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Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

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7-14-1983

**July 14, 1983**

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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Indiana growth goal  
linked to Arkansas aid  
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July 14, 1983

Arkansas Baptist  
NEWMAGAZINE



Arkansas' state missions director, Conway Sawyers (left), and Randy Jones (right), former director of missions for Indiana's Northwest Association, learn about ministry to seamen on Lake Michigan's south shore from Ron Ulrey, who directs the ministry.

Update

# Indiana growth goal

## linked to Arkansas aid

by Betty J. Kennedy

An Arkansan visiting in Indiana might have a difficult time finding a place to hear the type of "soul-winning sermon" he or she is accustomed to back home. That's precisely the reason behind what is called the Arkansas-Indiana Linkup.

It's not that the Southern Baptists are not at work in Indiana. It's just that, despite the work that Cooperative Program dollars are being spent for, there are still many Indiana towns with no evangelical witness, Arkansas's state missions director Conway Sawyers points out.

This low-key effort, established in 1978, teams Arkansas congregations with Indiana congregations and Arkansas associations with associations there. This way, Sawyers explains, the local church comes to understand missions and sees how their Cooperative Program dollar is spent. The Indiana work receives both financial and manpower support in turn.

Associational directors of missions have been the primary contact persons for Indiana churches who need help and Arkansas churches who give it. Besides commitment to financially support a work in Indiana, Arkansas churches have regularly sent teams to erect buildings or remodel them, conduct surveys, teach backyard Bible clubs and help with revivals.

Many of these activities have been reported in the *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine*, but these periodic updates could not begin to cover all the efforts of Arkansans since the two conventions became linked at the request of Indiana and the urging of R.H. Dorris, Arkansas' director of state missions at the time, and Charles Ashcraft, Arkansas's executive secretary, who has since retired.

Although dozens of Arkansas congregations, in cooperation with their local associations, have sent money and helpers to Indiana, there is still much that needs doing. At least 33 churches in Arkansas participated as of April, 1983, according to reports from Indiana, but the need is still overwhelming.

For instance, Rush County, Indiana, population 19,600, has no Baptist witness. The need is even greater in Fayette County with a population of 53,300. There is no Baptist witness there either. Also typical of the fledgling work in Indiana is Delaware County, population 128,500, with two Baptist churches, and Madison County, population 139,300, with one Southern Baptist church.

Conway Sawyers reports that this same kind of story is true throughout most of Indiana. In fact, only the Southwestern part of the state is reasonably well sprinkled with Southern Baptist churches, he says. The needs have been studied and Indiana directors of missions have identified 150 priority places in their state.

Representative of the challenge of Indiana work are these examples of urgent financial needs:

□Valley View Church, Flora, needs \$3,000 to finish interior changes in a building that they have bought and converted to a church facility. Twelve thousand dollars will enable them to make the exterior look like a church, including the placing of a steeple on the building.

□Warren Township in Indianapolis has Southern Seminary students working on cultivation to begin a new work. They need a guarantee of financial assistance for monthly rental in a shopping center area which is the target area for the beginning of a new church. The asking price for monthly rent for the area that they have been seeking is \$2,500 per month. There is a population of 85,000 people and no Southern Baptist witness in this area of Indianapolis.

□In another area of Indianapolis the Lebanon Baptist Church is meeting in the Holiday Inn. They have bought a piece of property, and want to put up the first unit of a church facility. The approximate cost of that unit would be \$30,000.

□Sunblest Mission, Indianapolis, is a somewhat elite community of new housing. They are averaging 30 to 40 people while they meet in a dance studio. They are negotiating with the Grace Baptist Church in the community, which is moving to another location. The asking price of their facility is \$85,000. They have offered \$40,000 and hope to get it for somewhere near that price. They need financial backing for this venture.

Arkansas has joined Indiana to help them meet a goal of having 550 Southern Baptist congregations in the state by Jan. 1, 1990, and Sawyers is convinced Arkansas churches have the resources to help them without hurting local work.

He directs individuals or churches interested in getting involved in these projects to contact their local associational director of missions or the State Missions department at the Baptist Building in Little Rock, (501) 376-4791.

## In this issue

### Country Cookin' 7

The good, homemade food that distinguishes events at rural churches is the subject of this month's "Food and fellowship" column, which includes a recipe for buttermilk cake, similar to old-fashioned pound cake.

### A women's issue 8

The first article in a series on women and economic issues explores the disproportionate burden on women that comes with economic hard times. Two more articles will follow.

