

Ouachita Baptist University

Scholarly Commons @ Ouachita

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1990-1994

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

9-9-1993

September 9, 1993

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarlycommons.obu.edu/arbn_90-94



Part of the [Christian Denominations and Sects Commons](#), [Mass Communication Commons](#), and the [Organizational Communication Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Arkansas Baptist State Convention, "September 9, 1993" (1993). *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1990-1994*. 88.

https://scholarlycommons.obu.edu/arbn_90-94/88

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine at Scholarly Commons @ Ouachita. It has been accepted for inclusion in Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1990-1994 by an authorized administrator of Scholarly Commons @ Ouachita. For more information, please contact mortensona@obu.edu.

ARKANSAS BAPTIST



Volume 92, Number 18

September 9, 1993

*MISSION
ARKANSAS '93:*

▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼
**TAKE
THE RISK**
▲ ▲ ▲ ▲ ▲ ▲ ▲ ▲

Season of Prayer for State Missions

September 19 - 26

**Dixie Jackson Offering for State Missions
State Goal: \$650,000**

Total Church Life helps churches evangelize their communities

By Colleen Backus
Arkansas Baptist

Total Church Life, one of the Arkansas Baptist Convention's 1993 priority projects, operates on three basic principles: exalt the Savior, equip the saints and evangelize the sinners. The concept, originated by Darrell W. Robinson of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, emphasizes church growth through the conversion of unsaved people in a church's community.

"The concept is for evangelism department or Home Mission Board staff to train one or two leaders in each association, so that they can conduct associational Total Church Life seminars," explained Clarence Shell, director of the ABSC Evangelism department. The association then sets a date with pastors and staff to participate in the seminar.

"The program seeks to implement the three basic concepts in the local church," Shell said. While Total Church Life is a priority project during 1993, it also will be a continuing strategy, he added.

HMB resource materials indicate that Total Church Life is designed to help churches increase baptisms, equip church members for evangelistic witnessing and help plateaued or declining churches to renew growth. Churches which participate in the plan are encouraged to target their community in an effort to share the gospel with everyone in a specified area.

Bill Kite, director of missions for Ashley Association, said the program "gives

balance to the ministry of the church in fulfilling its call. It meets needs in various areas."

Bill Howard, pastor of Salem Church, Benton, pointed to the need for total church involvement to reach the total community. "A lot of churches depend on newcomers to the community to feed the church," he said. "But when you reach a new person you just reach them; when you reach a three- to five-year resident, they are going to have a network of friends that you can also reach."

Howard's congregation segmented the community into "bite-sized" areas and "infiltrated" each area with information about the church.

"Each person, everywhere, at sometime, will 'think God,'" Howard explained. "We want to be familiar enough with them and if they think God — such as at a time of crises — they will think of us first."

Recently, Howard's church performed a "whole community saturation" — visiting 1,285 homes in three hours and enrolling 59 people in Bible study in that one effort.

Such efforts are stressed in the Total Church Life seminars. "In the seminar we stress the importance of training people in personal evangelism; we also have a strong emphasis on mass evangelism," Shell explained. "It is very important to let the church be the church."

Individuals interested in additional information about Total Church Life may contact Shell at the ABSC Evangelism department, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203; phone 376-4791, ext. 5132.



Cover Story



Take the Risk 6-7

Arkansas Baptists' 1993 Season of Prayer for State Missions is set for Sept. 19-26. This year's theme calls on Arkansas Baptists to "Take the Risk" to become involved in state missions. The statewide goal for this year's Dixie Jackson Offering for State Missions is \$650,000.

Also inside

Perspective

You'll Be Glad to Know.....4
 Woman's Viewpoint.....5
 Straight from the Editor.....5

Arkansas Baptists

Mass evangelism conference.....8
 Authentic worship workshop.....9
 Arkansas named missionaries.....11
 Arkansas All Over.....12-13
 Arkansas missionary news.....21

Nation

BSSB eliminates 45 jobs.....14
 Clinton, religious leaders meet.....19
 'Be a shepherd, not a CEO'.....20

World Missions

Patience produces results.....15
 Youth gather in Zimbabwe.....16
 'Theology in context'.....17

Lessons.....22-23

Next issue: Sept. 23

ARKANSAS BAPTIST

USPS 008021

Trenna Henderson.....Editor
 Millie Gill.....Executive Assistant to the Editor
 Paige Cooper.....Operations Manager

Colleen Backus.....Production Manager
 Diane Fowler.....Production Artist (part-time)
 Erwin L. McDonald, Ltd. D.Editor Emeritus

Letters to the editor are invited. Letters should be typed double-space and may not contain more than 350 words. Letters must be signed and marked "for publication." A complete policy statement is available on request. Photos submitted for publication will be returned only when accompanied by stamped, self-addressed envelope. Only black and white photos can be used. Deaths of members of Arkansas churches will be reported in brief form when information is received not later than 14 days after the date of death. Opinions expressed in signed articles are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the editorial position of the Arkansas Baptist. Advertising accepted in writing only. Rates on request.

The Arkansas Baptist (ISSN 1040-6095) is published bi-weekly by the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, Inc., 601-A W. Capitol, Little Rock, AR 72201. Subscription rates are \$8.85 per year (Individual) \$6.56 per year (Every Resident Family Plan), \$7.08 per year (Group Plan). Second Class Postage Paid at Little Rock, AR. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Arkansas Baptist, P.O. 552, Little Rock, AR 72203; telephone 501-376-4791.

Member of the Southern Baptist Press Association Volume 92 • Number 18

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Greg Kirksey, Benton, president; Nelson Wilhelm, Fort Smith; Lane Strother, Mountain Home; Bert Thomas, Searcy; Curt Hodges, Jonesboro; Lucie C. Hagins, Fordyce; Cliff Palmer, Rogers; and Brenda Bruce, Newark.

Proposed '94 CP budget set at \$15.96 million

By Trennis Henderson
Editor, Arkansas Baptist

A 1994 Cooperative Program budget proposal of \$15.96 million was unanimously approved last week by the Arkansas Baptist State Convention Executive Board. The budget proposal, an increase of 5 percent over the 1993 budget of \$15.2 million, will be presented to messengers for consideration during the ABSC annual meeting in November.

ABSC executive director Don Moore reported that current CP receipts are 1.8 percent over budget as well as slightly ahead of last year's receipts to date. Compared to many other state conventions, "we still are in a very, very favored position" financially, Moore told board members.

In other action during the Aug. 31 board meeting, members approved a partnership mission agreement with the European Baptist Convention, affirmed plans for a Foreign Mission Board appointment service to be held in Arkansas in 1997 and endorsed convention priority projects and goals for 1994. All three actions await final action by ABSC messengers in November.

The 1994 budget proposal includes 58.25 percent for total state programs and 41.75 percent for Southern Baptist Convention causes. State program allocations include 29.84 percent for Executive Board programs, 14.55 percent for Ouachita Baptist University, 4.38 percent for Williams Baptist College, 2.7 percent for Children's Homes and Family Ministries, 2.27 percent for church annuity dues, 1.59 percent for the Arkansas Baptist Foundation, 1.36 percent for the *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine*, 0.79 percent for the ministerial scholarship fund and 0.78 percent for convention expenses.

Jimmie Sheffield, associate executive director, said the proposed 5 percent increase is in line with recent income growth which has averaged 4.6 percent over the past five years, including a 6.98 percent jump last year.

Goals for the proposed Arkansas-European partnership include prayer support, church planting, recruiting and sending volunteer personnel, helping strengthen existing ministries, participating in simultaneous revival efforts and inviting voluntary contributions to the European Baptist Convention's Missions Endowment Fund to purchase property for new churches.

Describing the partnership as a "challenging" opportunity for Arkansas Baptists, Moore said volunteers will serve

ARKANSAS BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION

PERFORM MINISTRY

in Jesus' name ... Building God's Family '94



in a number of different countries throughout Europe during the 1994-96 effort. He said one difference from past partnerships is that "all of the churches we are working with are English-speaking churches," making it easier for volunteers to make greater ministry contributions.

The proposed FMB appointment service and trustee meeting is scheduled for April 1997. The state convention previously hosted an appointment service in Little Rock in 1989. Moore has described the 1989 service as a ministry highlight in the state.

1994 convention priority projects and goals will focus on the theme, "Perform Ministry in Jesus' Name." The theme and goals are part of a five-year statewide emphasis on "Building God's Family."

Proposed priority projects for the year include:

■ **Hope for Hurting Humanity:** a simultaneous ministry effort to encourage churches to provide ongoing mission action and service groups to meet community needs.

■ **Developing a Caring Sunday School:**

Hewell elected music department director

Rob Hewell, minister of music at First Baptist Church of New Orleans, has been elected director of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention church music department.

Hewell, 39, was unanimously elected Aug. 31 by the ABSC Executive Board. He will begin his new position later this month, succeeding Lester McCullough who resigned in May to accept a position with the Baptist Sunday School Board.

ABSC executive director Don Moore said Hewell "seems to possess the finest points of personal warmth, professional skills, spiritual depth and proven experience." He added that Hewell is "highly regarded as a choral director, conference leader and team player."

Hewell told board members he is "excited about what I sense God is doing in my life and in Arkansas." Noting that he

emphasizing the role of the adult Sunday School class in performing ministry projects.

■ **Mississippi River Ministry:** a multi-state effort to address specific needs through the coordination of volunteer missions projects.

■ **TTEOTE (To the Ends of the Earth):** coordination of projects related to the three-year Arkansas-European partnership.

■ **Evangelism in Ministry:** The ABSC evangelism department will train local church ministry teams in the areas of prospect discovery, building witnessing relationships and personal witnessing.

■ **Equipping for Ministry:** a project to assist churches in equipping members in lay care-giving skills.

In other action, Executive Board members endorsed a proposal to change the name of the Discipleship Training department to the Discipleship and Family Ministry department in order to be compatible with organizational changes at the Baptist Sunday School Board and to more adequately reflect the scope of the department's current assignments.

Board members also affirmed the establishment of two committees: a 24-member Directions 2000 planning group to recommend objectives, goals and action plans for 1996-2000 Executive Board programs and a nine-member 150th anniversary committee to plan events for the state convention's 1998 anniversary.

made a commitment to ministry at age 14, he added, "To this day, I believe I'm doing what God called me to do when I was 14 years old."

Describing church music as "a tool for ministry; not an end in itself," Hewell said, "One of my commitments would be to help each church and each music leader to find the right resources for their particular situations. I'm committed to helping people who do church music discover how to do the very best with what they have."

Hewell is a graduate of Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, Texas, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Prior to moving to New Orleans in 1991, he was minister of music for churches in Kansas and Nebraska.

Hewell and his wife, Cyndy, are the parents of two daughters: Kaylyn, 11, and Karyn, 6.



Rob Hewell

YOU'LL BE GLAD TO KNOW



By DON MOORE
ABSC Executive Director

I hope "you'll be glad to know." There are tools available to help parents, young people and their churches in the area of sex education and sexual purity. I know, some do not even want the subject mentioned in school or church and the same people may refuse to do anything about it in the home. That leaves our children with no responsible leadership in that explosive area of their lives.

At the time the world has a 24-hour strategy for saturating the minds of our children with the ungodly, no standard, free love approach, many Christian people are willing to throw their children "to the wolves," so to speak.

TRUE LOVE WAITS is a campaign designed to help families communicate to teenagers the spiritual, emotional and physical value of remaining sexually pure. It challenges the family to address within the home the biblical standards of sexual behavior. The church can become the strong reinforcement it needs to be in giving teenagers an opportunity to make a commitment to sexual purity. It lets God's people project God's standards which is "sacred sex" rather than "safe sex."

Parents, pastors, youth leaders, watch for opportunities to get the materials you need to help you with the True Love Waits campaign. We are finding many teenagers ready to make a lifelong commitment to sexual purity. Your encouragement could make the difference.

For more extensive and longer lasting benefits, the new Christian Sex Education series has just been released. They are abstinence based, biblically sound and solid in theology. There are four age-level books along with a Guide for Parents and Church Leaders and one for Celebrating Sex in Your Marriage.

What do you say, parents? Let's get going with True Love Waits for today's teenagers and the Sex Education Series for tomorrow's teenagers. We must not leave it to the government, the schools, the movie and television industry to shape the moral behavior of our children. It is our job.

NELL JOHNSON

Woman's Viewpoint

The church that never fails



What do you remember about the church you attended as a child? I believe my childhood church, First Baptist of Bowling Green, Ky., was one of the most beautiful ever built. I can remember entering the large leaded-glass doors of the giant stone structure. A feeling of awe and silence came over people as they approached the main auditorium. The stained-glass dome radiated as the glorious sunlight filtered through. Framing the balcony were more windows, each telling a story of its own in soft colors. Without question, one felt the Lord's presence.

