "contingency fund" to print and send to all Arkansas pastors Mrs. Drumwright's speech, Drumwright's last two sermons, and the messages of the Pastor's Conference, which was dedicated to Drumwright.

In the five sessions Tuesday night through Thursday noon, the body heard reports on state and SBC programs, music by choirs and instrumentalists, preaching and Bible study.

The Baptists avoided acrimonious debate and the convention began on a harmonious note as messengers were seated without challenge.

Executive Board report

Messengers adopted the six recommendations brought to them by the state convention Executive Board Wednesday morning, including a budget of slightly more than \$9 million dollars for 1982.

Besides okaying a record amount of allocations for state and Southern Baptist Convention causes and for an overflow funding called "advance," messengers approved changing the method of computing the division of funds, beginning with the 1983 budget.

The recommendation on the budget formula eliminates "overage" funds which must be divided in separate action at the end of each year when the budget is more than met. Any funds not used would go into a "Cooperative Program Reserve Fund" and supplement operating expenses if receipts should fall short in any one month.

The new budgeting method also steps up increasing the percentage amount to the Southern Baptist Convention through the Cooperative Program by decreasing the amount to state programs by three-fourths of one percent each year.

A third difference in the new "Unified Budget Formula" allows budget plans to be changed more quickly by balancing past economic trends with current indicators for a shorter time span overview.

The Executive Board also is given the discretion to vote to give Executive Board employees a one-percent-of-salary Christmas bonus.

Plans were approved for four three-day retreats for state pastors, to be held at Camp Paron, with two scheduled in the spring and two in the fall. Pastors will be responsible for individual costs of the retreat, but \$6,000 was allocated for promotion and speaker expenses.

Messengers also approved changes in the state convention's contracts with the Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, both in plans for state convention employees and for employees of local churches. Changes were necessary because

of changes in federal regulations for retirement and insurance plans and due to Internal Revenue Service rulings.

The original recommendations were amended by the Executive Board because the Annuity Board has announced, since the Executive Board's August meeting, that an option of short-term investments is being offered to participants. The Convention adopted the amended versions.

Also okayed was funding of a subsidy of up to \$10,000 for the first two semesters, in 1982, for the seminary satellite project in Little Rock. Credit through SBC seminaries will be offered for course work taken in Little Rock.

A report from a committee studying Baptist Building space needs called for continuing present arrangements, which include housing the Arkansas Baptist Foundation offices in the Commonwealth Federal Savings and Loan Building next door. The committee cited the prohibitive costs of land, credit, and construction as a barrier to building at the present.

A committee studying a proposed adult conference center at Camp Paron reported spending more than \$23,000 on engineering and architectural studies and estimates and announced plans to complete the study in "the coming months".

Constitutional changes

The body considered five changes in the convention's constitution and bylaws, adopting three, rejecting one, and referring the fifth to the Constitution and Bylaws Committee for next year's meeting.

Huber L. Drumwright was remembered in the convention's opening session as an encourager whose goal was to unify Arkansas Baptists in their diversity.

The late Executive Secretary was not being mourned, L. L. Collins told the messengers, but rather was being remembered for the unifying projects he had begun in his year as Arkansas' leader. Collins, interim Executive Secretary, pointed to Drumwright's work in beginning the Arkansas-Indiana linkup for church growth, the seminary satellite program, and revisions in budget methods as some of the efforts at getting Arkansas Baptists to work together.

Collins was one of three speakers in the closing moments of the evening session who portrayed Drumwright's major concern as getting Arkansas Baptists to pull together in the same direction.

Drumwright preached to Arkansas congregations of diverse sizes and diverse theological stances, Collins noted. He affirmed that Dr. Drumwright trusted these diverse groups of Baptists to do the right thing.

"He said to me many times, 'L. L., get the

An addition to Article VI, Section 1 designates the State Nominating Committee to name, for approval by the Executive Board, persons to fill unexpired terms on the state Executive Board.

An amendment to the Constitution at the 1980 meeting prevented the Executive Board from filling unexpired terms of office through their own nominating committee, which meant that any vacancies went unfilled until the next state annual meeting could act on recommendations of the state Nominating Committee.

The second change adopted mandates that any future changes in the Constitution and Bylaws be approved by messengers at two successive annual meetings. This change was made in Article 10.

Messengers rejected the third proposal brought by the Constitution and Bylaws Committee. The change would have directed the state Nominating Committee to act between sessions of the convention to fill vacancies on agency and institution boards, but the nominations would have had to be approved by the Executive Board. The proposed change in Bylaw 5 failed for lack of a two-thirds majority vote, which is required for all constitution changes.

Arkansas Baptist Foundation President Harry Trulove pointed out that the Foundation charter provides for that board to fill its own vacancies and that the change would require them to operate with vacant board positions longer, since the Executive Board meets regularly only twice a year.

James Walker, pastor at Mt. Ida, expressed concern about moving more re-

facts, present them clearly, and trust the people of God," Collins recalled.

Minette Drumwright assured the congregation that Drumwright was supremely happy in his fast-paced year as executive secretary. "Of the 33 plus years I have known Huber Drumwright, these months have been the happiest," she proclaimed.

She explained that she remains convinced of God's leadership in bringing them to Arkansas and giving Drumwright a vision of unity among Baptist people in the state.

Don Harbuck, pastor at El Dorado's First Church, presented to President John Finn, for the Convention, a tape recording of the two messages Drumwright preached at El Dorado on the last day of his life. Harbuck noted the subject of that morning's sermon: the work of Barnabas as an encourager. He credited Drumwright with the qualities of a modern Barnabas.

Messengers were called to commit themselves to working together, especially in the projects they had initiated under Drumwright's leadership. Many knelt in prayer and commitment as a climax to the memorial time. — Betty J. Kennedy

responsibility farther away from Baptist "home base" to the Executive Board and Nominating Committee.

Referred to the state Constitutions and Bylaws Committee for a report at the 1982 meeting was a proposal by Carl Overton of Hot Springs that persons who serve two-thirds or more of an unexpired term on any board of trustees should be considered as having served a full term when eligibility for re-election is considered. The Bylaw (number 4, paragraph 2) limits any person to two three-year terms and a year between before re-election.

Overton is serving this year as chairman of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, but brought the proposal on his own, separate from committee action.

Freeman McMenis, pastor at Northside Church at Eudora, offered an amendment to Article 6, Section 2 that would delete the term "southwide" in referring to SBC causes, and use Southern Baptist Convention in its place. McMenis noted that Southern Baptists are not confined to the southern portion of the United States. Members agreed and passed the motion.

Messengers elected the slate of committee and board members brought by the State Nominating Committee (see separate article on page 9).