## The termination of pastors?

## The editor's page

J. Everett Sneed



Occasionally, a church will attempt to dismiss its pastor. In most instances, such actions are not only harmful to the well being of the congregation, but totally without foundation. There are really only two Biblical reasons for a church voting its pulpit vacant — immorality and doctrinal unsoundness.

Many reasons are offered by members wishing to get rid of their pastor. They may say, "his sermons are not adequate," or "our church isn't growing as fast as it should." Or "our pastor doesn't visit the sick and the shut-ins as much as he should." The real reason, most often, is that one or more of the members of the congregation are not controlling the pastor to the extent they desire. Often these are good, well-meaning people who are unaware of their own motives.

Many of the attacks brought upon pastors grow out of a misunderstanding of the role of a pastor. First, we can gain insight by a consideration of the names used to describe the pastor. The New Testament refers to the office as elder, bishop and pastor. "Elder," originally referred to an older man, but came to describe those with experience and worthy of respect. The word "bishop" literally means overseer, while the word "pastor" means a shepherd. So, a pastor is to give guidance, spiritual food and care to a congregation which respects him.

That these three words refer to the same office is evident in two passages of scripture. I Peter 5: 1-2 says, "the elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: feed (pastor) the flock of God which is among you, taking oversight (bishop) thereof . . ." Also, see Acts 20: 17-28.

Second, the pastor is to provide training or to equip the members of a church to serve Christ. In Ephesians 4: 11-12, the apostles enumerated a group of God-called people who are to work with churches "for the perfecting of the saints [members]." The word translated "perfecting" was used in New Testament times for the setting of broken limbs. In politics, it was used to denote the pulling together of opposing factions so that govern-

ment could go on. The basic idea of the word is the putting of a person or thing into the condition in which it ought to be. The pastor is to train or equip the members so that they can "do the work of the ministry." Training can only take place when there is readiness to accept or receive instruction.

While the duties of pastors are not defined in great detail in the New Testament, it is evident that they are intended to exercise general oversight in spiritual matters, teach the church members, and guide all the activities of the church. Paul gives a detailed list of the qualities of that a minister of the Gospel is to possess. These qualities deal with a pastor's character and spiritual attainment, which qualifies him for church leadership, (see I Timothy 3: 1-7; Titus 1: 5-16; I Peter 5: 1-4).

There have been a very few pastors across the years who were morally unfit or doctrinally unsound. Usually, if a pastor is immoral, it becomes evident. More often, false charges have been trumped up against God's servants. Each of us should be aware that God will deal with those who viciously harm his special servants.

Doctrinal heresy is more difficult to define. Baptists have always given considerable latitude in the interpretation of doctrines. Any member who adheres to the teaching of the "New Hampshire Confession of Faith" or "the Baptist Faith and Message" (the two are very similar) would certainly be doctrinally sound. While such confessions should never be considered creeds, they may be useful as guidelines.

The work of a pastor is extremely demanding. It is a great tragedy when someone attempts to harass or harm a special servant of God. In most instances, confrontation between a pastor and a congregation can be avoided through an understanding of the office and the relationship of the minister and his people. Each of us should pray for our own church and our own pastor daily. As a member makes himself available to the Holy Spirit, he will be a valuable asset to his pastor. But of greater importance, he will be assisting in furthering the Kingdom's work.

# Arkansas Baptist

NEWSMAGAZINE

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

VOLUME 82 NUMBER 27  
J. EVERETT SNEED, Ph.D. . . . . Editor  
Betty Kennedy . . . . . Managing Editor  
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Copies by mail 50 cents each.

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.

Advertising rates on request.

Opinions expressed in signed articles are those of the writer.

Member of the Southern Baptist Press Association.

The Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine (USPS 031-280) is published weekly, except the third week in April, at July 4 and Dec. 25, by the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, Inc., 525 West Capitol Ave., Little Rock, AR 72201. Subscription rates are \$6.36 per year (individual), \$5.40 per year (Every Resident Family Plan), \$6.00 per year (Group Plan) and \$15.00 per year (to foreign address). Second class postage paid at Little Rock, AR. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, P. O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203.



## One layman's opinion

Daniel R. Grant/President, OBU

### Should we worry about neutrinos?

Nuclear scientists may have discovered something else for us to worry about, as if we don't have enough already. They have begun increasingly to talk about the "neutrino," even tinier than the neutrons, protons, and electrons that make up the tangible universe, from people to stars. They have been telling us about neutrinos for 40 years, peculiar particles with no electric charge, that can pass through matter, even through the entire earth, without slowing down. There are supposed to be billions of them for every single neutron, proton, and electron.