The names of people who loved and taught me as a child flood my memory with joy. The primary children met in a very large room where there were pictures of Jesus for us to see and Bible stories to cherish.

One special event marked my junior years. That's when I accepted Jesus as Savior and I've never doubted my salvation. My father was killed in an accident and I know he went to heaven. I wanted to go there, too, some day. Children never forget the love of their

church family in such a time of sadness.

In BYPU the girls nervously giggled when giving a part and the boys were even more embarrassed. How patient and kind were those wonderful workers. Mission fields became real places in GAs. Later the BSU president became my life mate. As you can see, my church was a tremendous influence in my life.

One day, however, that great cathedral caught fire. The main structure was a total loss. Did I lose my church? No! It is still there. The pastor is leading his flock. People are witnessing. Teachers and deacons are going about the Lord's work with an even greater zeal.

You see, a church is not a building. It is a group of baptized believers who love and care for a lost world.

Nell Johnson, married to Clarence, is a member of First Church, Blytheville. She has given more than 40 years of continuous service to Sunday School and Church Training, and as Baptist Women's president. She served as Blytheville's Welcome Wagon Hostess for 23 years.

Personal perspectives

"The only hindrance to vast mission expansion is the lack of missionary education. When Baptists know, Baptists give."

—Don Moore, executive director
Arkansas Baptist State Convention

"Pray much, hope much, expect much, labor much."

—Andrew Fuller, 18th century English Baptist pastor

"Jesus modeled a life of taking a risk. We need to follow His example."

—Julia Kerner, executive director
Arkansas Woman's Missionary Union

"Prayer is not an addendum to missions. Prayer is the basic strategy for missions."

—Jimmy Barrentine, director
ABSC missions department

Why take the risk?

When it comes to meeting the needs of others, perhaps the easiest thing to do is nothing—just kick back in your easy chair and watch the world go by. On the local church level, it's a matter of simply warming the same pew week after week, never really getting involved in the life and ministry of the church. Yes, that's definitely the easiest way to go, but it certainly isn't the most rewarding.

This year's Season of Prayer for State Missions challenges Arkansas Baptists to "Take the Risk" to become involved in the life-changing ministries supported by the annual Dixie Jackson Offering for State Missions. In order to fully respond through study, prayer, financial support and personal involvement, it is appropriate to address the questions: Why take the risk? Why bother to make one more commitment to one more worthy cause when there already are so many priorities competing for our time, money and attention?

The answer is found in the variety of ministries which are performed as a direct result of the prayer support and financial gifts generated during the annual season of prayer and state missions offering. New church starts, pastoral assistance for language congregations, ministry to migrant workers, chaplaincy ministries throughout the state and continuing theological education opportunities for ministers and laypeople are among the dozens of ministry projects provided in the name of Arkansas Baptists.

The annual season of prayer focuses

STRAIGHT FROM THE EDITOR

By TRENNIS HENDERSON



attention on these and other needs as congregations participate in missions studies and worship services which highlight state missions. Affirming the importance of the annual emphasis, ABSC executive director Don Moore remarked, "The only hindrance to vast mission expansion is the lack of missionary education. When Baptists know, Baptists give. The missions study and prayer emphasis related to the Dixie Jackson Offering for State Missions could be of as much value as the dollars."

Of course, the dollars also are essential. This year's state missions offering goal of \$650,000 represents 46 percent of the state missions department's 1993 budget. Generous financial support on the part of Arkansas Baptists is vital to ensure that mission efforts across the state can both continue and expand.

Unfortunately, state missions does not always receive the attention and support

it needs and deserves. Southern Baptists have a tendency to glamorize foreign missions and even home missions, sometimes at the expense of adequate state missions support. As essential as home and foreign mission efforts are in the spread of the gospel, state missions plays an equally significant role.

During Lottie Moon and Annie Armstrong emphases, it is easy to attend a missions study, voice a prayer, share an offering and feel that one's responsibility for home and foreign missions is complete. On the state level, however, there also are widespread opportunities for personal ministry involvement. Perhaps that's where the real risk comes in.

In addition to studying, praying and giving, individuals can help start a new church, teach literacy or English-as-a-Second-Language classes, serve as volunteer jail chaplains, participate in volunteer mission trips or establish a local food or clothing closet ministry. The beauty—and the risk—of state missions is that it touches the lives of our friends, our neighbors, our co-workers and thousands of other people throughout Arkansas who need to experience the love of Christ in a personal, life-changing way.

Andrew Fuller, a contemporary of missions pioneer William Carey, challenged Baptists in his day to "pray much, hope much, expect much, labor much." That remains a worthy challenge for Arkansas Baptists to hear and heed in 1993. Take the risk.

Confronting the dark side of Jerusalem

By John Anthony

Southern Baptist representative to Jerusalem

It is easy to understand why people have a deep spiritual experience when they visit this beautiful holy city of Jerusalem. It is here where Jesus visited, taught, was crucified, died and rose again. It is also today a major center of religion for three faiths: Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

My wife, Connie, and I have served in Israel since 1973. All of our time in Israel has been in this great city of Jerusalem. We lived on the Arab side of the city for our first few years here. Since then, we have lived and ministered on the Jewish side.

Many believers here feel Jerusalem is a city which easily chews up people and spits them out. However, in a city of about 500,000 people, there are relatively few believers in Jesus. Only about 15,000 Christians from all types of backgrounds

live here. There are so few lights in this dark city.

It was in 1974 that we first encountered the heavy spiritual warfare that exists here. It was during that first year that we experienced the continued attacks from the evil spirit world upon our lives. We learned quickly to pray for our home, our children and to "clean out" our dwelling from the ever-present oppression of the enemy.

Recently, I asked our Baptist congregation in Jerusalem to help me determine what spirits were present in the city. This was the reply: the spirit of anti-Christ, Islam, rebellion, Rabbinic Judaism, tradition, witchcraft, pride, hardness of the heart, fear, lying, murder, confusion, division, inferiority, lust, stubbornness and deceitfulness. We have prayed and continue to seek prayer against these spirits.

One of the most difficult spirits we

encounter has been the spirit of hatred and intolerance. This has led Jewish extremists to break out windows, threaten us and burn our church building down in October 1982.

For the past 68 years, Baptists have continued to stand, pray, worship and shine the name of Jesus as a light in this city, on the corner of Narkis and Hagdrem streets in West Jerusalem. Please pray for us as we seek to finish our rebuilding.

Today we worship and praise the Lord at the Narkis Street Baptist congregation, and what a testimony it is to see. People from different languages, cultures, customs and backgrounds praise Jesus freely.

Do I ever tire of the fast-paced, spiritually draining city of Jerusalem? Yes, and when I do, I just drive out of it. At a distance of a few kilometers, the heaviness of Jerusalem begins to lift. After a break, I turn around and head back in. Why not? This is Jerusalem!

Offering allocations meet diverse needs

By Trennis Henderson

Editor, Arkansas Baptist

State missions is more than a week-long emphasis held each September; it is a year-round ministry effort that meets needs and spreads the gospel throughout the state of Arkansas.

The 1993 State Missions Season of Prayer, set for Sept. 19-26, focuses on the theme, "Take the Risk." This year's goal of \$650,000 for the Dixie Jackson Offering for State Missions will be used to fund chaplaincy ministries, church extension efforts, church and community ministries, language missions, leadership development projects, missions ministries and continuing theological education.

Specific examples of how Arkansas Baptists' state missions funds are used can be found throughout the year in the pages of the *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine*. A few recent examples illustrate the importance of Arkansas Baptists "taking the risk" to support state mission efforts through prayer, study, offerings and personal involvement.

■ **Chaplaincy ministries:** \$162,500 of this year's State Missions Offering (25 percent) will be used to fund the work of five full-time chaplains as well as support the work of part-time and volunteer chaplains in the state.

May is Chaplaincy Ministries Month in the Southern Baptist Convention. In an April 22 ABN article about chaplaincy, Arkansas Baptist State Convention chaplaincy director Carter Tucker noted, "The world, overall, does not go to church, so



there is a pressing need to take the church to the world." He said chaplaincy is one way to bridge that gap.

Roy Remount, an Arkansas Baptist chaplain at the Hot Springs Rehabilitation Center, described his ministry there as "very rewarding." Noting that many of the people he works with "have never been to church," he added, "A lot of life-changing decisions are made here."

W.W. Dishongh, a part-time chaplain at the Pulaski County jail, leads worship services and Bible studies there. He reported that an average of three inmates per week accept Jesus Christ as Savior—a direct result of Arkansas Baptists' financial and prayer support of state missions.

■ **Church extension:** Another 25 percent of this year's offering (\$162,500) will be used to fund a variety of church extension projects such as new church starts among English-speaking people, pastoral assistance to new and struggling churches and limited funds to purchase new church sites.

A recent example of a successful new church start is the establishment and growth of Crow Mountain Church in Russellville. The Aug. 12 ABN noted that

the congregation, established in 1989, recently dedicated a new church complex. Jack Ramsey, ABCS director of church extension, said the cooperative effort included the support of Second Church of Russellville, Arkansas River Valley Association, the state convention and the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

This year's prayer guide for the Season of Prayer notes that 19 new congregations were started in 1992 through Arkansas Baptist church extension efforts. The prayer guide encourages Arkansas Baptists to "pray that at least 15 churches will sponsor new churches or missions in their associations."

■ **Church/community ministries:** A total of \$91,000 of Dixie Jackson Offering receipts (14 percent) will help fund migrant ministries, the Mississippi River Ministry, church growth consultations and a variety of Christian ministry projects across the state.

Arkansas Baptists support the nation's only two migrant mission centers, located in Hope and Hermitage. The Jan. 28 issue of the *Newsmagazine* highlighted the 20th anniversary of the Hope Migrant Mission Center.

The mission center, which operates from March through November, currently ministers to approximately 6,000 people each year. "The need for this ministry is as great or greater than ever before because we have an ever-increasing number of migrant farm workers coming up through Hope," explained Tommy Goode, ABCS

Acteens view missions through the eyes of a clown

By Diana Lewis

ABCS Missions department

"I entered Dixonville through the eyes of a clown," recalled Amy Foster, an Acteen Activator volunteer from Illinois. "At first I saw dirt and poor housing, like other people do. As I visited I met two adorable girls whose smiles shined out from behind their dirty faces. Before I was out of the van they were running to the van giggling, ready to meet the clown. They loved clowns and talked about clowns for the rest of the week. If you just look through the eyes of a clown, you would see they need love."

Foster, nine other Acteens and their two leaders recently spent a week involved in Mississippi River Ministry projects at Dixonville Baptist Center and at the

Alexander Youth Services Center.

At Dixonville, the Acteens prepared lunches and led in Bible songs and stories during a summer feeding project for needy children. They also helped take the children on an outing to Calvary Church in Little Rock where they skated and made crafts with the children. The Acteens sorted school shoes and underwear for needy kids. They also played games and sang songs with the Dixonville children while a dental clinic, led by Jim Hankins of Arkadelphia, was open.

At the Alexander Youth Services Center, the Acteens provided a chapel service for juvenile offenders and distributed Bibles and letters of encouragement to the teens.

Some of the Acteens also were involved in a summer feeding project for needy children in Malvern. One morning, a little

girl told one of the Acteens, "I'm really hungry because I haven't had anything to eat since yesterday's lunch that you gave me."

The summer feeding project at Malvern and Dixonville is a ministry of Central Baptist Association. Home missionary Diana Lewis supervised the team.

The Mississippi River Ministry, partially funded by the Dixie Jackson Offering for State Missions, is a consortium of seven state conventions and the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, Brotherhood Commission and Woman's Missionary Union. Its purpose is to commit Southern Baptists and their resources to help provide ministry, evangelize, strengthen existing churches and start new churches in the seven-state region of the lower Mississippi River.

supervisor for the ministry.

Mission center director Paul Roatan, who coordinates Bible distribution, worship services, clothing distribution and other ministries, would like to increase the hours the center is open in order to aid more migrants. Goode noted that the ministry efforts there provide "a mission link-up with us for developing ongoing ministries to migrants in the state."

■ **Language missions:** This year's offering goal includes an allocation of \$84,500 (13 percent) for language mission efforts in the state, including starting new language and deaf congregations. In a July 29 ABN article about Language Missions Day, ABCS missions department director Jimmy Barrentine said there currently are 88 ethnic works in the state, including nine started in the past year.

"We have a biblical mandate to spread the understanding of God's Word," Barrentine emphasized. "Our intent is that the gospel be available to every cultural, geographic and language group in the state."

■ **Leadership development:** \$65,000 of the offering goal (10 percent) is designated for missionary leadership training, long-term disaster response, the Arkansas-Iowa partnership effort and emergency assistance to ministers with critical financial needs.

The Iowa partnership and disaster relief efforts merged this summer following the devastating flood that hit Iowa and other areas of the Midwest. ABN articles in July and August recounted the efforts of Arkansas Baptist volunteers involved in disaster relief efforts in Iowa.