The annual minutes of the 1981 sessions of the convention will be dedicated to Huber L. Drumwright, Jr. by vote of the messengers. Executive Board members had expressed wishes for the memorial action and this sentiment was conveyed to the messengers. — Betty J. Kennedy

Tribute to Dr. Drumwright highlights evening session



On the cover

Some messengers kneel, others bow in prayer, while others prayerfully hear music by the Arkansas Singing Men. The reflection and commitment time was in honor of the late Executive Secretary, Huber L. Drumwright.

John Finn, (left) 1981 convention president, confers with Vance Havner who brought three messages at the annual meeting.



Jere Mitchell, pastor of the host church, registers as a messenger from his church.



Convention passes eight resolutions, hits obscenity, alcohol

Arkansas Baptists meeting in Fayetteville took stands against obscenity, alcohol and gambling, dedicated the 1981 convention annual to the late Executive Secretary Huber L. Drumwright, and expressed concern at the "provincial terminology" sometimes used by convention leaders.

Nine resolutions were presented at the 128th annual session of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. One requesting that this year's convention annual be dedicated to Drumwright, who died Nov. 2, was ruled out of order and resubmitted as a motion. Messengers then unanimously agreed to the directive in that form.

The other eight resolutions, including the usual expression of appreciation to outgoing convention officers and the host church, were passed without discussion.

Remaining resolutions concerned obscenity, drunken driving, alcohol warning labels, private clubs, gambling, the Christian Civic Foundation and the term "southwide" to refer to Southern Baptist causes which are national in scope.

The resolution on obscenity called on Gov. Frank White and the Arkansas General Assembly, which is meeting in special session until Nov. 26, to enact a "Comprehensive Obscenity Statute" aimed at decreasing the amount of pornographic material in the state.

Three resolutions dealt with alcohol. The first asked the Arkansas delegation in the United States Congress to give full support

to a letter being circulated in the Senate and House calling for President Reagan to name a special commission to "curtail the tragic suffering caused by the drinking driver epidemic."

The second alcohol-related resolution called on the congressional delegation to support Senate Bill 1543 and House Bill 2251 which would mandate health warnings on all alcoholic beverage containers.

A final resolution on alcohol opposed legislative attempts that would allow private clubs to serve alcoholic drinks in Arkansas' 43 "dry" counties.

The gambling resolution voiced Arkansas Baptists' opposition to legalized casino gambling, charity bingo games and lotteries, and decried any further extension of horse and dog racing in the state.

Messengers also expressed support for the Christian Civic Foundation in a resolution encouraging churches to "prayerfully and financially" support the organization.

The Christian Civic Foundation is an interdenominational agency, maintained primarily by Baptists and Methodists, designed to combat abuses of drugs, alcohol, gambling and pornography.

In an attempt to delete the use of "provincial" terms, messengers passed a resolution reminding Arkansas Baptists that "our convention is international in scope" and "in recognition of our world-wide missions and ministries," encouraged them to "refrain from the use of such provincial terms as 'southwide.'" — Robert H. Dilday

Top enrollments announced

The state Sunday School department has announced the largest increases in Arkansas Baptist Sunday Schools in the past year.

At the Wednesday evening session of the convention in Fayetteville, Director Lawson Hatfield presented certificates to the three churches that ranked highest in four categories.

Rogers Immanuel Church tabulated the largest numerical gain in enrollment with an increase of 242. Dale Thompson is pastor.

Danville Immanuel Church recorded the largest percentage gain in enrollment, 452 percent, and its 121 percent increase in average attendance placed it at the top in that category as well. Anton Uth is pastor.

Little Rock First Church had the greatest average numerical increase in attendance with 127. John Wright is pastor.



Messenger John Lindsay prepares to cast his ballot in the runoff election for state convention president.

Harmony prevails at convention

The editor's page

J. Everett Sneed



The 1981 convening of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention in Fayetteville was the most harmonious and tranquil convention that we have ever attended. Not even one harsh word was spoken publicly during the entire convention. Only three amendments to the constitution were even questioned by messengers. In these instances the discussion was exceedingly mild. As Carl Overton, chairman of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, said, "We are not going to be mad at anyone, no matter how he votes."

There are many reasons for the tranquility of this year's convention. First, and most important, was the work of Huber Drumwright, the late executive secretary of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. It had been the prayer of Dr. Drumwright that Arkansas Baptists would truly exemplify Christ in their dealings with each other. The contagious, loving spirit of this great man left its mark on each of us.

The second factor in the spirit of unity which characterized this year's convention was the "Service of Reflections," held in memory of Dr. Drumwright. The highlight of the service was a tribute to Dr. Drumwright given by his wife. Mrs. Drumwright said of their coming to Arkansas, "God had surprised us with a great, good gift. These were his happiest months." The spirit of Mrs. Drumwright captivated and permeated the entire convention. After a moving address by L. L. Collins, interim executive secretary of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, the evening was concluded by a "Service of Dedication."

Other factors producing harmony were: (1) The excellent presiding done by President John Finn; and (2) The fine preparation that had been made by the Executive Board, under the leadership of Joe Atchison, and by other committees that reported to the convention.

We commend our messengers for the excellence with which they conducted themselves this year. It is never essential for messengers to agree on all matters as they did this year, but it is essential that we maintain a Christ-like spirit in dealing with business.

The election of Dillard Miller, pastor of Mena First Church, will provide capable leadership for Arkansas Baptists in the coming year. Miller's past experience as president of the Executive Board, chairman of numerous com-

mittees within our convention, and his serving on the SBC Stewardship Commission will enable him to give capable leadership to Arkansas Baptists during this crucial period. Miller's statesman-like approach to matters of business and his loving spirit will benefit Arkansas Baptists as they begin the search for a new executive secretary.

The election of Ken Lilly, a physician from Fort Smith, as president of the Executive Board will continue the highest kind of leadership in this strategic position. Dr. Lilly has served as chairman of the Program Committee for the Executive Board of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention during the past year. His knowledge of the workings of the convention will be of significant benefit during the days that are ahead.

We commend the Executive Board on the election of L. L. Collins as the interim executive secretary. Dr. Collins' ability in organization will be invaluable during this transition period. Much of the work in revising the budget formula was done by Dr. Collins reflecting his organizational ability.

A great deal of credit for the excellent spirit of this year's convention belongs to all who brought messages. Also, the Pastors' Conference which preceded the convention was of the highest quality and set a positive attitude which carried over into the convention. All of the messages of the Pastors' Conference and the convention were helpful to those who were in attendance.

Jerre D. Mitchell, pastor of Fayetteville First Church, and his staff deserve the applause of Arkansas Baptists for the excellence with which they provided for this year's convention.

The appearance of entertainer Jerry Clower on Wednesday evening brought the roar of laughter to the convention. We know that this would please Dr. Drumwright because no one loved a good joke more than he. This, along with the excellent spirit of the messengers, kept the convention from being somber as it could have been under the circumstances.