Now scientists have begun to argue with each other about whether the neutrino "has some mass." Frankly, this really has not been a matter of major concern with me. To be perfectly honest, I had never even heard of a neutrino until I read recently about the debate between scientists at the University of California-Irvine (who decided in 1980 that neutrinos do have mass and, therefore, their own gravity will eventually cause the universe to collapse into itself) and the scientists at the California

Institute of Technology (who have recently come to a different conclusion). The first group concluded that neutrinos switch from one form to another and back again, and the laws of physics say such "oscillations" cannot occur with massless particles. The second group found no hint of oscillations, and planned to do more research directly on whether there is mass.

If it is any comfort to the reader who has come this far, let the record show that all I really know about this is what I have read in the newspapers. The science that I studied in graduate school was political science and not physics. My original question was whether we should worry about neutrinos.

It's pretty obvious that society has all kinds of higher priorities for its worries than the question of whether or not neutrinos will cause the universe to collapse sometime far down the road after we are all gone. If by worrying we mean getting tense and uptight, I vote not to worry about neutrinos. On the other hand, we need to remember that it was some strange metal

gymnastics and ivory tower research about such weird ideas as "relativity" and formulae like  $E = mc^2$  that led eventually to unleashing the awesome power of the atomic bomb.

It will come as no surprise that I am not really worried about neutrinos, but all of us need to resist the temptation to poke fun at this kind of research. It is all a part of following God's mandate to be good stewards of the resources he has given us in this universe. Who knows? Unveiling the mystery of the neutrinos may lead us to a cure for cancer or to a bountiful new supply of energy. So, while Christian stewardship would not call for worrying, it might very well suggest a "healthy concern" about the mystery of the neutrinos. Those of us who want to grow as Christians in knowledge of the Lord can learn from the dedication and commitment of these scientists and their all-consuming quest for knowledge of the universe.

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



## The Southern accent

D. Jack Nicholas/President, SBC

### Governmental regulation of religious ministries

To some, a church is a building with a steeple on top and church activities are limited to a song, a prayer, an offering, and a sermon. Any activities beyond these are regarded as "secular." That conception is untenable even though it is gaining favor with the government.

Christian churches are enjoined by their Scriptures to minister to the widow, the orphan, the poor, and the needy. Jesus in Matthew 25 sets forth the church's responsibility in these areas, "For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me. I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. . . . Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

Perhaps it needs to be established that even in America the care of the poor and needy did not originate with the state. The

churches in America were the first to minister to the orphan, the indigent, the alcoholic, the troubled, the unwed mother, the sick, the infirm, etc. It may also be worthwhile to remember that the churches began the work of education in this country.

As the state has moved into these areas and has injected massive amounts of money into these various human services, it has also imposed progressively more stringent regulations for certification and licensure for both programs and personnel.

This tendency portends grave danger of violation of the First Amendment in regard both to "excessive entanglement" as state licensing creates a relationship between religion and the state, and also at the point of imposing regulations that unreasonably and unnecessarily interfere with religious convictions and thus infringe upon free exercise.

There has developed a tendency on the

part of government to attempt to define the various ministries of the church — orphanages, child-care and day-care, counseling programs, youth camps, homes for unwed mothers, hospitals, and schools — as "secular" because such a definition ostensibly removes such activities from First Amendment concerns.

The religious bodies of America cannot afford to accept that definition without resistance. To do so would ultimately result in the church retreating entirely from the world into its own four walls with no witness or ministry outside the church. Then, in fact, the church would be merely a building with a steeple on top and the activities of the church would be officially limited to a song, a prayer, an offering, and a sermon. God forbid! As a matter of fact, he already has!

Jack Nicholas is president of Southern Baptist College at Walnut Ridge.