While Brotherhood disaster relief teams handle initial response efforts such as food distribution and related needs, Barrentine said missions department follow-up

includes long-term behind-the-scenes assistance after the initial crisis has passed.

■ **Missions ministries:** An allocation of \$52,000 (8 percent) provides financial support for resort ministries, interfaith witness conferences, training for creative ministries and Home Mission Board summer missionaries serving in Arkansas.

The Aug. 26 Newsmagazine noted that 25 HMB student missionaries served throughout the state this summer under the direction of missions department associate Pete Petty. Maria Scott, who directs Ozark Mountain Ministries in Eureka Springs, said the students who worked with her "were a wonderfully balanced and talented team," adding that they "really believed God had called them to this ministry."

■ **Continuing education:** 3 percent of the offering goal (\$19,500) is earmarked for Boyce Bible School, seminary studies and other continuing theological education efforts in the state.

Lehman Webb, director of the ABCS' continuing theological education program, said the program is designed "to offer theological training regardless of where a person is academically." The Aug. 12 ABN reported that the newest addition to continuing theological education in the state will be master's level classes offered in Little Rock this fall by Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Assessing the overall impact of the 1993 missions offering allocations, Barrentine pointed out, "We seek to be faithful to the fact that real mission action rides on the back of the Dixie Jackson Offering." He added that Arkansas Baptists' response to the annual offering "has allowed us growth because the churches have been so wonderfully generous."

Prayer focus is vital to missions

"Jesus modeled a life of taking a risk," pointed out Julia Kemer, executive director of Arkansas Woman's Missionary Union. "We need to follow His example. We need to be willing to take a risk for Christ and for the people He desires to have as His children and to meet their needs."

This year's Season of Prayer for State Missions, set for Sept. 19-26, calls on Arkansas Baptists to "Take the Risk" to become personally involved in state missions. The annual emphasis also includes promotion of the Dixie Jackson Offering for State Missions. This year's goal of \$650,000 encompasses 46 percent of the missions department's 1993 budget.

The prayer emphasis and offering are "the lifeblood of the work of the missions department," Barrentine said. "The needs are too great to be careless in our prayers and in our missions and ministry support."

Emphasizing the importance of the season of prayer, Barrentine added, "Prayer is not an addendum to missions. Prayer is the basic strategy for missions. When the Bible calls on us to agree on matters of prayer, that is the basis of the week's importance."

ABC executive director Don Moore pointed out that "almost half of all missions efforts we do in Arkansas could not be done without the Dixie Jackson Offering." In addition to the financial gifts, he affirmed the "significant educational and spiritual value of the season of the prayer."

Kemer emphasized that prayer "is a key to what is happening in our state," adding that the season of prayer also "is a reminder that prayer should take place throughout the year for state missions."

"There are needs here at home just as there are everywhere else," Kemer continued. "State missions is a way to broaden the base for other missions work."

As Arkansas Baptists prepare to highlight the annual offering and season of prayer, Moore concluded, "It is my hope that in keeping with the theme, 'Take the Risk,' that thousands of our people will exercise their faith and do more than they have ever done before."



Acteen Activators from Illinois minister to needy children in Dixonville.

Mass evangelism workshop stresses revival preparation

By Millie Gill
Arkansas Baptist

"Four to six weeks of intense preparation are needed for a successful revival," Richard Harris told participants in a recent mass evangelism workshop at Park Hill Church in North Little Rock. The conference, held Aug. 19-20, was sponsored by the Arkansas Baptist State Convention evangelism department.

Harris, director of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's mass evangelism department, said eight to 10 weeks of revival preparation is even better. "The church that is prepared fully for revival is already in revival," he noted. "These churches will have already experienced the blessings of the Lord as found in II Chronicles 7:14."

Harris encouraged involving at least 40 percent of Sunday School participants in revival preparation. He suggested an eight-day revival schedule that would feature such emphases as Music Night, Sunday School Rally Night, Teen Rally, Kids Rally, Bring-a-Friend Night, God and Country Night and Old-Fashioned Night as well as a victory celebration and testimonial service.

Harris said revival preparation committees should include: contact, counselor/follow-up, music, publicity/media, spiritual preparation, visitation, Sunday School and a revival steering committee made up of the pastor, other church staff and all committee leaders.

Harris added that training and equipping counselors "is a vital ingredient to a successful revival," noting that the pastor "should help enlist Spirit-filled people respected by others and committed to the Lord Jesus Christ." He said the use of trained counselors at the close of each service "will enable the pastor to be available and keep an even flow as people come."

"We will reap more from revival when we sow more," Harris emphasized. "With an eight-day revival and the involvement of more church members inviting the unsaved to pack the pews, we will see people brought to Christ. Southern Baptists, for too long, have shown a lessened interest in revivals, resulting in a decline in baptisms."

Wendell Estep, pastor of First Church in Columbia, S.C., noted that a return to successful evangelistic services will require pastors and evangelists to preach with a vision, with a plan, with authority, with

freedom, with seriousness (but lively), with a zeal and warmth, with urgency, with persuasiveness, with compassion, with power and with enthusiasm.

"As proclaimers of God's Word, our vision must be the evangelization of the lost and the edification of the saved," Estep declared. "God wants His messengers to proclaim the Word with unwavering commitment, declaring with urgency that time is limited."

"As His messengers, we must look directly at our cities and see they are lost," Estep continued. "When we see the lossiness of our cities we will become so troubled by the Holy Spirit that it will motivate us to enlist our members to saturate the cities with the gospel."

"However, the gospel must not be confined to the four walls of our churches, but must be taken to the marketplace," Estep added. "We must penetrate the business places, the educational places and the social and political world. No longer can we just open the doors of the church and say come; we must take the gospel to the people."

"Our vision must be the evangelization of the lost and the edification of the saved."

— Wendell Estep
Pastor, First Church, Columbia, S.C.

Sharing information about evangelistic invitations, Wayne Bristow cautioned, "Because of a wrong concept, God's messengers and people feel that when an invitation is extended something must happen. However, God has not called us to get results, but to preach the gospel and then to let the Holy Spirit do the leading." Bristow, who recently established his own evangelistic association, resigned Sept. 1 as director of evangelism for the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma.

"When an invitation is extended, the messenger must remember that it should be given in the power of the Holy Spirit," Bristow continued. He said an invitation "must be given clearly; it must tell the people what to do, how to do it, what will happen when their decision is made and it must tell them why they need to make a decision to follow Christ."

"We must remember in our own strength we can do nothing, but with Christ we can become effective tools to bring the lost to Christ," Bristow said. "When we make ourselves available to God, live in a faith relationship with Him and let Him work through us then we will bring forth much fruit. That is the most important lesson we can learn in the field of evangelism."

"We only do good mass evangelism when we do good personal evangelism," emphasized Clarence Shell, director of the ABSC evangelism department. "In the 20th century of today we need to rebuild some altars of commitment. When we have done this then we will see the power of God move in a dynamic way and revival will come."

"Now, as never before, people desperately need to share the good news of hope," Shell added. "God stands ready to renew His messengers with a spiritual vigor because He wants to reclaim lives that are lost to service. He wants to redeem the lost and He wants to retain new Christians in service to Him."

Toby Frost, associate director of the HMB's mass evangelism department, shared ideas concerning innovative evangelistic events such as special emphasis days, musical events, meals, athletic events, media events, drama, felt-need seminars and street and open-air events.

He said seven keys to effective preparation are intercession for laborers to win the lost to Christ; involvement of Christians in the preparation; information shared with the church and community about the event; inviting the lost to attend; imparting Jesus to all present; the ingathering of new converts; and the incorporation of new converts and prospects into the church.

"Special evangelism is to meet the needs of Christ for today's world," Frost declared. "We must open the doors of our churches and launch out into the world, changing lives so they will listen, believe and come to God for cleansing."

Following the two-day conference, Joe Berry, pastor of Holly Springs Church in Little Rock, noted that he needed time to digest all that he had heard. "After I have digested the information, I plan to institute the equipping of and use of counselors and also to do more in-depth revival preparation," he added.

Charlie Brown, pastor of First Church in Fordyce, said, "I certainly want to apply what I learned from Frost and that is to analyze the church calendar and try to organize my people to concentrate on just a few special evangelistic events." He said he also will seek to involve more church members in future revival planning and preparation.

True worship involves encounter with God

By Millie Gill

Arkansas Baptist

ABN photo / Millie Gill

"We are gathered today under the metaphor of 'journeying,'" noted Allen Walworth as worship leaders from Arkansas Baptist churches met at Park Hill Church of North Little Rock for an Authentic Worship Workshop.

The Aug. 19 workshop, jointly sponsored by the Church Music and Church Leadership Support departments of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, featured Walworth, pastor of First Baptist Church of Huntsville, Ala., and Terry York, field services division manager of the Baptist Sunday School Board's church music department, as conference leaders.

"Our journey is for the One who is worthy of worship and praise," Walworth emphasized. "As church staff members, some of you have come here exhausted and flustered from unending and unfair expectations, but the purpose of this workshop is to equip you for an authentic encounter on a journey with God so that you might return to your church field and help others have a special encounter with God.

"Authentic worship is not tricks or techniques," Walworth continued. "It is an actual encounter with the majesty of God through the leadership of the Holy Spirit. It is important to be slow conscious in a service, but flexibility is needed, permitting God to move. Oftentimes you can be creative by introducing new worship ideas that will involve the entire congregation.

"We must realize that a worship service is for God, not first for us," Walworth pointed out. "It is our response back to God for what He first gave us." He said authentic worship services "needs to have celebration, but yet have a time of authenticity to meet all the needs of life, bringing the total person to God."

York said musical worship styles include liturgical, revivalistic, blended, celebrative, praise and worship, and seeker-oriented.

"Your music is actually divided into two categories for these services," he explained. "It is either traditional or contemporary."

Describing the various worship styles, York noted:

- Liturgical services "will have a prescribed sequence of events with form as important as the elements themselves and will have an acknowledgment of God, featuring confession, acceptance and a recounting of what has been given by God."

- Revivalistic or free services "will be a



Allen Walworth uses a stone to illustrate the importance of encountering Jesus Christ by building the worship service as an altar to Him.

vehicle for the message, but not a part of the message."

- Blended services "will have features from both the liturgical and revivalistic services."

- Celebrative services "will have thanksgiving, celebration, adoration, praise, confession, worship, a sermon and an invitation to obedience. They will also have a full orchestra."

- Praise and worship services also may feature "a full orchestra and a choir functioning to maintain a celebrative form of worship. The focus of this service will move to God instead of about God."

- Seeker-oriented services generally have "freedom as their form, almost exclusively featuring praise choruses by a small ensemble that is accompanied by an electronic keyboard. There will be no invitation."

"Growing the kingdom is what we are about," York emphasized. "Therefore we will be amazed at how people will have a genuine encounter with God and then share the good news of their encounter if authentic worship services are humble, open and creative."

Using Hebrews 13 for a biblical basis Walworth and York led the 102 workshop participants in a worship experience.

"Jacob running from Esau exemplifies a staffer who has been fired from a church and is pulling a U-haul with nowhere to

go," Walworth said. "Yet as God blessed Jacob, so He will bless worship leaders if they too will build an altar and have a meeting with God as did Jacob.

"A meeting with God is the thing most needed today," Walworth acknowledged. "The stones must be removed that are being carried around and the forgiveness of God claimed. Jesus Christ, the hewn cornerstone, will polish those rough edges when lives are placed in Him. When worship leaders have taken this journey then they will be able to lead the congregation on a journey of authentic worship."

"The workshop was a great reminder of the importance of worship," said Verne Wickliffe, pastor of First Church of Maivern. "It also was a reminder that worship is not in the order of service but in creating an environment in which an encounter with God may occur."

"The Lord is doing a fresh work among His people," declared Ric Hunt, minister of music and worship for Central Church of Jonesboro. "That fact was underscored again at the recent Authentic Worship Workshop. He is calling His people to a deeper, more intimate fellowship with Himself.

"It's a move of God that supersedes issues of personal taste and worship tradition," Hunt continued. "And those who respond are finding new joy, power and fruitfulness in their walk with Christ."

Reclaiming the streets

Marchers seek solutions to gang violence, other problems facing youth

By Trennis Henderson

Editor, Arkansas Baptist

An Aug. 21 "March to Save the Neighborhood" attracted fewer than 100 participants for the 13-block march to the state capitol; organizers had hoped for up to 2,000 marchers.

"It's sad the people aren't here today. It what's wrong with our society. It's where our priorities are," noted event organizer Aaron Wheeler, pastor of New Jerusalem Church in Arkadelphia. Despite the low turnout, he added, "Let us march up the street with great pride and great dignity.... We are here and God knows it and that's a blessing."