We believe that the excellent spirit of this year's convention should set the stage for a great year of outreach. We believe that as we maintain a spirit of unity and as we work together that even greater days are ahead.

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Maddox



O'Brien



Williams



Stiltner

ABN Photo/Mike Gill

Pastors proclaim 'power of the living word'

The 1981 Pastors' Conference, under the leadership of Richard Stiltner, pastor of Hope First Church, had as its theme "The Power of the Living Word." All the speakers, with the exception of William O'Brien, executive vice president of the Foreign Mission Board, were from Arkansas.

Numerous testimonies were given throughout the conference on individual salvation experience, call to the ministry, witnessing experiences and the greatest advice ever received. All of the testimonies pointed up the grace, goodness and power of God. While there was great diversity in the experiences of the various individuals giving their testimony, all attested to the moving of God in a miraculous way in the lives of individuals.

Those delivering major addresses included Emil Williams, pastor of Jonesboro First Church; Jim Adams, pastor of First Beech Street Church, Texarkana; Carroll Caldwell, pastor of Harrison First Church; Larry Maddox, pastor of Little Rock Second Church; John McClanahan, pastor of Pine Bluff First Church, and William O'Brien, executive vice president of the Foreign Mission

Board, Richmond, Va.

The officers for the 1982 Pastors' Conference are David Miller, director of missions for Little Red River Association, president; Bill Sutton, pastor of Fort Smith Windsor Park Church, first vice president, and Emil Williams, pastor of Jonesboro First Church, second vice president.

What the major speakers said at the conference

Emil Williams spoke on "The Power of the Word in Counseling." In speaking on the reason, relationship and result of counseling, Williams said, "It is good for us to talk and examine the scriptural basis for our counseling."

In conclusion he said, "There is no guaranteed success when we counsel individuals. We aren't God, but even God himself allows people to make their own decisions."

Jim Adams spoke on "The Power of the Word in Preaching." He said, "No man has ever really preached until a two-sided encounter involves a third person — Jesus Christ. Preaching is at its best when the

preacher drops out of the picture altogether and the people only see Christ."

Carroll Caldwell spoke on "The Power of the Word in Witness." He emphasized that the Word of God bears witness against all sin, our need for forgiveness, our need to be loved, our greatest hope — eternal life, and to the world's greatest person — Jesus Christ. He said, "We should never allow peripheral doctrine to become a test of fellowship. We must recognize that we are not each other's enemies; we are each other's friends."

Larry Maddox spoke on "The Power of the Word in Personal Living." He said, "We are to infiltrate and confront this wicked world. He cannot withdraw into the sanctity of our stained glass windows. We are to move out into the arena of action. We must live the truth in our world."

John McClanahan spoke on "The Power of the Word in Teaching." He said, "The preached Word is often more dramatic than the taught Word that is fleshed out. If we are to have the whole Word, we must have both."

William O'Brien spoke on "The Power of the Word in the World." He said, "We live in a day in which our Christian citizenship may be required to transcend our national citizenship." He gave several illustrations of how the Bible impacts upon the lives of people, after which he said, "This is exciting but there is a danger. We must be careful how we handle the Word. When people properly understand the Word, we do church. It is impossible to overemphasize the power of the Word within the covenant community." — J. Everett Sneed



ABN Photo/Mike Gill

The Pastors' Conference elected officers at its meeting before the convention in Fayetteville. Named president was David Miller (right), director of missions for Little Red River Association; Bill Sutton, pastor of Fort Smith Windsor Park Church, was elected first vice president. Not pictured is Emil Williams, pastor of Jonesboro First Church, who was elected second vice president.



ABN photo/Robert Dickey

New Arkansas Religious Education Association officers are (left to right) Jim Williams, president; Martin Babb, secretary; Bob Presley, first vice president; and Willene Pierce, second vice president.

Religious educators elect officers

More than 40 religious educators gathered before the state convention in Fayetteville for the Arkansas Religious Education Association.

Jim Williams, minister of education at Little Rock Geyer Springs First Church, was elected president of the organization. Other officers are Bob Presley, associate pastor at Dumas First Church, first vice president;

Willene Pierce, state Baptist Women's Baptist Young Women director; second vice president, and Martin Babb, state Sunday School youth consultant, secretary.

Speaking at the annual meeting were James Woodward, dean of the School of Music at Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee, and Leon Kilbreath, a Sunday School revivalist from Herin, Ill. — **Robert H. Dilday**



ABN photo/Missie Gill

Little Rock Immanuel Church and Douglas Church near Gould were honored during the state convention as the two Arkansas Baptist churches that led in gifts to the 1980 Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions. Polly Reynolds (left) accepted for Douglas, whose \$27.37 per capita gifts placed it at the top in that category. Elma Cobb (center) represented Immanuel, which contributed \$9,906 to the offering. Mrs. Boyd Maragson, state WMU president, made the presentation.

Ann Berry (right) of Dardanelle, 1981 Woman's Conference president, greets Gay White, wife of Gov. Frank White, before the meeting of the Baptist women's organization, while a state trooper looks on.



ABN photo/Missie Gill

Women hear governor's wife

A group of Baptist women meeting prior to the annual meeting heard Gay White, wife of Gov. Frank White, testify to the guidance and support of the Lord through past problems and present day-to-day living.

Mrs. White was featured speaker for the Woman's Conference, which centers on wives of pastors and staff members from state churches.

She told them that she understands life in a fishbowl, which is the lot of most staff families. Mrs. White compared her experiences during the gubernatorial campaign and during the past 11 months at the governor's mansion to the high visibility situation of church personnel. She credited God with giving her the patience and strength to live with the situation.

Named officers of the Women's Conference were Joyce Deaton of Mena, president; Jana King of Little Rock, vice president; and Lana Evans of Bentonville, secretary.

The meeting was held in the fellowship hall of Fayetteville First Church. — **Betty J. Kennedy**

The official messenger registration total at the 1981 annual session of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention was 1,091.

Seminaries hold annual meetings

Alumni and friends of five of the six Southern Baptist seminaries met to renew friendships and hear reports from their alma maters after the Wednesday morning session of the convention. A summary of their meetings:

Golden Gate Seminary

The 13 alumni elected as president Sid Carswell, missionary to Brazil who has returned from the field and is living in Little Rock. Wendell Bradford, director of missions for North Central Association, was elected vice president and James Threet, resident manager of Camp Paron, secretary.

Midwestern Seminary

Tommy Robertson, director of missions for Liberty Association, was elected president, and Allen Thrasher, pastor of Booneville First Church, vice president. C. W. Scudder, vice president emeritus at Midwestern, brought a report to the 20 alumni.