## 1983 annual associational meetings

|                         |               |   |
|-------------------------|---------------|---|
| Arkansas Valley         | Oct. 17       | Turner  |
| Ashley                  | Oct. 17-18    | Montrose; North Crossett  |
| Bartholomew             | Oct. 17-18    | Arkansas Baptist Children's Home, Monticello; West Side, Warren |
| Benton                  | Oct. 10-11    | Bella Vista   |
| Big Creek               | Oct. 13-14    | Mt. Zion, Salem; Mammoth Springs                                |
| Black River             | Oct. 17-18    | Newport, First; Swifton   |
| Buckner                 | Oct. 11-13    | Waldron, First; Mansfield, First                                |
| Buckville               | Sept. 24-25   | Mt. Tabor   |
| Caddo River             | Oct. 10-11    | Caddo Gap; Amity, First   |
| Calvary                 | Oct. 10-11    | Cotton Plant, First; Mt. Hebron                                 |
| Carey                   | Oct. 10-11    | Fordyce, First; Sparkman, First                                 |
| Caroline                | Oct. 11       | Austin Station  |
| Centennial              | Oct. 10-11    | Hagler; North Maple, Stuttgart                                  |
| Central                 | Oct. 20       | Benton, First; Barcelona Road                                   |
| Clear Creek             | Oct. 18       | Clarksville, First  |
| Concord                 | Oct. 17-18    | Rye Hill, Ft. Smith   |
| Conway-Perry            | Oct. 18-20    | Plumerville, First; Harmony, Perryville                         |
| Current-Gains           | Oct. 17-18    | Biggers; New Hope, Pollard                                      |
| Dardanelle-Russellville | Oct. 10-11-13 | Atkins, First; Belleville; New Hope, Dardanelle                 |
| Delta                   | Oct. 17-18    | South McGehee; Shiloh   |
| Faulkner                | Oct. 17-18-20 | Southside, Oak Bowery; Conway, First                            |
| Garland                 | Oct. 10-11    | Park Place; Grand Avenue  |
| Greene County           | Oct. 17-18    | East Side, Paragould  |
| Harmony                 | Oct. 17-18    | Centennial, Pine Bluff; Dumas, First                            |
| Independence            | Oct. 17-18-20 | White River; Calvary, Timbo; Desha                              |
| Liberty                 | Oct. 18       | Smackover, First  |
| Little Red River        | Oct. 17-18    | Heber Springs, First  |
| Little River            | Oct. 10-11    | Dierks, First; Oak Grove  |
| Mississippi             | Oct. 17-18    | Osceola, First  |
| Mt. Zion                | Oct. 17-18    | Monette, First; Walnut Street                                   |
| North Arkansas          | Oct. 20-21    | Green Forest, First   |
| North Central           | Oct. 10-11    | Bee Branch; Shady Grove   |
| North Pulaski           | Oct. 17       | Central, North Little Rock                                      |
| Ouachita                | Oct. 10-11    | Grannis; Dallas Avenue, Mena                                    |
| Pulaski                 | Oct. 17-18    | Indian Springs; Hebron, Little Rock                             |
| Red River               | Oct. 13-14    | Beech Street, Gurdon; Southside, Prescott                       |
| Rocky Bayou             | Oct. 13-14    | Cherokee Village; Zion Hill                                     |
| Southwest Arkansas      | Oct. 13       | Memorial, Waldo   |
| Tri-County              | Oct. 17       | Marion  |
| Trinity                 | Oct. 18-19    | Trumann, First; East Side, Trumann                              |
| Washington-Madison      | Oct. 17-18    | Ridgeview, Fayetteville   |
| White River             | Oct. 10-11-13 | Norfolk; Bruno; Summit  |

by Don Moore

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

... The Southern Baptist Convention brought some real encouragement this year. The thing I most appreciated was the very obvious effort our people put forth to try to do things decently and in order. All preaching and teaching in the Pastors' Conference and the convention sessions highlighted the spiritual obligation we have to "maintain the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace." The Executive Committee, Committee on Boards and the Resolutions Committee were sustained by the body in most of all their recommendations. This shows the good effort of the committees and the confidence of the convention constituents. I join perhaps everyone else in saluting the superb effort of President Draper, the other officers and parliamentarian in running a fair business session for us.



Moore

As long as we were on missions and evangelism, we were all together. When it came to morals and political issues, the usual division of the body was strongly evident.

With everything considered, I would have to say this was a very strong convention with positive gains in all programs, ministries and in fellowship. Praise the Lord! He truly evidenced his love and power in our midst.

... Our Executive Board staff had a good month helping you in May. We were in 187 churches individually and touched 894 churches in the 112 conferences we led. We are glad you are calling on us and that we can help.

... Confidence and support are thrilling. Last year at this time, 131 churches out of 1,265 had not given through the Cooperative Program. This year the number has been reduced by 10. If yours is one of the 121 churches not supporting missions around the world by the Cooperative Program, what plan are you following? Let us help your church learn of this fantastic, God blessed plan.

Don Moore is executive secretary/treasurer of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

cial support for a morally right decision.

Laws concerning abortion are far too liberal. A 17 year old may now have an abortion without her parent's permission. And while we can't "legislate morality" as many would say applies here, why is it that those same proponents don't seem to have any problem "legislating immorality?" — Sheila A. Faries, Rector

## Letters to the editor

### Abortion questions

I am encouraged to learn of the convention's renewed interest in a position against abortion. Since attitudes toward abortion have been "liberated" it has moved from a necessary medical procedure when the life of the mother or child is in danger to a form of birth control. According to statistics reflecting the increasing number of abortions and establishment of abortion clinics, our nation is experiencing a rapidly increasing rate of "infanticide." Of course it is a personal judgement as to whether or not these children can really be referred to as individuals with rights. But even on the assumption that they have no "right to life," historical records of societies which condone the "disposal" treatment of its helpless would not make one feel very optimistic about the

future of our country.