The march did attract a number of government officials, including Gov. Jim Guy Tucker, Lt. Gov. Mike Huckabee and Attorney General Winston Bryant. Speakers at a rally on the capitol steps insisted the event was a positive step in addressing concerns related to gang violence, drugs and other problems facing youth across the state.

"Today we make an investment in the future of Arkansas," Bryant remarked. "It may be a small beginning in some respects but it will be a giant step forward, let me assure you."

Noting that "the violence that surrounds gang activities is destroying lives," Bryant said there were 96 homicides in Pulaski

County last year, including 38 deaths among teenagers and young adults.

Announcing plans to establish a gang task force to help address the issue, Bryant added, "By starting today, we can begin to turn the tide on gang violence that is occurring in this state."

Huckabee told the crowd, "We're not really going to change what is happening in the streets by just passing new laws. It's got to be fixed within the families.

"Hopefully, rather than clench our fists at each other, we will open our hands to one another and reclaim our streets, our homes, our families and our future," the lieutenant governor concluded.

Wheeler, who directs MEN (Males Emerging Now), a mentoring program for young black males, told marchers, "It's a sad time in America when our children go to school in fear of whether or not they will come home safely. It's time for a change in America.... We're going to walk for the children till God calls us home."

Following the march and rally, Wheeler noted, "We lit the fire for people to do something. The march told us there is a lot of work for Christians to do in the world. There is a need for ministry dealing with crime, violence, drugs and gangs. I would hope we as Southern Baptists would take a strong look at that ministry."

Maurice Hitt, director of missions for Red River Association, took part in the march and led the benediction at the rally. Voicing concern for the issues addressed, he pointed out, "We've got to restore community and family and deal with strengthening the home."

Affirming the importance of personal Christian involvement, he added, "The church has got to deal with the relevant issues of our day, not just as a social gospel but as a credible witness to our community."



Arkansas Gov. Jim Guy Tucker (left) joins marchers in downtown Little Rock calling for responses to gang violence, drugs, crime and other growing problems.

Home Mission Board produces gang ministry manual

RIDGECREST, NC (BP)—A manual on ministries to gang members is available to churches and associations from the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

The result of 17 months of research by a Southern Baptist task force, the manual was introduced this summer during Home Missions Week at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center.

Christians considering a ministry to gang members should network with other gang intervention organizations rather than attempt the ministry alone, said Lora Smith, director of weekday ministries for Victory Baptist Chapel in Cleveland, Ohio.

Smith, a member of the task force that compiled the manual, said only 10 percent of people who identify with a gang are "hard-core." Thirty percent are in training to be hard-core members but 60 percent are "wannabe," Smith said.

While intervention ministries may have the greatest impact on "wannabe," Smith said they can be among the most dangerous because they have something to prove.

Intervention should take place before and first grade, Smith said. "The earlier the better," she said. "If you wait until they're 16, they're already hard-core."

All the problems leading to gang involvement require a long-term commitment from Christians who minister to gang members, Smith emphasized.

The HMB manual includes warning signs of gang involvement and ministry models. The manual, which costs \$19.95, can be ordered by calling HMB customer services, 1-800-634-2462 and requesting item 632-35P.

Three couples appointed FMB missionaries

Three couples with Arkansas ties were among 45 people recently named missionaries by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

Missionary associates J. Michael and Kathy Kemper will live in Romania, where he will serve as pastor of an English-language church.

Born in Pine Bluff, Kemper is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kemper of Little Rock. He is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University, and has been pastor of churches in Arkansas. Since 1986, he has been pastor of Green River Baptist Church in Waynesboro, Tenn.

Mrs. Kemper, the former Kathy Woody, is a native of Tennessee. She has worked for Southwestern Bell Telephone Co. in Arkadelphia.

The Kempers have two grown children and a grandson.

Daniel and Gretchen Sowell will live in Zambia, where he will teach in a seminary.

Sowells is the son of Mrs. and Mrs. Robert C. Sowell Jr. of Hot Springs. His father is retired and formerly the associate pastor of First Church of Hot Springs.

Sowell is a graduate of Houston Baptist University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has been pastor of Pinnacle Church and a chaplain at Baptist Medical Center, both in Little Rock.

Mrs. Sowell, the former Gretchen



Michael and Kathy
Kemper

Daniel and Gretchen
Sowell

Michael and Kathy
Weaver

DeYoung, is the daughter of Dan and Jackie DeYoung of Hot Springs. She is a graduate of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences in Little Rock. She also has been a childbirth educator at Baptist Medical Center in Little Rock.

The Sowells have two children, Katie and Jenna.

Michael and Kathy Weaver will live in Peru, where he will start and develop churches.

A Missouri native, Weaver is a graduate of Arkansas State University in Jonesboro and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Formerly employed by the Arkansas

Baptist State Convention, he was the Baptist Student Union director at the University of Arkansas' branches in Monticello and Little Rock.

Born in Heber Springs, Mrs. Weaver, the former Kathy Chandler, is the daughter of the late Harold Chandler and the late Ava and Robbie Lee Cardin. While growing up she also lived in Fordyce, Searcy, Clinton and Heber Springs. She attended Arkansas State University in Jonesboro and the University of Arkansas at Monticello.

The Weavers have two grown children. All three families will go to Rockville, Va., in November for a seven-week orientation before leaving for the field.

Hosea focus of OBU Pastors' Conference

ARKADELPHIA—The book of Hosea will be the focus of Ouachita Baptist University's annual Pastors' Conference Oct. 7-8. The conference is sponsored each year by the university's Center for Christian Ministries (CCM), directed by Bill Steeger, chairman of OBU's division of religion and philosophy.

Program personalities for the Pastors' Conference include Steeger; Terry Carter, assistant professor of religion at OBU; and J. Scott Duvall, assistant professor of New Testament.

Participants will be exposed to interpretations of Hosea through Derek Kidner's book *The Message of Hosea* and further study of the text through resources in OBU's new religion computer laboratory.

The registration fee is \$35. More information is available from Steeger at OBU P.O. Box 3787, Arkadelphia, AR 71998-0001; phone 245-5599.

Tri-state Sunday School event in Texarkana will be a first

The historic ARK-LA-TEX Sunday School Convention will be held Sept. 25 at First Baptist Church, Texarkana, Texas.

"This is the first time that Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas have ever teamed together for an event like this," explained Pat Rattton, an associate in the Arkansas Baptist State Convention Sunday School department.

The ARK-LA-TEX convention is a Cooperative Program ministry of the Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas Sunday School departments, area associations, including Southwest Association in Arkansas, and the Baptist Sunday School Board. Freddie Pike, director of the Arkansas Sunday School department, developed the idea for a combined effort after the Arkansas Sunday School Convention was scheduled for Texarkana, which is geographically convenient for the three states.

"The conference leaders are all from the Southern Baptist Convention

leadership and the Baptist Sunday School Board," Rattton said. "We hope to have more than a thousand people participate."

Ken Hemphill, director of the Southern Baptist Center for Church Growth, will speak in the opening session at 9 a.m. His topic will be "Growing an Evangelistic Sunday School." Hemphill, former pastor of First Church, Norfolk, Va., has written several books on church growth.

The 10 a.m. conference session will focus on job-related topics for pastors, staff members, general officers, department and division directors, and teachers. The two afternoon session times are allotted for 66 special-interest conferences. Conferences also will be offered for workers with homebound adults, mentally handicapped and cradle roll.

For additional information, contact the ABSC Sunday School department at 376-4791, ext. 5128. Child care will not be provided for the convention.

Arkansas All Over

MILLIE GILL

Staff changes

Richard Mencer has joined the staff of Second Church in Arkadelphia as minister to youth. He and his wife, Lisa, moved to Arkadelphia from Jonesboro, Ga., where he was a staff member at First Baptist Church there. Mencer previously served other churches in Georgia and Louisiana. He is a graduate of Clayton State College, Morrow, Ga., and Northeast Louisiana University, Monro, La.

L. H. McCollough began serving Sept. 5 as pastor of Highway Church in North Little Rock, coming there from Bastrop, La., where he has served for 20 years as pastor of First Baptist Church. He previously was at Mount Olive Church, Crossett. A trustee of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, McCollough is a graduate of Mississippi College in Clinton, Miss., and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Leah, are parents of five adult children.

Richard Young is serving as pastor of First Church of Huttig. He is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Young and his wife, Amy, moved to Huttig from Fort Worth, Texas, where they were members of Wedgwood Baptist Church.

Wanda Pearce resigned Aug. 31 as minister of education at First Church of Malvern.

Fran Bailey has resigned as minister of music for youth and children at First Church of Malvern, following more than five years of service.

Danny Taylor began serving Aug. 22 as pastor of First Church of Tuckerman. He previously was at Center Hill Church in Paragould. Taylor is a junior at Williams Baptist College. He and his wife, Teresa, have two children, Jennifer and Jordan.

Leonard Ezell has joined the staff of First Church in Corning as part-time minister of youth and children. He and his wife, Charlee, are students at Williams Baptist College.

Ken Huff is the new pastor of Highway 96 Church, Lavaca, coming there from California. Huff previously has served other churches in Clear Creek and Concord associations.

Carl Lorey has joined the staff of East Side Church in Fort Smith as minister of music and media. He previously served for eight years as minister of music at Clearview Church in Broken Arrow, Okla. Lorey and his wife, Kerry, have four children, Kimberly, Tiffany, Luke and Brice.

Gary S. Urlich has resigned as pastor of Calvary Church in Searcy to serve as pastor of First Baptist Church of Princeton, Mo. A Missouri native, Urlich attended Northwest Missouri State University, Maryville. He is a graduate of the University of Missouri, Columbia, and Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Urlich and his wife, Connie, have three adult children.

Wes George has accepted the call to serve as pastor of Maple Grove Church, Trumann. He previously was pastor of Central Church of Dyess.

Stephen Edds has resigned as associate pastor of First Church in Sheridan to enter the full-time music ministry. He and his wife, Denise, were honored with a churchwide reception Aug. 29.

Billy Carpenter will begin serving Sept. 12 as pastor of First Southern Church in Bearden. Carpenter and his wife, Carol, and their children, Jeff and Anna, will move to Bearden from Russellville.

Obituaries

Billie English Adams of North Little Rock died Aug. 17 at age 64 following a lengthy illness. Her funeral services were held Aug. 20 at Baring Cross Church, North Little Rock, where she was a member and had served as director of Woman's Missionary Union. She also had been WMU director of North Pulaski Association. A retired public school teacher, she was a member of Delta Kappa Gamma Teachers Sorority. Survivors are her husband, Grover Adams of North Little Rock; two sons, Randy Adams and Paul Adams, both of Fort Lauderdale, Fla.; two daughters, Catherine Adams of Little Rock and Susan Adams of New Orleans, La.; a brother; a sister; and one grandson.

Warren George Lieblong Sr. of Royal died Aug. 27 at age 71. A retired Southern Baptist minister, he was a member of Piney Church near Hot Springs and had served churches in Jacksonville and Lonsdale. In addition, he was a former public school educator and administrator. Survivors are



First Church of Horseshoe Bend held a noteburning service Aug. 15 to celebrate being debt free for the first time in its history. The celebration included a morning worship service, a potluck meal, a musical concert by Clay and Paula Doss and testimonies by church treasurer Sue Haynes and deacon chairman James Tanner. Former pastor David Johnson spoke on church accomplishments and pastor Kevin Stewart shared God's vision for the church. Those participating in the noteburning were (left to right) Stewart, minister of music Clay Doss, Sunday School director Jimmy Boothe, Haynes, finance committee chairman Forrest Moulden, trustee chairman Charlie Newman and Tanner.

his wife, Mary Lou Lieblong of Royal; two sons, Warren George Lieblong Jr. of Royal and Daniel Austin Lieblong of Bryant; a daughter, Marcia Lieblong Albaugh of Hot Springs; two brothers; two sisters; and seven grandchildren.

Nettie V. Bittle of Heber Springs died Aug. 27 at age 80. She was a member of First Church in Heber Springs. Survivors include a son, Shelby Bittle, pastor of Brownsville Church; a daughter, Ethel Gower of Kansas City, Mo.; a brother; two sisters; three grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

People

Norma Toothaker was recognized Aug. 22 by First Church of Van Buren for five years of service as preschool director.

Jessica Sallis, a student at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, was recognized Aug. 15 by Oak Cliff Church in Fort Smith for her services as church pianist. Sallis was presented with a floral bouquet, a love offering and a study Bible.

Mark Brooks recently observed his 10th anniversary of service as pastor of Elmdale Church in Springdale. Brooks, a trustee of the Baptist Sunday School Board, also has served as a member of the Southern Baptist Convention nominating committee and the Arkansas Baptist State Convention Executive Board. Brooks has been second vice president of the ABSC, president of the ABSC Pastors' Conference, and president of ACTS Affiliates of Arkansas. He and his wife, Valerie, have two children, Jonathan and Amy.