New Orleans Seminary

Twenty-five alumni elected their association's first woman president-elect, Barbara Long, education/day care director at Second Church in Little Rock. Wayne Riley, pastor of West Helena Church and last year's president-elect, became presiding officer. Don Stewart, executive vice president at New Orleans, brought the seminary report.

Southern Seminary

Michael Anders, pastor of Clarendon First Church, was named president-elect. He replaced Ronald Ford, pastor of North Little Rock Central Church, who became president. The 49 alumni heard a report from Roy Honeycutt, provost at Southern.

Southwestern Seminary

Jere Mitchell, pastor of Fayetteville First Church, was elected president. Also elected were John Maddox, pastor of Wynne Church, vice president, and Nick Garland, pastor of Hot Springs Second Church, secretary. Cal Guy, professor of missions at Southwestern, delivered the report to the 110 alumni.



W. A. Criswell, pastor of First Church of Dallas, spoke to the messengers at Fayetteville on Tuesday evening.

Pike named first associate

Freddie R. Pike of Pine Bluff has been elected first associate in the state Sunday School department by the Executive Board of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

Pike, 36, has been director of missions for Harmony Association since 1979. He replaces Don Cooper, who resigned in August.

In his new position, Pike will be the adult, associational and Sunday School growth consultant and assistant director of Arkansas Baptist assembly.

Pike received the bachelor of science de-



Pike

gree in 1967 from the State College of Arkansas at Conway (now the University of Central Arkansas) and the master of religious education degree in 1970 from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

He was youth consultant in the Sunday School department from 1973 to 1978 and has served on the staffs of several Arkansas Baptist churches.

"We're extremely pleased that Freddie Pike has been selected to serve with us," said Sunday School Director Lawson Hatfield. "Since he previously served in our department, he is well known to Arkansas Baptist churches."

Pike is married to the former Linda Carole Ferguson, and has one daughter, Melodie Carole, 8.

Indiana Baptist says "Linkup" effective

For E. Harmon Moore, just passing a Baptist church on an Arkansas highway is an exciting event.

Moore, for 22 years executive secretary for the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana, says one can "drive for miles and miles without seeing a Baptist church" in that pioneer state.

But the retired Indiana Baptist leader has been speaking in churches and associations throughout Arkansas the past two months promoting a significant missions partnership that could change all that.

The Arkansas-Indiana Linkup began in 1978 with a statewide revival in Indiana; since then an increasing number of churches and associations in the two states have been "linking up" in an effort to reach a goal of 506 Indiana Baptist churches by 1990.

"I think the Linkup is an extremely effective way to increase churches," said Moore in Fayetteville after presenting his appeal to the Pastors' Conference. "It is giving Indiana Baptists a feeling of stability, of care being extended. Folks on the local fields feel a little alone."

Noting that dramatic missions opportunities exist in Indiana, Moore said, "Of course places like Little Rock and Fayetteville need more churches. But the need in Indiana is different. There are 19,000 people in Indiana for every Southern Baptist church there, compared to 1,600 people to each Arkansas Baptist church."

When Moore became Indiana's first executive secretary in 1959, the new state convention had 20,119 Southern Baptists in 111 churches. Today there are 171 churches serving 75,616 Southern Baptists, and Moore says the last three years of partnership with Arkansas have played a decisive role.

"We're seeing a resurgence of interest among Indiana pastors and churches to sponsor churches there in Indiana. I think that Arkansas' saying 'We're going to stand with you in this' is a strong factor."

Moore says there is still a great deal of work to be done; he looks forward to the day when the midwestern state has 3,000 Southern Baptist churches and 80 associations.

Concerned that some smaller Arkansas churches may think there is nothing they can do, Moore insists, "They can always pair up with other churches. Baptists are used to cooperating." — Robert H. Dilday



E. Harmon Moore (right) holds an Indiana map display with Cary Heard, pastor of North Little Rock Park Hill Church, which is participating in the Linkup.

Board, committee members elected

Executive Board

Laypersons

Terms to expire in 1984

Arkansas Valley
Ashley
Bartholomew
Calvary
Caroline
Centennial
Central
Clear Creek
Concord
Concord
Current-Gains
Dardanelle-Russellville
Delta
Faulkner
Garland
Greene
Harmony
Liberty
Liberty
Little River
Mississippi
Mount Zion
North Pulaski

C. Michael Anders, Clarendon
Ferrell Morgan, Crossett
John Robbins, Monticello
Bill Burnett, Beebe
M. M. Hill, DeValls Bluff
Jerre Hassell, Stuttgart
*Earl McWherter, Hot Springs
Bill Milam, Alma
Bill Kreis, Paris
T. J. Richardson, Ft. Smith
Guy Whitney, Rector
*Herman McCormick, Danville
Daniel Threet, Dermott
Leonard Baker, Conway
Clytee Harness, Hot Springs
Winfred Bridges, Paragould
Milton Wilson, Pine Bluff
Lawrence Harrison, El Dorado
Jerry Wilson, El Dorado
John Holston, Nashville
Ed North, Blytheville
Don Dunavant, Jonesboro
*Bob Stender, Jacksonville

North Pulaski
North Pulaski
Pulaski
Pulaski
Southwest Arkansas
Southwest Arkansas
Tri-County
Tri-County
Trinity
District 5
District 8

Terms to expire in 1983

Quachita
Liberty
Greene
Clear Creek

Terms to expire in 1982

Benton
Mount Zion
North Pulaski
Red River
White River
District 2
North Arkansas
Harmony

Cary Heard, North Little Rock
John H. Colbert, Sherwood
Charles Barfield, Little Rock
Paul Sanders, Little Rock
Joe Statton, Magnolia
Jim Adams, Texarkana
Tommy Hinson, West Memphis
Kerry Powell, Forrest City
Jimmy Garner, Trumann
*Norma Lee Bowers, Hot Springs
*Maxine Murphy, Hamburg

Joe Campbell, Hatfield
Don Harbuck, El Dorado
James E. Swafford, Paragould
George Domerese, Ozark

George O'Neel, Bella Vista
Emil Williams, Jonesboro
Ron Raines, Jacksonville
Carl Kluck, Arkadelphia
*Walter McNew, Pyatt
*Janet Osmon, Mt. Home
Carroll Caldwell, Harrison
Jerry Tracy, Star City

Arkansas Baptist Family and Child Care Services

Terms to expire in 1984

Jess M. Lunsford, Heber Springs
*John Ross, Little Rock
*Richard T. Hill, Little Rock
*Robert Hettinga, Dardanelle
*Charles Ainley, Paragould
*Ann Bledsoe, Des Arc