The Bible records many miraculous conceptions and Christians cannot dispute the Lord's hand in them. But what about everyday folks — is every conception something that God wills even though that conception might take place in ungodly circumstances? I don't know. But I know that Ruth and Boaz were just Hebrew folks and Ruth 4:13 says "the Lord gave her conception." And I know there are long waiting lists of hopeful couples who want very much to adopt children. I also have seen some remarkable young women doing very well raising their children though statistics indicate this to be an undesirable situation. And the outlook for keeping babies is improving with more emphasis on parenting skills in schools and more so-

by Millie Gill/ABN staff writer



Bradley



Vosburg



Powell



Bradley



Carle



Duggan

**Elizabeth Bradley**

of Conway was another Arkansan who received an MRE degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary at Fort Worth this spring. She is the daughter of Mrs. B. D. Bradley.

**David Vosburg**

has been called to serve as pastor of the Clarendon First Church. A native of Little Rock, he is a graduate of Wayland Baptist University in Plainview, Texas, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has been serving as a pastoral care intern at Baptist Medical Center in Little Rock. He has served on Texas church staffs and also as a missionary volunteer to Mexico. Vosburg is married to the former Mary Ruth Hunt. They have a son, Brian David.

**Brenton Powell**

is serving Fouke First Church as associate pastor in charge of music and education. He attended Wayland Baptist University in Texas and is a graduate of East Arkansas College and Ouachita Baptist University. He has served Arkansas churches including ones in Bischoe, Forrest City, Arkadelphia and Camden. A native of Warren, he is the son of Rev. and Mrs. Kerry Powell of Forrest City. He and his wife, Linda, have a son, Craig.

**Craig Bradley**

has joined the staff of Levy Church in North Little Rock as minister of education/administration/outreach, coming there from

Southcliff Church in Fort Worth, Texas. He is a graduate of Texas A & M University in College Station and of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Ruth Ann, have two children, Aaron Micheal and Carrie Margaret.

**Alfred W. Carle Jr.** of Monticello was recently awarded a diploma in Christian Ministry from Boyce Bible School in Louisville, Ky.

**William Duggan**

of North Little Rock was recently awarded a diploma in Christian Ministry from Boyce Bible School in Louisville, Ky.

**James Thower**

of Little Rock recently received a diploma in Christian Ministry from Boyce Bible School in Louisville, Ky.

**Terry D. Floyd**

is serving as pastor of the Malvern Trinity Church, coming there from the Northside Church in Charleston. He and his wife, Irene, have two sons, Chris and Danny. Floyd is a graduate of Mid-America Seminary.

**Luke Flesher**

recently observed his 10th anniversary as minister of youth at Park Hill Church in North Little Rock.

**Billy Walker**

is serving as interim pastor of the Crossroads Church in Portia.

**Donnie Smith**

is serving as pastor of the Alicia Church, coming there from the Third Avenue Church in Paragould. He and his wife, Dian, have three children, Kim, Neal and Justin.

**Charles Phillips**

is serving as pastor of the Calvary Church at Walnut Ridge. He is a graduate of Southern Baptist College. He and his wife, Laurena, have three sons, Charles, Richard and David.

**Bob Jones**

is serving as pastor of the Hindsville First Church. He and his wife, Karen, reside in Fayetteville.

**J. Lowell Ponder**

is serving as interim pastor of the West Fork First Church.

**Gary McCormick**

is serving as interim pastor of the West Point Church.

**David White**

of Paragould has joined the staff of Crossett Magnolia Church as minister of music/youth.

**William P. Oakley**

has resigned as pastor of the Piggott First Church to become pastor of the Leawood Church in Memphis.

**Guiola Spraggins**

was recently honored by Hope First Church for her 42 years of service as church organist.

## focus on youth

**Benton First Church**

youth and sponsors have returned from doing mission work in Muncie, Ind. Ten youth and four adults assisted with Backyard Bible Clubs, surveys and a revival. Pastor Tommy Tutor assisted with the revival efforts.

**Batesville Calvary Church**

youth recently returned from a mission trip to the Zuni Indian Reservation in Zuni, N.M. There they conducted Bible classes for 352 Indians ages four through 23. Missionaries John and Norma Bailey worked

with the youth. The Batesville group also participated in the summer youth celebration at Glorieta Baptist Encampment by presenting a skit during the fun and celebration time.