Church news

Hazen First Church held an evangelistic crusade Aug. 15-18 with William Blackburn of Fort Smith as evangelistic. Krisie Holmes, music and youth director for the church, led crusade music. Pastor David McCord reported 39 professions of faith and 10 rededications.

Cross Road Church of Little Rock Acteen Activators served in the inner city of Houston earlier this summer. They served with Mildred McWhorter the day she retired as a Southern Baptist home missionary, following 35 years of service. Prior to the trip the Acteens were required by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board to complete 50 hours of training, according to Judy Wood, director.



First Church of Ashdown broke ground June 27 for a 20,000-square-foot educational facility. The first floor will include a fellowship hall, kitchen, nursery and classes for senior adults. The second floor will provide classes for children, youth and adults. Virgie McClendon is building committee chairman. Also participating in the groundbreaking were deacon chairman Terry Sneed, contractor representative Mike Hickerson and pastor Butch Riddle.

Fort Smith First Church recently presented Arkansas Baptist Children's Homes and Family Ministries with its 1993 Vacation Bible School missions offering. The \$1,372 will be used to purchase a refrigerator for the Tommy Jones Emergency Receiving Home in West Fork. Bob Lever, church administrator, and Larry Plummer, minister to children, made the presentation to children's home officials.

Immanuel Church of Little Rock choir recently returned from a mission tour to Whitehall, N.Y. where the 39 high school students and seven adults under the direction of associate pastor Lynn Madden worked with the Grace Church and its pastor, Larry Pridmore. The choir led a four-day evangelistic crusade, conducted 15 backyard Bible clubs, canvassed specific areas and presented four outdoor concerts. Their work resulted in six professions of faith. In addition, the choir visited Washington, D.C. where they sang in the Rose Garden of the White House for President Bill Clinton. Their final performances were at Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, Tenn.

Mountain View First Church recently completed a two-week revival that resulted in more than 230 decisions, according to pastor Jackie Fendley. William Blackburn of Fort Smith was the evangelist and Kenny Daniel of Mountain View was the worship leader.

Calvary Chapel Mission constitutes

Calvary Chapel Mission near Malvern was constituted as a church Aug. 22 with 24 charter members.

James Swedenburg, director of missions for Central Association, gave the charge to the church, reminding members of their responsibilities to the Lord, to each other and to the world.

Others participating in the service were Bill Pye, Bill Monday, Mark Porch, Tony Huffman, Everett Langston, Jackie Geer, Larry Lea, Mac Gates, Helen Monday, Tom Tidwell and Eula Rook.

In the organizational business session, Eddie Elrod, who had been serving as mission pastor, was elected pastor; Helen Monday, clerk; Larry Lee, treasurer; Bill Monday, Sunday School director; Robert Rook, music director; and Elizabeth Elrod, pianist.

Serving as deacons are Bill Pye, chairman, Robert Rook and Tom Tidwell.

The church has adopted a budget for the coming year that includes 10 percent designated to the Cooperative Program.

Calvary Chapel Mission had been a mission of Riverside Church of Donaldson since 1988. During that time acreage for the congregation was purchased with assistance from Central Association and the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

BSSB eliminates 45 jobs to reduce overhead costs

By Linda Lawson
Baptist Sunday School Board

NASHVILLE, TN (BP)—Forty-five positions in non-revenue-producing areas of the Baptist Sunday School Board have been eliminated to reduce corporate overhead costs, according to president James T. Draper Jr.

Effective Oct. 1, the deletion of 45 jobs will result in the displacement of 29 employees and elimination of 16 vacant positions.

As of Aug. 30, four of the 29 affected employees had been placed in other positions within the board, according to Steve Lawrence, director of the human resources department. Five are taking early retirement.

In addition to efforts to place some of the employees in other BSSB positions, Lawrence said career transition and outplacement assistance, along with severance pay based on years of service, is being provided.

Draper said the study of corporate overhead was initiated in June as part of efforts to keep the board in a competitive position and maintain financial stability. "We seem to have higher overhead costs than other similar companies," he said.

The staff reductions — which include management, professional and support staff positions — will result in a net savings of \$2.4 million for 1993-94, he said.

Among components, the corporate market research department lost 14 positions, displacing 12 employees, including department director Doug Anderson, a 17-year employee. Two vacant positions in the department also were eliminated.

The communications department was reduced by 10 positions, displacing five employees, including Jim Lowry, manager of the public relations services section, a 21-year employee. Five vacant positions in the department were eliminated.

Other affected areas were production services, human resources, strategic planning, facility management and four positions related to vice presidents.

Staff reorganization

With the downsizing in corporate staff areas, Draper said Mike Arrington, vice president for corporate services, will become executive director for corporate affairs. He will oversee the work of the communications department, research library and Glorieta and Ridgcrest conference centers. He also will carry out a variety of staff responsibilities for the president, including relationships with SBC agencies, coordination of BSSB representation at annual state convention meetings and direction of the board's annual report to the SBC.

The information systems department

and remaining functions of corporate market research and strategic planning which formerly reported to Arrington will be transferred to the finance and administration group and report to Draper until a new vice president is named. Former vice president E.V. King resigned earlier in August.

Draper said the corporate overhead study and efficiency studies are "painful but are necessary to enable us to be the best stewards of our resources."

A study of efficient editorial processes in the trade publishing division that produces Broadman & Holman products has resulted in a merger of the two editorial departments, eliminating seven positions, affecting six employees, according to Charles Wilson, vice president for trade and retail markets.

Of the six employees displaced, three are taking early retirement. "We've worked for almost a year with dual editorial departments," he said. "We've discovered this is not the most efficient or effective way to move toward our goal of profitability."

Fine-tuning of the board's structure, organization and staff will be a continuing process, Draper said. "Learning to operate effectively in the midst of constant change is a challenge facing all institutions committed to providing excellent products and services that meet customer needs."

The Sunday School Board currently directs 17 programs of work assigned by the Southern Baptist Convention, with a 1993-94 operating budget of \$233.4 million.

Interested in a Ministry of Love?

The Arkansas Baptist Home for Children is looking for a dedicated Christian couple with not more than two children to live and work in a cottage setting with eight children. **Salary and benefits.**

Contact: Royce Aston
P.O. Box 180, Monticello, AR 71655
Phone: 367-5358

Since 1973
Churches/Residential

SOOS
STAINED GLASS

P.O. Box 600
North Little Rock, AR 72115
758-8641

Training Workshop for Interpreters for

Saturday, September 18 **the Deaf**

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Sponsored by the Indiana Department of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention

Park Hill Baptist Church, North Little Rock

Guest Speaker: Jerry St. John

New Work Department, South Carolina Baptist Convention
(Mr. St. John will lead the morning service for the Deaf at Park Hill Sunday the 19th.)

- Topics:
- Working with other staff members when deaf are in attendance
 - The role of the interpreter in counseling with deaf
 - Interpreting difficult phrases or scriptures
 - Religious Signing

Cost: \$10.00 per person
(includes lunch at the church)

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER, CONTACT:

Susie McKinney, Park Hill Baptist Church, 201 East C, North Little Rock, AR 72116
753-2531 or 835-7205

Ethiopia: Years of patience harvest results

By Craig Bird
SBC Foreign Mission Board

ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA (BP)—Southern Baptist missionaries to Ethiopia have compiled quite a resume.

In the past two decades they have worked under a feudal monarchy that empowered a state religion, a brutal communist dictatorship that persecuted all religions and a fledgling democracy that at times is hard-pressed to back up its guarantee of religious freedom.

During those same years they have ministered in one of history's most devastating droughts and famines and through a debilitating civil war.

What's the result?

"We've done a lot of good things on the human level," said Jerry Bedsole, dean of Southern Baptist missionaries in Ethiopia with 23 years of service. "And the Lord has let us take part in some great things on the eternal level."

Under the communist government, "we couldn't report a lot of what was happening publicly and if we associated too closely with new converts they would be arrested, but the Word of God was planted. Today we finally have the freedom to preach and witness openly — and we see what God has been doing."

Two examples:

■ Nearly 40 people completed a spring workshop on MasterLife, a Christian discipleship and Bible study program. More than half are active priests in the Ethiopian Orthodox Church, a common opponent and sometimes persecutor of "Pentays" (a derisive term applied to evangelical Christians).

■ In the central highlands a tiny band of believers cut off from contact with missionaries for more than a decade after the communist takeover has grown into a 300-member congregation that often attracts 1,000 worshippers. It also has started two other Baptist churches.

The foundation for the recent growth, and continued work to reach new areas of Ethiopia, is development work.

"Development work allowed Baptists to remain in Ethiopia when communists took over and kicked out all the preachers, including ours," said Bedsole, a veterinarian and discipleship trainer. "And when the new government came to power they told us up front, 'You can preach what you want and where you want as long as you help us develop this country.'"

The most massive human needs programs came during the famine of the mid-1980s, when Baptists joined the rest of the world in keeping a nation from starving.



Southern Baptist missionary Jeff Pearson (left) discusses the status of a Baptist-funded tree nursery near Sokoru, Ethiopia, with member of an Ethiopian Baptist development team. Development work has earned Southern Baptist missionaries the right to live in areas where evangelical Christianity is weak and, during the communist era, to remain in the country.

Baptists manned feeding stations and medical clinics in half a dozen remote areas. In each of those towns strong churches exist today.

With the end of the famine, the missionaries moved into water development and reforestation and pushed for permission to resume the veterinary and medical clinics suspended under communist rule.

"Drought relief was good because we helped many people but it was frustrating because we were restricted to the feeding centers and couldn't go into villages and develop relationships with people," Bedsole explained.

"But to do water development or establish a tree nursery you have to live where you can really get to know people and share the gospel with them. If you have regular clinics, people learn to trust you."

One unexpected benefit of travel restrictions was that missionaries and Ethiopian Baptist workers spent lots of time together. The workers' commitment grew as they and missionaries studied the Bible and prayed together night after night.

"Several people have told me, 'You Baptists did it right when you trained development teams,'" said Paul Gay, former missionary projects coordinator. "We didn't do it on purpose, but now when they go to work on water or nurseries

they have a mature faith to share and a bold spirit to go along with it."

Today in Ethiopia, missionaries and Baptists develop the country and believers. Springs long contaminated by animals and people are capped, and clean water flows in pipes. Bare hillsides slowly sprout with seedlings from a Baptist-operated tree nursery — making local people who benefit more willing to attend a home Bible study.

At a medical clinic men with AK-47 rifles cradled in their arms read Scripture portions and listen to devotionals before the day's work begins. Student veterinarians learn animal husbandry from a man who also talks about a living faith in Jesus Christ. In a refugee camp food deliveries are known as "Baptist bread" and hopeless people hear about a God who loves them.

"I loved to teach and witness — and did both whenever I could," Gay said before he returned to the United States. "But it didn't take me long to realize that if I did well negotiating contracts with the government I was making it possible for 15 strong Ethiopian Christians to work where the gospel desperately needs to be heard. And they do a better job presenting Christ in their own culture than I could."

"It's not very glorious to sit behind a desk — but the ultimate results have been pretty glorious." And on the missionaries' resume, it's the ultimate results that count.

Baptist world youth called to 'risk your all' for Christ

By Steve Evans
Baptist World Alliance

HARARE, ZIMBABWE (BP)—As the rhythms of Africa thundered throughout the Harare International Conference Centre, the combined voices of the 250-member Baptist International Mass Choir opened the 12th Baptist Youth World Conference by proclaiming, "Bayete Inkosi! We salute you, Lord!"

The drums continued throughout the roll call of nations, which concluded with a standing ovation for the host country of Zimbabwe. "Peoples of the world," the voices rang, "risk your all for Him. Christ is the hope. Christ is the hope for the world."

It was an emotional moment, and the emotion had been building for days as youth from around the world arrived for this meeting of Baptists affiliated with the 38-million-member Baptist World Alliance. More than 4,000 participants were challenged with the theme "Risking All For Christ... Our Only Hope" by Romanian pastor Paul Negrut.

Baptist youth, in conference from Aug. 11-15, addressed the issues of AIDS, sexuality and spirituality, human rights, Christians in politics, violence, poverty, the earth and its resources, theology, culture, the arts, faith and witnessing.

Addressing the conference on behalf of Zimbabwe Vice President Joshua Nkomo was John Nkomo, minister of the public service, labor and social welfare. "We are one world, one people," the official said. "We are to share experiences; share in the gift of life; share in worshipping Him; and share in the oneness of life." He challenged youth to "lead righteous lives and behave in an exemplary manner."

BWA president Knud Wumpelmann described the conference as "a meeting which can bring new life through the youth of the world."

Referring to historic Baptist leaders Martin Luther King Jr., former U.S. President Jimmy Carter and evangelist Billy Graham, BWA general secretary Denton Lotz said Baptists of the world are concerned with social justice, political involvement and world evangelism.