Arkansas Baptist Foundation

Terms to expire in 1984

*Tom Watts, Camden
*Jim Harwood, Ft. Smith
*David A. Ray, Little Rock
*Ed Snider, Arkadelphia
*Douglas Bradley, Jonesboro

Terms to expire in 1982

*W. R. Goodrich, Little Rock

Arkansas Baptist Historical Commission

District 1 — *Roger Logan, Harrison
District 4 — Max Deaton, Mena
District 6 — Jack Auten, West Memphis

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

Terms to expire in 1984

District 4 — LeRoy French, Ft. Smith
District 6 — Charles Chesser, Carlisle
Member at Large —
*Honorable Eلسiane Roy, Little Rock

Baptist Memorial Hospital, Memphis

Terms to expire in 1984

John Finn, Harrison

*Edwin Moss, Star City

*Bob Harrison, Jonesboro

Baptist Student Union

Terms to expire in 1984

District 1 — Dean Newberry, Rogers
District 2 — *Frank Huckaba, Mt. Home
District 7 — Jon Stubblefield, Magnolia
District 4 — *John Wickman, Ft. Smith
District 7 — Richard Stiltner, Hope
Member at Large — *Mrs. James Baugh,
Dermott

Terms to expire in 1983

District 8 — Jody Ganaway, Crossett

Christian Civic Foundation

Terms to expire in 1984

William Piercy, Manila
Tom Harris, Clinton
*Roy Jolly, Jonesboro
Don Seigler, Fayetteville
Bill Sutton, Ft. Smith

Ministry of Crisis Support

Terms to expire in 1984

Bill Probasco, Conway
Gerald Taylor, Little Rock

Quachita Baptist University

Terms to expire in 1984

*Jack Lowman, Cabot
*Clarence Anthony, Murfreesboro
*Lou Sorrels, Brinkley
*Jeral Hampton, Booneville

Harold White, England

*Mrs. Robert Moore, Arkansas City

*Mrs. George Jordan, Camden

*Mrs. Walter Mizell, Benton

Southern Baptist College

Terms to expire in 1984

Frank H. Shell, Walnut Ridge
*James H. Mullen, DeWitt
*LeRoy Carter, Lechville
*Ken Saulcer, Osceola
Harold Ray, Jonesboro
*Robert Rose, Paragould
Ray Crews, Heber Springs
Troy Melton, Flippin

Terms to expire in 1982

Mike Carrier, Monette

Constitution and Bylaws Committee

Terms to expire in 1984

Johnny Jackson, Little Rock
Marvin James, Hot Springs

World Hunger Committee

Terms to expire in 1984

J. T. Harvill, Rison
*Geneva Sauls, North Little Rock

Convention Program Committee

Terms to expire in 1984

Bert Thomas, Scott

Terms to expire in 1983

John Wright, Little Rock

1986 Convention

Date: November 18-20, 1986

Place: Little Rock Geyer Springs Church

1982 Convention

Place: No. Little Rock Park Hill Church

Preacher: Charles Chesser, Carlisle

Alternate: Kerry Powell, Forrest City

Board elects Lilly, names Collins interim

The Executive Board of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention elected Ken Lilly of Fort Smith as president and John Maddox of Wynne as vice president at its organizational meeting Nov. 18 in Fayetteville.

At a meeting the day before, the board also named Associate Executive Secretary L. L. Collins to serve as interim executive secretary and elected Freddie R. Pike of Pine Bluff as first associate in the state Sunday School department.

Lilly is a physician and a member of First Church of Fort Smith. Maddox is pastor of Wynne Church.

Operating Committee Chairman Elmer Griever presented the recommendation designating Collins to serve until a new executive secretary is elected to replace Huber Drumwright, who died Nov. 2.

At an emergency meeting of the operating committee Nov. 4 in Little Rock, Collins was appointed interim until the next meeting of the Executive Board.

Although the convention's constitution allows the associate executive secretary to serve in the absence of the executive secretary, Executive Board President Joe Atchison said, "We feel that when we speak about a death, it is more than an 'absence'."

After the recommendation passed unanimously, Collins told the board members gathered in Fayetteville First Church before the convention, "If there's anything I'm most grateful for, it's being a Christian. But the greatest honor that could be bestowed on any person is the honor of serving Arkansas Baptists."

Freddie Pike was elected unanimously upon a recommendation by the operating committee. Pike, who was youth consultant in the Sunday School department from 1973 to 1978, is director of missions for Harmony Association (see story on page 8).

The board also approved two amendments to recommendations passed at its August meeting. Messengers later agreed to the amended recommendations during the Wednesday morning session of the convention.

The amendments will give church staff members and convention employees a fourth investment option in the Executive Board's recommended Annuity Board policy change. In addition to fixed, variable and balanced funds, religious workers now can choose to invest retirement contributions in a short term market fund.

In other action, the board passed a motion requesting convention officers to limit display booths each year in the convention host church to agencies and departments connected with the state or Southern Baptist conventions.

Collins said the lack of space for display booths had created an awkward situation for host churches as an increasing number of groups requested space.

The board also passed motions expressing appreciation for Ora Sue Nagy, who is resigning after five years as administrative secretary to the Executive Board, and for those who led at the funeral services for Drumwright Nov. 4 at Immanuel Church in Little Rock. — Robert H. Dilday

Ken Lilly (right), a Fort Smith physician, who is the new president of the state convention Executive Board, consults Vice President John Maddox, a Wynne pastor, following the Board's Wednesday afternoon meeting.



ABN photo/J. Everett Street



Outgoing board president Joe Atchison of Pine Bluff (left) greeted L. L. Collins, who was elected interim executive secretary at the pre-convention meeting.



ABN photo/Missie Gill

A prayer session was held at First Church Fayetteville immediately prior to the first session of the convention at the suggestion of President John Finn.

More coverage of the 1981 Arkansas Baptist State Convention in the Dec. 3 issue of the ABN.



One layman's opinion

Daniel R. Grant/President, OBU

Blaming tragedy on God

The lead sentence in an Associated Press story in the newspaper sometime ago began "Why does God hate me?" It proceeded to tell about a tragic accident for a 23-year-old young man whose face was severely burned by an accidental gunpowder explosion during a hunting trip in the Florida Everglades. The story was accompanied by a picture of the bandaged victim and an explanation of his bitter question suggesting that God hated him.

It was the second time he had suffered such a terrible fate. Back in 1960 he was burned very severely when doused with flaming gasoline by a playmate, and had only recently fully recovered after skin grafts and years of plastic surgery. Following the second accident he said, "When the gunpowder went off, I couldn't believe it. No, God couldn't do this to me again." I went on to read that the explosion occurred as he was squatting over a bowl of gunpowder near a smoldering campfire, making bullets to save money. The campfire sud-

denly popped and a spark ignited the gunpowder.