**Ward Calvary Church**

youth worked June 13-17 in the Ozarks of Arkansas, leading Vacation Bible Schools at both Angola and Half Moon Mountains. Pastor Gene Davis assisted them with an evening revival at the Half Moon Church. Bobby Douglass, youth director, coordinated the Arkansas mission efforts that resulted

in eight professions of faith and two additions by letter. Jim and Connie Sutterfield of the Angora community housed and fed the youth and their sponsors from Ward.

**Fordey First Church**

youth will lead Backyard Bible Clubs and nightly revivals in Oklahoma as a summer missions program.

**Fouke First Church**

youth recently held a lock-in at Mount Olive Church in Crossett with youth directors Deryl and Cathy Jones leading activities.

**Lee Memorial Church**

at White Hall is observing its 59th anniversary July 17 with both 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. services. Former pastor's Jack Ramsey and Phelan Boone will be speakers. Jim Wilmoth, a former music director, will lead music. A noon meal will be served at 12:30 p.m. Lee Memorial, organized as a mission in 1924, has experienced growth through 683 baptisms and 803 additions. In its 59 years, there have been 16 pastors and 25 part-time or full-time music/youth directors. It presently is serving as the "mother church" of the River Road Chapel in Redfield.

**Luxora First Church**

recently ordained Matt Corkran as a deacon. The church also recently began a bus ministry, children's church and a daily radio broadcast as added outreach programs according to pastor Keith Mathis.

**Elmdale Church**

at Springdale is conducting Sunday services for tourists at the Hickory Creek recreational area.

**buildings****Mansfield First Church**

has entered the second phase of a building program that includes construction of an auditorium.

**Otter Creek First Church**

recently broke ground for a 10,400 square foot building that will provide for educational and sanctuary space, plus office accommodations. Little Rock sponsoring church pastors participating were Jerry Warmath, pastor of Pulaski Heights Church; John Ashcraft, pastor of Brookwood First Church, and Johnny Jackson, pastor of Forest Highlands Church. Others on program included church members Charles Jolliff, Gary Harris and Dennis Hyland; pastor Max Deaton; Glenn Hickey, director of missions for Pulaski County Association and Conway Sawyers, director of the missions Department of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

**WMU Ridgcrest program includes three Arkansans**

BIRMINGHAM, Al. — Three Arkansas women will participate in the national Woman's Missionary Union Leadership Conference July 30-August 5 at Ridgcrest Baptist Conference Center.

Betty Jo Lacey, Acteens director for Arkansas WMU, will conduct conferences for associational Acteens Directors.

Roma Zeltner, of Fort Smith, will be in charge of children's activities.

Shannon Brawley, of West Memphis, national Acteens panelist, will be featured.

**Sonora Church**

at Springdale members have returned from Milan, New Mexico where they assisted a church with repair work and Backyard Bible Clubs. Pastor B. R. Stockton led revival services.

**Fouke First Church**

recently licensed Jay Rowton and Paul McDonald to the ministry. Pastor Dale Wooten led the service.

**Faith Church**

at Forrest City conducted its first homecoming service June 5. Pastor Jerry Hogg was speaker.

**Earle Church**

recently conducted a commissioning ser-

vice for Rev. and Mrs. Karl Weathers who have been appointed as missionaries in Beirut, Lebanon. Don Moore, executive secretary/treasurer of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, was speaker. Others on program were Dee Speer, Phillip Browning, Ben Hodges, Eugene Ray, Mrs. Phillip Browning, Robert F. Tucker, director of missions for Tri-County Association and Billy Rogers.

**Imboden First Church**

observed its 90th anniversary June 26. Speakers included pastor James Newnam; former director of missions Cecil Guthrie, current director of missions Marvin Reynolds and former pastors Jean Smith, James Whitlock and Joe Loghry.

**Food and fellowship**

Virginia Kirk and Jane Purtle

**Rural churches**

Rural churches have a reputation for serving some of the best food in Arkansas. This is where you'll find real "country cooking," Arkansas style. According to the season of the year, you'll be served blackberry cobbles, chicken and dressing, fried green apples, marvelous "light-rolls," fresh corn on the cob, melt in your mouth tea cakes, hot potato salad, biscuits and gravy — the list stretches deliciously on and on.

In a small congregation everyone is asked to stay after church for a birthday party for the preacher, his wife, or someone else in the group. Several people bring part of the refreshments. Sandwiches, cookies, punch, and a good home made cake or two are served.

Then they have "dinner-on-the-ground" for homecomings, memorial days, or cemetery clean-up days. Former members and friends from years past make plans to attend the events. Those who come from a long distance usually are guests at the bountiful tables and are not expected to bring food. There will be such foods as layered chocolate cake with fudge icing, fried ham, sweet cucumber pickles, and platters of sliced tomatoes and green onions.