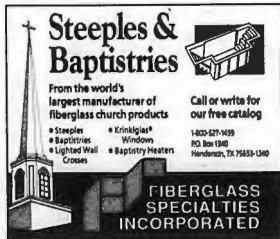
Deadline set for BWA award

HARARE, ZIMBABWE (BP)—Baptists around the world who belong to the Baptist World Alliance have until Jan. 1, 1994, to submit nominations for the BWA Human Rights Award, the first of which will be awarded at the 17th Baptist World Congress in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Aug. 1-6, 1995.

The award is to be given for "significant and effective activities to secure, protect, restore or preserve human rights — those rights inherent in our nature as human beings."

The BWA Human Rights Award was established by Olive Tiller and her late husband Carl Tiller who have been leaders of human rights concerns to Baptists around the world.

The Tillers presented a \$10,000 check to the BWA in 1991 to establish the Human Rights Award Program. The award includes a \$1,000 cash prize, a plaque and a full scholarship to attend the BWA Congress at which the award will be presented.



Steeples & Baptistries

From the world's largest manufacturer of fiberglass church products

Call or write for our free catalog

- Steeples
- Baptisries
- Lighted Wall Crosses
- Kinkiglers
- Windows
- Baptistry Heaters

1-800-877-3039
P.O. Box 1340
Hawarden, IL 75633-1340

FIBERGLASS SPECIALTIES INCORPORATED



ASE COMMUNICATIONS AND SIGNALING SYSTEMS CONTRACTOR

Arkansas Sound Corporation
7000 Remount Road
North Little Rock, AR 72118
Serving Arkansas since 1977

For All Your COMMUNICATIONS NEEDS

Ask for our church sales rep. David Dillard has 25 years experience in music ministry and is here to assist you in selecting the right sound system for your needs.

**STATEWIDE SALES AND SERVICE
CALL TODAY FOR A FREE SURVEY**
(501) 753-6674 AR WATTS 1-800-441-1272



First Annual Little Rock Regional Conference On Revival

October 10-13, 1993
Life Line Baptist Church
7601 Baseline Road

For Pastors and Their Wives

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- Great Bible Teaching
- Great Worship and Praise Times
- Special Times of Prayer for Revival and Awakening
- Close Fellowship with other Believers
- Special "Retreat" Program Daily for Pastors and their Wives
- Meals Provided for Pastors and Wives by Host Church
- Free Housing Provided for Pastors and Wives by Host Church

SPEAKERS

Ron Dunn, Dr. John Phillips, Bill and Holly Elliff

HOUSING

Housing for all Pastors/Wives will be provided by Life Line Baptist Church and Little Rock's First Baptist Church in the homes of their members. Please send in the Housing Registration Form by October 4.

If you desire to provide your own motel accommodations, a list of possible motels and prices can be provided upon request.

COST

There is no fee for the conference. A love offering will be taken nightly to offset the expenses of the meeting.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact Life Line Baptist Church at 545-3469.

South Africa is unique setting for dialogue

By Wendy Ryan
Baptist World Alliance

JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA (BP)—"Theology in context" was more than an academic discussion when Baptist theologians met in South Africa for the 4th Baptist International Conference of Theological Education.

The theologians met in a country fragmented by an apartheid system that, until very recently, had strong theological support, and they met a few days after the attack on a Cape Town church that left 11 people dead. During their four-day meeting, more than 90 people were killed in township fighting.

Most of the participants stayed in the homes of black and white South African Baptists as part of the "theology in context" emphasis.

"This is a country of oppression, suppression and segregation," said Vincent Mmcedisi Jones, acting general secretary of the black Baptist Convention of Southern Africa as he welcomed the 77 participants from 21 countries.

"But we are a wonderful people with a sense of humor," Jones said. "We laugh and express the joy and consolation we find in the fellowship of our Lord Jesus Christ."

"You've come at a time when we are going through mammoth changes, violence and bloodshed," said Terry Rae, general secretary of the predominantly white Baptist Union of Southern Africa. "To come at a time like this encourages us and blesses us."

A visit to Soweto and respectful debate between representatives of the predominantly white Baptist union and the black Baptist convention during the meeting further deepened the "theology in context" theme.

"If blacks and whites cannot work in unity, then we cannot expect society to take seriously our claims to the witness of Jesus Christ," warned Louis Kretzchmar of the University of South Africa in Pretoria.

The conference itself was a testimony to the witness of Baptists in South Africa. It was jointly hosted by the union and the convention and sponsored by the academic

and theological education workgroup of the Baptist World Alliance.

Participants also experienced "theology in context" when they visited Soweto, the largest black township in South Africa.

Known as the home of Nelson Mandela and Bishop Desmond Tutu, Soweto is also a place where Baptist ministers are bringing the gospel of Jesus Christ, education and hope to people there.

One visit was to Sanctuary Baptist Church, which has a nursery for approximately 70 children every day.

"We feed them, educate them and tell them about Jesus Christ," said Michael R Mathibedi, director of the nursery school program and outreach ministries of the church.

In a major address on "Salvation from an African Perspective," Henry Mugabe of the Baptist Theological College of Zimbabwe said Africans generally accept Jesus Christ as the healer and Savior of their lives.

"We cannot resist Jesus, because He has bewitched us" is one popular African saying, according to Mugabe. He said Africans also refer to Jesus as "Our Healer" and this means "an all-inclusive healing." He sang a song from Malawi that spoke about "Jesus, Our Medicine Man."

Arkansas Church Construction? Only One Name To Remember!

KINCO

A full service church building company:

- ★ Consulting Services
- ★ Team Concept Construction
- ★ Construction Management
- ★ General Contracting

Builders of:

- ★ First Baptist Springdale, Worship Center
- ★ First Baptist Walnut Ridge, Worship Center
- ★ Calvary Baptist Little Rock, Family Life Center
- ★ St. Bernard's Catholic Church Facilities, Bella Vista
- ★ First Church of the Nazarene, N.L.R., Education Bldg.



BUILDING EXCELLENCE

Kinco, Inc.
Constructors

15617 Chenal Parkway, Little Rock, AR 72211
Tel. 501-225-7606

for Christians...

ALL SAINTS

Scriptural concept of Borden Sharing
averages \$112 per family per month

- \$300 Deductible
- 80/20 First \$5,000
- 100% Thereafter
- \$1,000,000 Coverage
- Maternity Coverage

CALL: All Saints
1-800-259-0095

LITTLE GIANT MFG. CO.

BAPTISTRIES
WATER HEATERS
STEEPLES
CROSSES-LIGHTS



Buy Directly from Manufacturer
Box 518 Orange, TX 77630

TOLL FREE 1-800-231-6035

Are your Seniors tired of
crawling over the HUMP?
The solution is a 15-passenger
van with an Aisle,
Raised Roof & Electric
Step. Call American
Trans-Coach, Inc. Today!



(817) 458-4844
BUSES! VANS! PEOPLE MOVERS!



TEXARKANA, U.S.A.

"THE TWICE AS NICE CITY"



Kings Row Inn

AAA

Known For Great Food.
4200 North State Line Avenue
501/774-3851

FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED SINCE 1931
Lunch 11:00-2:00 Dinner 5:00-8:00
Continuous Service Saturday & Sunday 11:00 - 8:00
Continuous Drive Thru Service
11:00 AM - 8:00 PM Daily
Drive Thru Menu Number 792-1522

Bryce's

CAFETERIA, INC.

2021 MALL DRIVE

I-30 At Summerhill Rd. (Exit #222)

TEXARKANA, TEXAS (903) 792-1611

Explore

TEXARKANA'S

Trail of Two Cities

"A Tour of Our Historical Past and Promising Future"
Also enjoy the fine food while in Texarkana

For more information on area attractions and group tours, contact:
The Texarkana Chamber of Commerce, P. O. Box 1468, Texarkana, AR-TX 75504-1468, or phone (503) 792-7191.



September 25

First Baptist Church,
Moore's Lane
Texarkana, Texas

Schedule:

- 8:30 - Refreshments and Fellowship
- 9:00 - General Session - Speaker: Dr. Ken Hemphill
- 10:00 - Job-related Conferences (32 from which to choose)
- 11:30 - Lunch
- 1:00 - Special Interest Conferences (32 from which to choose)
- 2:25 - Special Interest Conferences (32 from which to choose)
- 3:30 - Adjourn

Child care will not be provided

A Cooperative Program Ministry of the Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas Sunday School Conventions; Southwest Webster-Claiborne, Northwest, and Bowie Associations; and the Baptist Sunday School Board

For additional information,
call the Sunday School Department, 378-4791, ext. 5128.



ITT Sheraton

5301 N. State Line Ave.
Texarkana, TX 75503-5301
Phone: (903) 792-3222
FAX: (903) 793-3930

- 145 rooms; 5 suites
- Full service restaurant
Brandi Renée's Cafe
- Indoor heated pool & spa
- Meeting/ Banquet rooms for
5 to 500 people
- Complimentary health club
privileges

Youth Director Needed—Growing church in thriving town with expanding school district (also 2 colleges and 1 university) seeks committed youth director prepared to meet the challenge of guiding young people in spiritual growth. Submit resume with references to Personnel Committee, Harlan Park Baptist Church, 1895 Highway 286 West, Conway, AR 72032.

Christian Deer Camp — Lafayette Co. WMA, Canfield, Ark. Nov. 22-27. 6 day hunt -\$250, or Thurs., Fri., Sat., - \$175, includes \$30 WMA permit, meals, bed, w/ac-heat, showers, \$50 deposit, 1st come, 1st served. Arkansas hunting license required. Call: 1-800-248-8547 for details.

Pastor Wanted — small L.I.N.Y. church, SBC graduate preferred. Unlimited opportunities. Reply: Ed Wagner, 529 Starlight Drive, Shirley, NY 11967 11967.

Pastor Position—A pastor is being sought for a newly-established 150 member church in Jacksonville, Arkansas. Prospective candidates should immediately submit a resume with cover letter and photo; taped sermon; and schedule of upcoming preaching appointments to: Pastoral Search Committee, c/o Gary D. Moore, RR 1, Box 21aa, England, AR 72046.

Classified ads must be submitted in writing to the ABN office no less than 10 days prior to the date of publication desired. A check or money order in the proper amount, figured at 90 cents per word, must be included. Multiple insertions of the same ad must be paid for in advance. The ABN reserves the right to reject any ad because of unsuitable subject matter. Classified ads will be inserted on a space-available basis. No endorsement by the ABN is implied.

Faith has role in politics, Clinton tells religious leaders

WASHINGTON (AP) — Challenging religious leaders to help him "recreate a common good in America," President Bill Clinton said the political world is "entirely too secular" and that faith has a role to play.

Clinton made the remarks to more than 80 religious leaders at an Aug. 30 interfaith prayer breakfast in the State Dining Room at the White House.

Among the Baptists present were Clinton's pastor, Rex Home, of Immanuel Church in Little Rock; James Dunn, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs; and Cecil Sherman, coordinator of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. Not included were top leaders of the Southern Baptist Convention, which has taken public stands against Clinton's views on abortion and homosexuality.

"Sometimes I think the environment in which we operate is entirely too secular," Clinton declared. "The fact that we have freedom of religion doesn't mean we need to try to have freedom from religion."

Yet Clinton cautioned that religious Americans "who seek to know and do God's will" should approach the public arena with a certain amount of humility for two reasons: "One is, we might be wrong. After all, we're only human. The other is that the thing that has kept us together over time is that our Constitution

and Bill of Rights gives us all the elbow room to seek to do God's will in our own life and that of our families and our communities. And that means that there will be inevitable conflicts."

He encouraged the religious leaders to find strength in their diversity and to find areas in which they can agree. One area of agreement, Clinton noted, is the need for the Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

The bill (S. 578 and H.R. 1308) would restore a high level of protection for religious freedom that virtually was abandoned by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1990. A broad-based coalition of 68 religious and civil-liberties groups backs the measure, which was approved by the House of Representatives but has not yet come to the Senate for action.

"This administration is committed to seeing it (RFRA) through successfully," Clinton said. "And I think virtually every person of faith in this country without regard to their party or philosophy or convictions on other issues agrees with that."

"But there must be other areas in which we can meet together and talk together and work together, and frankly, acknowledge our agreements and our disagreements. If people of faith treat issues about which they disagree as nothing more than a cause for a screaming match, then we also trivialize religion in our country."



A Symbol
To Depend On.

Griffin Leggett
Healy & Roth

Little Rock

Forest Hills

Memorial Park

Little Rock

Griffin Leggett / Rest Hills

FOREST HILLS HOME AND REMEDIATION UNIT • NORTH LITTLE ROCK

GROSS
FUNERAL HOME

Hot Springs

PEOPLE TO DEPEND ON

FOR YOUR SHOPPING CONVENIENCE

Beginning October 1st
the Baptist Book Store
will offer additional
shopping hours.