As much as my heart went out to this young man who had obviously had more than his share of personal tragedy, it hurt me deeply to read that he would blame the tragedy on God. Hopefully, it was just a human bitterness of the moment and not a basic belief that he would continue to hold. But I was reminded that far too many people seem to use this kind of tragedy as an excuse for staying away from church or for shaking their fists in the face of God. Actually, the young man was doing a very foolish thing in working with gunpowder so close to a fire. God made him free to do a foolish thing, it is true, but God certainly did not make him do it.

"The Devil made me do it" is also a common expression these days, and was very common even before TV Comedian Flip Wilson helped to popularize it. We almost delight in making light of our mistakes by suggesting that the Devil made us do them.

The world will be a much better place, as will communities, churches, and homes, when we stop trying to blame God or the Devil for things that go wrong. The buck still stops with us.

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

Convention hotels 85 percent filled

NEW ORLEANS (BP) — Eighty-five percent of the rooms available through the convention housing bureau already are filled, according to Tim Hedquist, manager for the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention.

That means as of Oct. 30 there are just 900 rooms left of the original 6,000 available through cooperating hotels which offer convention rates. Hedquist says there are still "numerous" other hotels available within a five-mile radius of the Superdome where convention sessions are to be held June 15-17, 1981.

Of the 13 hotels with rooms still available, Hedquist suggested the New Orleans Hilton, the International Hotel and the Monteleone as best bets because of location and space available. Price for the three ranges from the International's \$48 single to the Hilton's \$60 single.

The Hilton is WMU headquarters hotel. Convention headquarters hotel, the Hyatt Regency, is filled.

Other hotels with space available Oct. 30 included Bienville House, Dauphine Orleans, de la Poste Motor, Fairmont, Fountain Bay Club, Holiday Inn-Chateau LeMoyne, LeRichelieu Motor, Place D'Armes Hotel, Provincial Motor and Vieux Carre Motor Lodge.

Housing requests must be submitted on the standard form available at all state convention offices and should be sent directly to the SBC Housing Bureau, 334 Royal St., New Orleans, La. 70310. The bureau deals directly with the individual and will handle all questions from those who have submitted forms.

Hedquist said he will help persons with special requests or housing problems. His address: 460 James Robertson Parkway, Nashville, Tenn. 37219.



The Southern accent

This I believe: About communing with God

by Earl R. Humble

The Bible makes many references to communion with God. God speaks to sinners to warn them and to believers to guide them. He speaks through the Word, through his Spirit, and through experience — ours and others. We live in a day of instant answers. By pressing a button we can have at our finger tips the answers to many questions. Computer readouts have changed the whole face of information-gathering.

It may be more than coincidence that with the coming of the age of automation has come a renewed emphasis on the person and work of the Holy Spirit. This is welcome and many lives are being blessed. There are, however, many dangers that we will misunderstand the work and witness of



Humble

the Spirit. It is possible that we are merely reading our thoughts, yet calling them the voice of God. I am sure I have witnessed this phenomenon.

Lazy minds refuse to study but, instead, claim that what their lips are saying comes from the Spirit. Yet Paul said, "Study to show thyself approved unto God..." (II Tim. 2:15). We hear it said that we should not study commentaries, for that is what man says, but we should study the Bible for that is what God says. Yet Paul was not above studying books (II Tim. 4:13).

We are also being told that we should not ask God for anything but one time, for a repeated prayer is proof of lack of faith. Jesus taught persistence in prayer (Lk. 18:1-7; Lk. 11:5-13). Paul said, "Pray without ceasing" (I Thes. 5:17). Some prayers do have instant answers, but many do not. We must pray in the Spirit from a submissive spirit, and leave the results with God.

Earl R. Humble is professor of religion at Southern Baptist College at Walnut Ridge.



Parker

International

Nov. 29, 1981

1 John 4:7-21

by Robert A. Parker
Director, Christian Life Council
Arkansas Baptist State Convention

Love one another

The final great passage to be considered this month deals with the love we ought to have for one another. Sadly, too often this is lacking. Occasionally we even read or hear of those who don't speak to one another in the meeting house, much less on the streets. Such people ought to examine their faith to see if they really are saved. At least they ought to read the passage for this week's lesson.

Love is mentioned 27 times in the 15 verses of this great passage. Love is not only the theme here, it is the theme for the entire Bible. The fact that God himself is love is seen in verse 16. As Paul indicated in Romans 5:8, John wrote, "In this is love (revealed), not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent His son to be the propitiation for our sins" (v. 10).

There are too many needless fears in our world. Some fears may be needful, such as the fear of heights, but most are not. Perfect love casts out fear, there is no fear in love (v. 18).

One of the most penetrating truths in all of God's Word is brought out in verse 20. "If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar..." It is impossible at the same time to love and hate.

This lesson is probably the most needed for today's professed followers of Jesus Christ.

There is not nearly as much agape love as there ought to be in our homes and churches. We shall never experience revival personally or as churches until we demonstrate this, the most important attribute of a Christian. Pray that in our life time we shall see this demonstrated more often.

One big reason for the tremendous growth of the Christian faith in the beginning years is that the pagan world noted how Christians loved each other and those outside of Christ.

Jesus said, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me" John 12:32.

How better can he be lifted up than through love?

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Freed by the gospel

"God the Great Liberator" — what a tremendous theme for this quarter's lessons. Our God alone provides "the liberated life" about which we will study for the next five weeks.

The theme of the book of Galatians is freedom which is offered in the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. The reason Paul wrote this letter is to defend the gospel of freedom which he had preached.



O'Neil

The apostleship of Paul (v. 1)

Here as in most of his letters Paul referred to his position as an apostle. An apostle literally means "one sent", and it conveys the idea of a person representing the one sent as if it were the man himself. So Paul is asserting his authority as an apostle. His commission was from God.

The distorted gospel (v. 9-12)

After Paul had preached the gospel of grace and freedom through Christ, some men began to preach a Jewish version of the gospel which added works. When Paul heard that they had so distorted the word of

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Members of Congress honor

WASHINGTON (BP) — When Brooks Hays died in October, the nation lost one of its living treasures.

At least that's the way Rep. Carl Perkins, D-Ky., expressed it during a special order on the House floor arranged by Rep. Ed Bethune, R-Ark., to pay tribute to the former Arkansas congressman and Baptist statesman.

More than 25 House members joined in recalling the numerous attributes as well as stories told by and about Hays, who died Oct. 12.

The congressmen praised Hays for his wit and story-telling reputation, for his moderating influence in the often-stormy world of politics, and for his refusal to compromise his faith or his principles in politics or life.