The evangelists at the rural churches have fellowship each day around the tables of the church members. It is always a pleasure and privilege for the host families to serve these preachers.

This month's recipe is for a cake that is similar to the old fashioned pound cake. It could be taken to a dinner-on-the-ground accompanied by a bowl of fresh sliced, sweetened peaches or strawberries. It is a good cake to serve at home too.

**Buttermilk cake**

|                          |                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2 cups sugar             | 1/2 teaspoon salt         |
| 1/4 cup shortening       | 1 cup buttermilk          |
| 3 eggs                   | 1 teaspoon almond extract |
| 2 1/2 cups flour         | 2 teaspoons vanilla       |
| 1 teaspoon baking powder | 1 teaspoon lemon extract  |
| 1/2 teaspoon soda        |                           |

Cream sugar and shortening. Beat in eggs, one at a time. Sift dry ingredients together. Blend into shortening and sugar mixture alternately with the buttermilk. Stir in the three flavorings. Pour into a greased and floured tube pan. Bake for one hour at 350 degrees.

Virginia Kirk, professor emerita at Arkansas College, is a member of Batesville First Church. Jane Purtle is on the staff at Christian Counseling and Teaching Center in Syria, Virginia. They have enjoyed cooking together for several years.



## Churches urged to help women caught in hunger/poverty trap

by Ronald D. Sisk

Southern Baptists are faced with the challenge of discovering new ways to deal with economic problems of American women who suffer far more than men from problems of poverty, hunger and financial security, say hunger and family specialists at the Christian Life Commission.

"Southern Baptists are called to minister to the poor," says David Lockard, the commission's director of organization and specialist in hunger concerns. "A disproportionate number of women, whether they work in the home, work outside the home or are retired, live in poverty."

While only about 11 percent of American families are at poverty level, over one-third of families headed by women are poor, Lockard said.

"Government statistics show that women account for 75 percent of all persons living in poverty, 69 percent of all food stamp recipients, 66 percent of all residents of subsidized housing, and 61 percent of those dependent upon Medicaid," he pointed out. "Clearly, hunger is largely and disturbingly a woman's issue."

Harry N. Hollis Jr., the commission's associate executive director and specialist in family concerns says, "Women's economic problems extend to the heart of family structures."

If a woman decides to be a homemaker, a role many Southern Baptist women have chosen, that choice can create severe financial difficulties."

As a homemaker, for example," he says, "the worth of a woman's work under present laws is not counted in determining later social security benefits. She is not legally

**Editor's note:** This is the first in a series of three articles prepared by the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission to inform Southern Baptists about economic problems affecting American women.

eligible to contribute as much to a tax-sheltered individual retirement account as is her employed husband."

Hollis also points out that a woman who goes to work outside the home as a result of divorce or widowhood will often find herself without adequate job training and unable to command a decent salary.

In addition, when a marriage ends in divorce a woman who has been a homemaker may not be eligible for any of the retirement benefits earned by her husband's employment during the marriage.

"Women deserve better treatment than this," Hollis says. "The Bible makes it clear that women are first-class citizens in the Kingdom of Heaven, and they deserve to be treated as first-class citizens by all institutions of society."

Lockard adds that many women to whom Southern Baptists relate find themselves caught in a cradle-to-grave system of financial inequities. "The result of these inequities is that 72 percent of all the elderly people in this country who are poor are women."

Southern Baptists, who have been so blessed through the years by the labors of countless godly women, need desperately to recover the biblical sense of social responsibility for the problems women face," he urges.

The two men pointed to the need for Southern Baptists to develop ministries to help meet women's special financial problems.

Among the suggestions given were assistance in the identification of legal rights and specific instructions in money management.

"A concerned local church could serve as a resource center to help women who want or need to locate job training and placement," Hollis suggests.

"By so doing the churches can fulfill in a creative way the biblical injunction to protect the welfare of widows and orphans.

"Southern Baptists should also support laws which assure women the right to accumulate adequate retirement funds and which protect the financial rights of divorced women and their children," Hollis says.

Agreeing that currently popular ministries such as day care centers and mother's day out programs are important resources for women, Hollis and Lockard encourage Southern Baptists to work also to help women have an adequate level of financial security.

In addition to traditional benevolence programs, Lockard says, A Christian Life Committee in a local church can enumerate specific ways to help women in their own memberships "who suffer quietly from the hopelessness of real poverty."