Thursday - Saturday
9:30 AM to 8:00 PM

BAPTIST BOOK STORE

9101 West Markham, Little Rock, AR 72205

501-225-6009

(Monday-Wednesday still 9:30 AM - 6:00 PM)

Albert George Mfg. Co.

Quality Custom
Manufacturers of:

- Pulpit Furniture
- Pews • Pew Cushions
- Upholstered Seats & Backs



717 North Cypress, N. Little Rock
Write: P.O. Box 5700, N.L.R., AR 72119

501-375-2921

AUTHORIZED

Konica

COPIERS • FAX

Ralph Crox and Associates Inc.

701 W. Capitol, Little Rock • 378-0109
1640 E. Grand Ave., Hot Springs • 623-7392
1022 W. 8th, Pine Bluff • 534-8811



'Be a shepherd, not a CEO'

NEW ORLEANS (BP)—"Be a shepherd to the flock and not a CEO," Richard Jackson recently told nearly 100 students in a summer class at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

Jackson, who retired last year after serving 25 years as pastor of North Phoenix Baptist Church in Phoenix, Ariz., led the church from a membership of under 1,000 to more than 20,000. North Phoenix is one of the largest churches in the Southern Baptist Convention.

During the weeklong workshop entitled "Stable Thinking in the Ministry," Jackson offered a multitude of basic, practical information. Stressing "good horse sense" in his lectures, Jackson talked about:

■ Appearance: "Wear a coat and tie and keep it on....Make sure you show dignity; be a cut above....Sit with your feet on the floor and sit up tall."

■ Former pastors: "Don't talk bad about the former pastor....Invite him to preach after about six months."

■ Integrity: "The key to the minister's character is integrity....Be able to say, 'I'm sorry....Be real, (but) confess yourself in private.'"

■ Family: "Be your family's best friend....Let your family know you need them."

■ Success: "We are not called to be successful, but faithful."

■ Evangelism: "Evangelism is not a spiritual gift, but an assignment."

■ Sunday School: "Sunday School is

the most important organization in the church....Hire a minister of education first."

■ Buildings and grounds: "Keep the church grounds looking good!...Church facilities are to be used to honor God."

■ Baby boomers: "Baby boomers like how-to sermons, but find the Scripture to back up everything."

■ Preaching: "Quit before they do." The average length of a sermon should be 30 to 35 minutes...."There is no one way to preach, but the one message is Jesus....Be innovative, be creative, but don't move from the fundamentals."

■ Church growth: "You grow the church with hard work....(But) are you trying to grow the church by numbers or by equipping the saints?"

■ Time management: "Make your priorities....Guard your study time."

■ Hospital visits: "See how they are doing, pray, then leave."

■ Funerals: Ask people familiar with the deceased to tell you something unique about the person; use these phrases in the service. "Remember to always use a funeral as an opportunity to preach the Word of God."

■ Marriages: "Require four counseling sessions with a counselor or yourself to discuss their relationship with each other and to Jesus Christ."

■ Worship services: "From week to week, keep the order of worship similar, with variety, people need stability....Have familiarity laced with innovation."

The Arkansas Baptist's

CHURCH SERVICES DIRECTORY

Baptistries/Steeple

Construction Sales Co., Inc.

P.O. Box 1049

Magnolia, AR 71753-1049

1-800-526-9663 FAX: 501-234-6475

Also Laminated wood arches, beams and decking.

Book Stores

Baptist Book Store (SBC)

9101 W. Markham

Little Rock, AR 72205

501-225-8009

Heating & Air Conditioning

Cox Heating & Air Conditioning

1612 Park Avenue

Stuttgart, AR 72160

673-2081

Kitchen Equipment & Supplies

Almco Wholesale

10001 Colonel Glenn Rd.

Little Rock, AR 72204

228-0808

Puppetry

House of Puppetry

P.O. Box 180055/ 78 Westminister Dr.

Little Rock, AR 72219

Fredda Hicks

501-588-7769

Puppets and Puppet Supplies

Sound Systems

American Audio, Inc.

P.O. Box 1719

Ruston, LA 71273

Edwards, Young & Blake, Owners

318-251-0290 FAX: 318-255-3363

Audio system and acoustic design-installation-rental.

MP Productions, Inc.

6301 Murray St.

Little Rock, AR 72209

Kan E. Newberry, Contracting Manager

501-562-7425 FAX: 562-7521

System design, installation, and service.



A Prayer Journey

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8 • SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9,
MARKHAM STREET BAPTIST CHURCH

9701 West Markham

Featuring: **Minette Drumwright**

Director, International Prayer Strategy Office

A Prayer Journey will be an exciting time of inspiration, spiritual fellowship, and worship. Under Minette Drumwright's leadership our journey in corporate, individual, and group prayer will focus on personal renewal and national revival.

Schedule:

Friday - registration 6:00-6:30 p.m., session 6:30-9:00 p.m.

Saturday - session 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon

To make your reservations or for more information call 374-0319.

Pulaski Baptist Association Prayer Retreat

For a listing call the ABN
at 376-4791, ext. 5155

Most Beautiful View in America

Available: Excellent Kitchen Facilities
Dormitory for 28 people
Dining Room for 70 people
Excellent Restroom Facilities

Call: Marilyn Spence
501-474-0716 or 369-4260

Write: P.O. Box 2
Mountainburg, AR 72948

Choir Rehearsals • Retreats
Small Churches • Wedding Receptions
Sunday School Classes



Quality
VAN Sales

Used 12 and 15 passenger vans, special prices to churches. 501-268-4490, 1500 E. Pace, Searcy 72143. Larry Carson

Fred & Jack Trailer Sales, Inc.

24218 I-30, Alexander, AR 72002

501-847-2617

Owned & Operated by
the John Davis Family Since 1952

Your Recreational Vehicle
Sales & Service Specialists

Prowler • Winnebago
Airstream • Rockwood

Bring this ad and your best deal.
We won't be undersold!!!

AUTHORS WANTED

Leading subsidy book publisher seeks manuscripts of all types: fiction, non-fiction, poetry, scholarly, juvenile and religious works, etc. New authors welcomed. Send for free 32-page illustrated booklet H-101 Vantage Press, 516 W 34 St., New York, NY 10001

Pam's Place



Bridal Gowns and
Bridesmaid Dresses

Good line of Casual Clothes
and Dresses

Specializing in Pageant,
Formal and Wedding Dresses

501-982-7266

930 W. Main St.
Jacksonville, AR 72076

Cynthia Ashcraft, Baptist representative to Yemen, is on the field (address: Box 70080, Ibb, Yemen). She was born in Pine Bluff and considers White Hall her hometown. She was appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1990.

Stephen and Susan Bowers, missionaries to Ecuador, are on the field (address: Cailla 328, Buena, Ecuador). He was born in Blytheville. The former Susan Underwood, she is a native of Georgia. They were appointed in 1988.

Boyd and Rhonda Hall, missionaries to Botswana, have completed language study and arrived on their field of service (address: Private Bag F-253, Francistown, Botswana). He considers Jonesboro his hometown. The former Rhonda Dismuck of Arkansas, she was born in Little Rock and considers Pine Bluff her hometown. They were appointed in 1992.

James and Kathryn Ingram, missionaries to France, are in the States (address: 1924 W. Arch St., Searcy, AR 72143). He is a native of Virginia. The former Kathryn Wadley of Arkansas, she was born in Paragould and considers Searcy her hometown. They were appointed in 1989.

Orville and Edith Jenkins, missionaries to Kenya, are in the States (address: 3937 Willanova St., Dallas, TX 75225). He was born in Oklahoma and grew up in Texas. She is the former Edith McSwain of Ethel. They were appointed in 1975.

Ted and Sue Lindwall, missionaries to Guatemala, are in the States (address: 4105

Rye Glen Drive, Arlington, TX 76017). He was born in Kansas City, Mo., and lived in California while growing up. The former Sue Francis, she was born in Morrilton. They were appointed in 1960.

Gerry Odum, missionary to Taiwan, is on the field (address: P.O. Box 30-134, Taipei 100, Taiwan ROC). Born in El Dorado, she also lived in Smackover while growing up. She was appointed in 1980.

Fred and Gayla Parker, missionaries to the Philippines, are in the States (address: 605 Ash, Conway, AR 72032). Both are natives of Little Rock; she is the former Gayla Bingham. They were appointed in 1989.

John and Jeanie Seale, missionaries to Brazil, are in the States (address: 3 Spring Creek Rd., Texarkana, TX 75503). He was born in Hope. She is the former Jeanie Cates of Texas. They were appointed in 1986.

Thomas and Margaret Smith, missionaries to the Philippines, are in the States (address: 305 River St., Benton, AR 72015). He was born in Little Rock and considers Lonoke his hometown. The former Margaret Bruce, she was born in Hazen and considers Hickory Plains her hometown. They were appointed in 1989.

Billy and Judith Sutton, missionaries to the Philippines, are on the field (address: Box 55234, Iligan City 9200, Philippines). He was born in McGehee. She is the former Judith Blackburn of Baton Rouge. They were appointed in 1983.

On May 17, 1991, a brilliant bolt of lightning struck the 90-member Valley Baptist Church in Middletown, Pennsylvania, causing a fire that destroyed the building.

“Church Mutual worked speedily to help us settle the claim and get on the road to rebuilding. They are an exceptional company, and I would endorse them 100%.” —Robert M. Calvin Jr., Pastor

How we respond to claims is one reason Church Mutual is the largest church insurance company in America — protecting over 5,800 Southern Baptist churches alone. Call now for a free, on-site evaluation of your insurance needs from The Specialist:

Church Mutual.
1 800 642-3465



In a single flash, 90
people lost their house.

Convention Uniform

Guilt and shame

By Dennis Coop, minister of education, Park Hill Church, North Little Rock

Basic passage: Genesis 3:1-13

Focal passage: Genesis 3:1-13

Central truth: Guilt and shame came into a perfect world as man decided to sin.

Chapter 2 of Genesis tells us there was no shame in God's creation. God created His world with no sin in it. He created man with no need for guilt or shame. Fellowship between man and God was full and complete.

Enter the crafty one to cast doubts. With one small question, he begins to distort the relationship between God and man. The serpent's question makes an insinuation against the creator. He plants suspicion of God's motives.

The conversation between the woman and the serpent continues. The serpent, master of deception, succeeds. He convinces her that God is depriving her of something good.

The weak moments come, especially when our fellowship with God isn't nurtured. We become susceptible to the tempter. We may even believe the unbelievable...that God would keep from us that which is good.

We reap benefits from the woman's encounter with the tempter. One comes from the tempter's outright accusation. He implies that God has been dishonest with His people. That should be a red flag to them and to us. We need only to ask ourselves, "Who suggests challenging God? Who calls God a liar?" There can be only one answer.

The man and woman could have avoided their trouble. They could have determined to listen only to God. We too can decide to listen to Him only. We can decide to immediately turn from any voice or influence that challenges God's pronouncements.

It is important now to note this. The serpent did not feed the fruit to the woman. She convinced herself to partake. The temptation was of the serpent, but the sin was the woman's.

Then comes the cool of the day when God comes walking. We, like God's first man and woman, may seek to shift responsibility. But the truth becomes painfully evident. We must ultimately bear responsibility for our actions.

This lesson treatment is based on the International Bible Lesson for Christian Teaching, Uniform Series, Copyright International Council of Education. Used by permission.

Life and Work

Freedom of forgiveness

By Clyde Spurgin, pastor, First Church, Piggott

Basic passage: Genesis 50:17; II Samuel 19:4, 7-8; Luke 15:20-24;

Ephesians 4:32

Focal passage: Ephesians 4:32

Central truth: Forgiveness fosters healing.

When our son, Steve, was on staff at Jonesboro's Walnut Street Church, thieves broke into his office, stole his guitar and over \$7,000 worth of equipment. Steve and the church prayed for the return of their property and an opportunity to witness to the offenders. They were captured. One was sent to prison, two were not. Steve witnessed to them and they professed Christ! The church provided them counsel, clothing and assistance in finding legitimate employment. Steve, the church and the two forgiven youth were enriched by the experience.

In Genesis 50:7, Joseph could have refused to forgive his brothers, but by forgiving them, both Joseph and his brothers benefited. Reconciliation and healing resulted.

It is difficult to understand the hurt and frustration King David experienced when his son, Absalom, rebelled and attempted to usurp his father's throne. David wanted his warriors to put down the rebellion but spare his son.

Absalom could have been captured, but the overzealous Joab thrust a spear through him. David was overcome with grief. His army "stole into the city that day as men who are ashamed when they flee from battle" (II Sam. 19:3). They had put down the rebellion and saved their king, but his grief hung like a dark cloud over their victory.

After some coaxing from Joab, King David wiped away the tears and went out to meet the victors. They were encouraged and healing began for David.