Hays, who served as president of the Southern Baptist Convention in 1958 and 1959, was widely acknowledged for his mod-

MK Prayer Calendar

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December

- 2 William Daniel Berry (Brazil) Box 1352, Ouachita, Arkadelphia, 71923
- 2 Elton P. Gray, Jr. (Okinawa) Box 1162, Ouachita, Arkadelphia, 71923
- 14 Paul K. Damon (Brazil) Box 169, Ouachita, Arkadelphia, 71923
- 18 Bruce J. Burnett (Brazil) Box 601, Ouachita, Arkadelphia, 71923
- 29 Sonia J. Lindstrom (Venezuela) Box 117, Ouachita, Arkadelphia, 71923

Life and Work

Nov. 29, 1981

Galatians 1:1, 9-17

by George O'Neal

Bella Vista Church

Jesus as to put into bondage again those whom he had freed, he pronounced a curse on all such false teachers.

Paul then stresses that his gospel was of divine and not human origin. No one taught it to him. The Lord Jesus revealed himself to Paul on the road to Damascus. That was the source of his gospel.

The effects of a religion of works (v. 13-14)

Paul testifies as to what a religion of works will do. He had been captive to the thought for years, "Do good and God will accept you." He worked hard at doing the right things and it only produced a greater need to do more. He was compelled to dispose of people for the sake of his religion. So he was not free at all.

The gospel of grace (v. 15-17)

The freedom which Paul discovered and proclaimed is not centered in what we do for God. It is centered in what God does for us. When we like Paul receive the grace of Christ and the inner freedom he brings, we can respond to the claim of God on our lives. We are free to obey as one who is learning that it is not so important what we can do for God. Rather it is far more important what God can do through us.

Brooks Hays

erating stance during the 1957 Little Rock, Ark., integration crisis — a stance which most observers say cost him a ninth term in the House.

"By clinging to his Christian ideals of peace and moderation and by his refusal to play the demagogue, Brooks Hays quietly assured his political defeat in those poisonous years in the later 1950s, when bigotry and intolerance stalked the land," said Perkins, one of only 20 current members of the House who served with Hays.

"It is time for us to rededicate ourselves to the ideals of fairness and justice and decency in American life that he held so dear," Perkins said during the tribute session.

The veteran Perkins, also a Baptist, said: "The sorrow at saying goodbye to Brooks is tempered by the joy of having known him, and the richness of having him for a friend."



Darter

Bible Book

Nov. 29, 1981

Matthew 9:36-10:1, 5-8, 19-20, 32-34, 38-39

by Thomas G. Darter

Delta Association

The King's messengers

Jesus was the master teacher-trainer. First, he had given the disciples both theory and example. Now he is sending them ahead of him and he will review their activities. Later they will have it alone.

See as Jesus saw

The messengers of the King will need eye surgery. Jesus looked at the people of the land and saw struggling casualties of life and faith. They staggered blindly and bleeding. Now the disciples must look past the outside and see the true needs of the people. Jesus saw only one category of persons — lost in sin.

When we look at our neighbors, what do we see: friends, enemies, customers, nobodies?

Begin with the house of God

The first audience of the gospel must be the old house of Abraham. Jesus described them as the lost sheep. I'm convinced they did not think they were lost. To be faithful to his covenant with Abraham, the Lord would give Israel the first chance. They did not see their need of his Kingdom because they were convinced they were already inside of the Kingdom. Jesus knew better.

Delivers the Father's message

The messenger of the King delivers the message. The temptation would be to change the message when the heat was applied. But the message is the Father's and cannot be changed.

Angry people will take out their feelings on the messengers. The messengers will need security. The Spirit of God would be their securer. He would be their secret place of safety. One ministry of peacemakers is to deliver the message of reconciliation to the warring parties. Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall receive several undeserved beatings.

Must be faithful

It is required of messengers that they be faithful. The messenger shows who his Lord is by faithfully carrying the message. If we disobey the Lord in being unfaithful in message-carrying, we deny him. To sit on the message in a safe place or profession is also to deny him who sent us.

Accept the servant's life

In the military the messenger stays close to the commander. This means the messenger lives better than others of his rank. In the King's army it is true the messenger stays close to the Commander. But the Commander came as a servant. So the messenger must accept the life-style of a servant.

We want the Lord to save our souls. But we don't want him messing with our standard of living or our life style.

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News about missionaries

Mr. and Mrs. Ted O. Stanton, missionaries to Argentina, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Sinclair 281, 1636 La Lucila, Buenos Aires, Argentina). They are natives of Arkansas.

He was born in Arkadelphia and grew up in Little Rock. The former Mary Ridgell, she was born in Prescott and grew up in Little Rock. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1976.

Attendance report

Nov. 13, 1982

Church	Sunday 11/13	Church Cong.	Church adms.
Alexander, First	159		
Alma, Clear Creek Southern	196	51	
Albany, First	190	34	
Arklin, First	123	70	1
Batesville	289	102	11
West	226	81	2
Nursing Home	42		
Bella Vista	187		
Bentonville, First	471		3
Berwynville			
First	201	86	
Freeman Heights	229	88	
Blue Eye, Mt. First	119	53	
Boonville	300	51	
Branch Side	184		
First Southern	338	101	
Indian Springs	136	58	1
Cable			
First	415	119	2
Mt. Carmel	462	172	4
Cantwain, First	141	115	
Cherokee Village, First	155	42	
Clowery			
Haffan Park	121	73	1
Plekins Gap	222	100	4
Second	528	261	5
Crossant			
First	493	120	2
Meridian	90	66	
Mount Olive	371	128	3
Temple	202	109	1
Danville, First	133	36	
Nursing Home	27		
Dee Arc	196	78	
El Dorado	147	71	
Parkview	18		
Nursing Home	18		
Second	292		
West Side	310		3
Fertus Ctr., First	576	115	
Fort Smith			
First	2,296	558	18
Grand Avenue	1,389		9
Mission	33		
Wesley	78	41	2
Fouke, First	80	37	
Cassville	123	35	
Crown Forest, First	160	56	
Hackett, Memorial	74	42	
Hampton, First	175	84	
Hards, First	124	50	
Harrison, Woodland Heights	114	53	
Hot Springs			
Immanuel	78	38	
Paradise	81	48	
Grand Avenue	384	97	1
Harvey's Chapel	172	103	
Lonsont Street	203	66	
Memorial	89	44	2
Melrose	48	25	
Park Place	287	110	
Rever Heights	70	34	
Vista Heights	131	57	
Hughes, First	153	46	
Jacksonville, First	374	67	4
Jennetteville	52	39	
Jonesboro	173	100	
Friends Hope	258	109	1
Hartleton	89	45	2
Kington, First Southern			
Little Rock			
Crystal Hill	130	72	
Mansfield, First	178	44	1
Marmaduke, First	239	214	
Maynard, Writts Chapel	123	85	4
Monteville, Second	254	94	
Mountain Pine			
Cedar Glades	25		
First	95	40	
Mountain Valley	38	14	1
North Little Rock			
Cedar Heights	327	143	4
Stanfield	79	51	1
Paragould			
Calvary	233	189	6
East Side	457	249	3
First	466	113	
Paris, First	340	74	
Southside Mission	56		
Pine Ridge, First	238	74	4
Pine Bluff			
Communal	122	60	
Central	95	26	
First	637	186	
Lee Memorial	218	85	
South Side	594	143	
Watson Chapel	515	220	
Prairie Grove, First	177	77	
Rogers			
First	620	176	1
Immanuel	869		
Royal Antioch	69	38	
Russellville, First	577	156	
Sandusky, Okla., Faith	35	32	
Springdale			
Berry Street	77	41	
Brush Creek	101	56	
Caulfield Avenue	103	42	1
Eliada	280	147	2
First	1,935		5
Trentons			
Highland Hills	114	74	
Trinity	363	237	2
Valley Springs	97	57	
Van Buren, First	509	109	3
Vandeventer	43	28	
Viviana, Berry	120	69	
Vista, First	86		
Ward, First	162	87	1
Wootter, First	105	64	
Yehulie, First	188	60	