Perhaps the most meaningful story of forgiveness is seen in Luke 15:20-24. A rebellious son who had disgraced his family and squandered his inheritance returns home to the forgiveness of a loving father.

In like manner, our Heavenly Father forgives us. Jesus said that we who are forgiven should be forgiving. "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other; just as in Christ God forgave you" (Eph. 4:32).

This lesson treatment is based on the Life and Work Curriculum for Southern Baptist Churches, copyright by the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. Used by permission.

Bible Book

How to please God

By R. Dale Wicker Jr., pastor, First Church, Conway

Basic passage: II John 1:13;

III John 1-14

Focal passage: III John 1-14

Central truth: A person who has not discovered a lifestyle which pleases God will live in frustration trying to please others.

John lists six principles to live by that will help individuals be more pleasing to God. As examples, he mentions two men who pleased the Father and one person who did not. The worthy examples had common names, but were uncommon men: Gaius and Demetrius. Diotrefes, on the other hand, had an uncommon name which was attached to a contrary man. All three men were lay leaders in their churches. Fortunately, the ratio is usually at least two good leaders to one poor example and troublemaker.

The first principle is found in verses 2-4. John insists that a believer be accountable to the truth. Truth is the basis for a spiritual start (v. 2), a personal possession (v. 3a), and a habitual heading (vv. 3b-4).

The second principle is more practical: Be charitable toward others (vv. 5-6). This charge is particularly leveled at care for the stranger who is on the Lord's business.

Closely related is principle three: Be responsible for ministry (vv. 7-8). The place of responsibility is the church (v. 7). The pay should be ample (v. 8a) and the profit is partnership with the vocational minister (v. 8b). See I Timothy 5:17-18 for Paul's list of compensation criteria for the called.

A fourth principle to live by so that the Father is pleased is found in verses 9-10. John says that a worthy man is a teachable man. He lists, using the poor example of Diotrefes, the characteristics of an unteachable man.

The fifth and sixth principles are similar. Be recognizable as God's person and be dependable in service. The recognition comes from an imitation of what is good. Dependability, always a virtue and forever in short supply, is the hallmark of the disciple who is pleasing to God. Here, John uses the contrasting example of Demetrius as a person who was dependable in his service.

Every believer ought to take time for a personal inventory of their lifestyle fostered by the question: Am I pleasing to my Heavenly Father?

This lesson treatment is based on the Bible Book Study for Southern Baptist Churches, copyright by the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. Used by permission.

Convention Uniform

A second chance

By Dennis Coop, minister of education, Park Hill Church, North Little Rock

Basic passage: Genesis 3:14-24; 6:5-8, 11-22; 9:8-13

Focal passage: Genesis 3:22-23; 6:5-8, 11; 9:8-10

Central truth: God's covenant of redemption is available to you.

The story of God and His people has always been the story of a second chance. It has been a history of love and mercy. The pronouncement of judgment and redemptive discipline in Genesis 3 is its beginning.

Man asserted his independence from his heavenly Father. Expulsion from the garden of perfection was necessary. Man could not be trusted to withstand temptation. The result would be a life of sorrow and pain.

Man's rebellion against God has often been called "the fall of man." It's true. Man did in fact fall from the high ideal intended for him. One result of that fall was a life of constant struggle with evil. Just as the serpent and man would always be in conflict, so would good and evil. Yet just as man would ultimately "bruise the head of the serpent," so would good ultimately triumph over evil.

Our basic text continues to focus on the problem of evil in the world. A light of hope shines through the gloom. There is one who has found God's favor - Noah.

God divulged His plan for punishment and redemption. He gave Noah instructions for saving himself and his family from the coming flood. God offered Noah a covenant of redemption. Noah obeyed all that God said.

God proceeded with the establishment of His covenant. Noah and his family formed God's "new beginning." The covenant was to be for all life, coming from this new beginning. God would not again destroy civilization with water.

God gave the rainbow as a symbol of His covenant. The bow is a weapon of war. God turned His rainbow so that it took the posture of a bow lying down, indicating peace. God's judgment was passed. Redemption was now His agenda.

God intentionally created His world. He chose to make man in His image. Man fell from God's high ideal. God intentionally designed and set in motion a redemptive plan that He still offers today.

This lesson treatment is based on the International Bible Lesson for Christian Teaching, Uniform Series. Copyright International Council of Education. Used by permission.

Life and Work

Worthy of opportunity

By Clyde Spurgin, pastor, First Church, Piggott

Basic passage: Acts 12:12-25; 13:5-13b; 15:37-39; Colossians 4:13; II Timothy 4:11

Focal passage: II Timothy 4:11

Central truth: A friend in need is a friend indeed.

Perhaps it is best we do not know why John Mark deserted Paul and Barnabas on their great missionary journey (Acts 13:13). It could have been fear, homesickness, etc. Whatever the cause he did not complete the trip.

Paul and Barnabas continued without the help of Mark. Later, when another opportunity for mission outreach opened, Mark was ready to go. Paul refused. Barnabas insisted. Paul chose Silas as his missionary partner and left. Because of his confidence and trust in Mark, Barnabas took him along, choosing another route. John Mark was given a second chance (Acts 15:37-39).

Because of our imperfections, most of us need a Barnabas. Thank God for people like him. He had stood by Saul and encouraged other Christians to trust him. He had shared his possessions with the needy Christians when times were difficult. Now he stands by a young man, helping to build his confidence and self-esteem.

Because someone cared enough to give him a second opportunity to prove himself, John Mark did just that! God blessed him and gave him a productive ministry. Paul, who previously lacked confidence in Mark's commitment, learned to appreciate his faithfulness to God and his helpfulness in the ministry.

In his letter to the Colossians, Paul wrote, "My fellow prisoner Aristarchus sends you his greetings, as does Mark... (You have received instructions about him; if he comes to you, welcome him)."

Paul wrote to Timothy, "...Get Mark and bring him with you, because he is helpful to me in my ministry."

We can profit from this lesson: Like Barnabas, we can encourage others. Like Paul, we should not be afraid to admit our mistakes. Like Mark, we must overcome failure and press on.

This lesson treatment is based on the Life and Work Curriculum for Southern Baptist Churches, copyright by the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. Used by permission.

Bible Book

Why we honor Jesus

By R. Dale Wicker Jr., pastor, First Church, Conway

Basic passage: Jude 1-25

Focal passage: Jude 24-25

Central truth: Jesus deserves to be honored - Jude gives reasons for His honor in a moving benediction.

Sometimes a college or university - maybe even a church - will name a building after a person who makes a significant donation to the effort. Most of the time these persons are worthy of honor besides the fact of their benevolence and philanthropic gestures.

Jude concludes his letter of reaction to false teaching by reminding his readers of how worthy Jesus was (and is) of honor. Jude speaks with great authority, particularly when it is considered that he was likely the half brother of Jesus. If that relationship is true, then he, more than others, ought to be heard when speaking of Christ.

Jude gives two main reasons to honor Jesus: His ability (v. 24) and His identity (v. 25). What can Jesus do in the life of the believer? He can prevent our stumbling. Jude likely has reference to a slip into error of a doctrinal nature (note the context of his entire letter). Jesus can also present the believer standing. Notice that God "it takes us" to stand. Finally, the ability of Jesus means that He provides the believer with status. Here, Jude says that God receives the believer like a blameless sacrifice and that a joyful heavenly celebration results.

Concerning His identity, the author mentions three character traits in verse 25. First, He is preeminently Savior. Second, Jesus is perfectly supreme. Finally, the Lord is perpetually sovereign. All time frames are included in the sovereignty of God: before, now and forever.

An understanding of the identity of the Lord helps to promote an honoring of Christ. The beautiful words of Jude's benediction help to underscore his personal revelation and respect. Jude says that Jesus is unique when he mentions His glory; he says that Jesus is royal when he speaks of His majesty; Jesus' controlling nature is touted with a reference to the dominion of Christ; the power of Jesus is presented when His authority is acknowledged.

This lesson treatment is based on the Bible Book Study for Southern Baptist Churches, copyright by the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. Used by permission.

The *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine* offers subscription plans at three rates:

Every Resident Family Plan gives churches a premium rate when they send the *Newsmagazine* to all their resident households. Resident families are calculated to be at least one-fourth of the church's Sunday School enrollment. Churches who send only to members who request a subscription do not qualify for this lower rate of \$6.36 per year for each subscription.

A Group Plan (formerly called the

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, Inc.
P.O. Box 552
Little Rock, AR 72203

CAR-RT SORT *A*CR39
017557 COMP 2230
HISTORICAL COMMISSION
901 COMMERCE ST STE 400
NASHVILLE TN 37203

Club Plan) allows church members to get a better than individual rate when 10 or more of them send their subscriptions together through their church. Subscribers through the group plan pay \$7.08 per year.

Individual subscriptions may be purchased by anyone at the rate of \$8.85 per year. These subscriptions are more costly because they require individual attention for address changes and renewal notices.

Changes of address by individuals may be made with the above form.

When inquiring about your subscription by mail, please include the address label. Or call us at (501) 376-4791, ext. 5156. Be prepared to give us your code line information.

Home missionary Joanne LaGette dies in car accident

GETTYSBURG, PA (BP)—A car accident claimed the life of veteran Southern Baptist home missionary Joanne LaGette Aug. 22 as she was driving to a newly formed mission's second meeting.

LaGette was traveling west on Penn. Hwy. 116, just three miles from Gettysburg, Pa., when a car attempted to pass, hitting LaGette's vehicle head-on. She was pronounced dead at the scene by Adams County coroner Pat Linbach.

The 62-year-old LaGette was on her way to Fairfield Baptist Mission for its Sunday morning service. She had assisted Central Baptist Chapel in Mont Alto, Pa., in starting the mission which held its inaugural service one week earlier.

LaGette, a home missionary since 1979, had been church extension field consultant for Keystone and South Jersey Baptist associations since 1990.

Two missionaries named FMB administrators to Europe

RICHMOND, VA (BP)—Two Southern Baptist missionaries from Europe have been named to join the Foreign Mission Board's office for Europe. The missionaries are Dan Panter, a church starter in the former Soviet republic of Belarus, and Roger Briggs, a church starter in Brussels, Belgium.

Briggs, 51, will be associate area director working out of the board's Richmond, Va., offices. Panter, 46, will serve in Frankfurt, Germany.

Panter and his wife, Libby, were missionaries in the West African nation of Togo for more than 13 years before transferring to Eastern Europe in 1991. He was pastor of churches in Louisiana and Mississippi before becoming a missionary.

Briggs, appointed in 1984 with his wife, Jeannette, was pastor of several churches in Missouri before becoming a missionary.

Hawkins unanimously called to First Baptist, Dallas

DALLAS (ABP)—Members of First Baptist Church of Dallas voted unanimously Aug. 29 to call O.S. Hawkins to be their new pastor.

The 46-year-old Hawkins, pastor of First Baptist Church, Fort Lauderdale, Fla., since 1978, said he would accept the invitation and will assume the responsibility on Oct. 3.

Many members shed tears one minute and other expressions of joy the next after hearing Hawkins would become their new pastor. The church was stung last September when Joel Gregory abruptly resigned after less than two years at the church, citing differences with senior pastor W. A. Criswell.

Hawkins, a former president of the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference, is a graduate of Texas Christian University and Southwestern Seminary and has a doctor of ministry degree from Luther Rice Seminary.

CLC asks court to accept case on fetal personhood

WASHINGTON (BP)—The Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission has joined a brief asking the Supreme Court to accept a case to determine whether an unborn child is a legally protected person from the time of conception.

The brief, written by the University Faculty for Life, contends each human being from fertilization is a person with a constitutional right to life. Arguments for personhood later in a fetus' development are based on inaccurate science and historically inaccurate or questionable philosophy, the brief says.

The case, *J.M. v. V.C.*, involves the attempt of a father to assert constitutional rights on behalf of his unborn child and to prevent the mother from having an abortion. The abortion took place when the New Jersey Supreme Court lifted an injunction.

Baptist influence felt in Cobb County's anti-gay policy

ATLANTA (ABP) — Buoyed by support from its heavily Baptist population, Cobb County northwest of Atlanta apparently has become the first county in America officially to condemn homosexuality as a lifestyle.

County commissioners approved a resolution that describes homosexuality as "incompatible with the standards to which this community subscribes." In the resolution, approved Aug. 10 by a vote of 3-1, the county government also pledged "not to fund those activities which seek to contravene these existing community standards."

Two weeks later, commissioners fulfilled that pledge, voting 5-0 to cut all funding for the arts — including a theatre company whose play sparked the resolution.

Nelson Price, pastor of the 9,400-member Roswell Street Baptist Church in Marietta, said members of his church were involved in passage of the resolution. He said it was not spawned by anti-gay sentiment, but by a desire to protect family values.