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October CP sees increase

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Undesignated giving to national Southern Baptist causes jumped 16.9 percent in October, the first month of the 1981-82 fiscal year.

October's receipts were \$6,837,811, up almost a million dollars over October 1980. Designated receipts, which fluctuate widely during the year, were down 46.5 percent to \$966,854 for October.

Combined, designated and undesignated receipts were \$7,804,665, up \$146,472 or 1.9 percent over October 1980.

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
National Goal: \$50,000,000

Week of Prayer
for Foreign Missions
November 29 — December 6, 1981

Hughes pew cushions

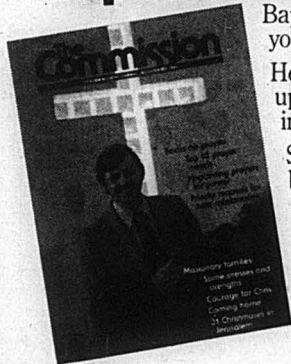
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Church schools challenge unemployment compensation

by Stan Haste

WASHINGTON (BP) — Church-state questions continued to command the attention of the U.S. Supreme Court in its new term as the justices announced they will hear arguments on whether church-related elementary and secondary schools must pay unemployment compensation to their employees.

In a case complicated by suits and counter-suits involving several Christian schools in California and the state and federal governments, the high court agreed to decide if a lower federal tribunal erred

when it held earlier this year that church schools are exempt from federal and state laws governing unemployment compensation.

Three California churches which run Christian schools, including Scott Memorial Baptist Church in San Diego, took both the state and federal governments to court after unemployment compensation laws were applied to the church-related institutions. The Long Beach congregation's pastor is the well-known author and conservative activist Tim LaHaye. The churches were joined in their suit by two associations of Christian schools, based in San Diego and Castro Valley, Calif.

Last April a U.S. District Court in California ruled for the schools, holding that the laws as applied excessively entangled state officials in church affairs.

Federal and state laws in California exempt churches, conventions and associations of churches, and separately formed corporations set up by churches from paying unemployment compensation taxes. Such exemptions do not apply, however, to religious schools not affiliated with a church or a convention or association of churches.

In a related case, the high court heard oral arguments that Old Order Amish employers should not be forced to pay Social Security taxes for their employees. Such ac-

tion, argued the small sect's attorney, amounts to sin in the view of the Amish. Attorney Francis X. Canazza argued further that because the Amish take care of their own aged members, they have no need for Social Security benefits.

The federal government argued on the other side that it has a "legitimate state interest" in requiring the uniform application of the Social Security law.

In other religion-related actions, the high court

— Let stand the decisions of three New Jersey courts that city council meetings may begin with an invocation or period of silent meditation. Paul Marsa, an atheist, brought suit against the Town Council of Metuchen, N.J., for its practice of having a member of the council open each session with a prayer or call on colleagues to observe a time of silence.

— Rejected the appeal of members of the controversial Universal Life Church challenging a New York law that in 1979 restored them to the property tax rolls of the town of Hardenburgh, N.Y. Hardenburgh made national news several years ago when most of the town's residents purchased mail order ordination certificates from Robert Hensley's Universal Life Church, a move which drastically reduced the community's real property tax base.

High court affirms ruling on religious accommodation

by Larry Chesser

WASHINGTON (BP) — The U.S. Supreme Court left standing a ruling by the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals in Chicago upholding the constitutionality of a section of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 requiring employers and unions to "reasonably accommodate" the religious beliefs of employees unless doing so would create "undue hardship."

The Seventh Circuit's action upheld a ruling by U.S. District Judge Robert W. Warren of Eastern Wisconsin that Title VII provisions of the Civil Rights Act do not violate the First Amendment's no establishment clause.

Warren had ordered the reinstatement of a Wisconsin production worker, Darrel C. Nottelson, who was fired from his job with A. O. Smith Corp. when he refused on religious grounds to participate in the Smith Steel Workers Union. Nottelson is a member of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church which teaches it is morally wrong to be a member of or pay dues to a labor union.

In requiring Nottelson's reinstatement as well as payment of actual and exemplary damages and attorney's fees, Warren ruled

that Nottelson's proposal to pay a sum equivalent to union dues to a nonreligious, non-union charity could have been accommodated by the company and the union without undue hardship and therefore, both had violated Title VII provisions.

Attorneys for Smith asked the high court to rule on the question of constitutionality of the religious accommodation requirement, arguing in a written brief that the Seventh Circuit's ruling upholding the law was "clearly erroneous."

Attorneys for Nottelson argued that the court of appeals ruling was consistent with other circuit court decisions and that Title VII does not violate the establishment clause but is an "accommodation of the free exercise clause." They also contended that the religious accommodation requirement involves only a "minimal" and not "excessive" entanglement between church and state.

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, which granted Nottelson a "right-to-sue" letter in July 1975, intervened on his behalf at the Seventh Circuit and Supreme Court.

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Home missionary granted official UN recognition

NEW YORK (BP) Elias Golonka, Home Mission Board missionary to the United Nations, recently was awarded official U.N. recognition as minister-director of Christian ministries to the United Nations community, including permanent and unlimited access to all U.N. facilities, meetings and personnel.

Golonka, who was appointed by the HMB in 1974, extends a Southern Baptist witness to 6,500 U.N. workers, including ambassadors from 126 countries.

Since gaining entry to the U.N., Golonka has established scripture distribution points where Bibles in 95 languages are given to U.N. workers, including representatives of communist countries. He is organizing the United Nations Baptist Fellowship for all Baptists working at the U.N.