**Sisk is director of program development for the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission and has a major assignment for programs related to concerns of Christian women.**

## Arkansas datelines

### Churches, associations honored by WMU

PITTSBURGH, Pa. — Twenty-eight Southern Baptist churches and five associations in Arkansas were recognized for their achievements during the Woman's Missionary Union national Annual Meeting when it met here June 12-13.

Named as Distinguished Church WMUs were: First and Second Church, Arkadelphia; First Church, Blytheville; First Church,

Carlisle; First Church, Crossett; Grand Avenue and Immanuel, Fort Smith; First Church, Fouke; Gardner, Hamburg; First Church, Horatio; First Church, Huttig, and Geyer Springs First, Immanuel, and Markham Street, all of Little Rock.

Other distinguished church WMUs were: First Church, Manila; First Church, Marianna; First Church, Mountain Home; First Church,

Newport; Amboy, Levy, and Park Hill, all North Little Rock; First Church, Prairie Grove; Pyatt; First Church and Temple Church, Searcy; Beech Street, Texarkana; First Church, Ward, and First Church, West Memphis.

Distinguished associations cited were: Concord, Independence, Liberty, North Pulaski, and Southwest.

## News about missionaries

**Mr. and Mrs. Rex Holt**, missionaries to Togo, are the parents of Sara Elizabeth born June 17. They are in the States and may be addressed at Box 61, Sledge, Miss. 38670. He was born in Jonesboro, Ark., and grew up there and in Bay and McCormick, Ark., and Wilmington, Calif. She is the former Sherry Puckett of Paragould, Ark. They were appointed by the Foreign Mis-

sion Board in 1975, resigned in 1980 and reappointed in 1982.

**Mr. and Mrs. Gregory B. Meeks**, are the parents of Erin Beth, born June 13. Missionaries to Taiwan, they may be addressed at 372 Chien Hsing Lu, Taichung 400, Taiwan. He considers Hot Springs, Ark., his hometown, and she is the former Jackie Hunter of Paragould, Ark. They were appointed by

the Foreign Mission Board in 1981.

**Mr. and Mrs. John F. Anthony**, Baptist representatives to Israel, have arrived in the States on furlough (address: 2871 Stanton, Fayetteville, Ark. 72701). He is a native of Hope, Ark. The former Connie Goble, she was born in Winamac, Ind., and grew up in Mount Ida, Ark. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1973.

SPRING HILL, Tenn. — Peter and Barbara Jenkins, whose writing about their walk across America has captured the country's imagination, spoke during the Home Mission Board program Wednesday evening, June 15, at the Southern Baptist Convention in Pittsburgh.

The best-selling authors, who are now members of Spring Hill (Tenn.) Church, met at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary where Barbara was a student when Peter completed the first 1,900-mile leg of his famous walk. In his first book, *A Walk Across America*, Peter described his conversion at a New Orleans revival led by Southern Baptist evangelist James Robison.

Jenkins began his walk from Alfred, New York, in October, 1973. Disillusioned with the nation's political, social and moral upheavals, the Connecticut native and his dog, Cooper, began an odyssey on foot which carried him into the lives of a Virginia mountain man, a loving black family in North Carolina, and many other "American heroes."

After their marriage, the Jenkinss continued the journey westward on July 5, 1976. Along the way from Louisiana's Gulf Coast to Oregon's Pacific shore, they worked in a gator-trapping camp, a Mexican restaurant, the Texas gas fields and an Idaho ranch. The second half of the near 5,000-mile transcontinental hike ended two-and-a-half years later.

The saga of both treks was seen by an estimated 50 million readers of *National Geographic*. The first book is now in its 20th printing and has been translated into eight languages. The second account, *A Walk West*, is in its 12th printing. Both books remain bestsellers in paperback editions and are "crossover books" on both the secular and religious bestseller lists. CBS is also considering a movie or television special based on the couple's story.

After they waded into the Pacific Ocean at the end of their walk, Peter thought "that part of our lives was behind us." They settled on a 150-acre farm in the tiny town of Spring Hill, population 1100.

Yet the torrent of mail and speaking opportunities indicated "the Lord had opened a door for us to communicate with the world," Peter said. Strangers often write to thank them for "showing us the real America" and to plead for them to keep writing, he added.

Most also add "we loved your books, but how come you didn't stop in our part of the country?" Jenkins reported with a laugh. (Southern Baptists who would like to share information about their corner of America are invited to write Jenkins at Box 20, Franklin, TN 37064.)

The authors now plan to write a third book "exploring the rest of America" and describing their life on a Tennessee farm. They also are working on a book aimed at

Christian audiences "based on how the Lord has taught us to put Christian lifestyle into practice," Peter said. In addition, they're considering a film series.

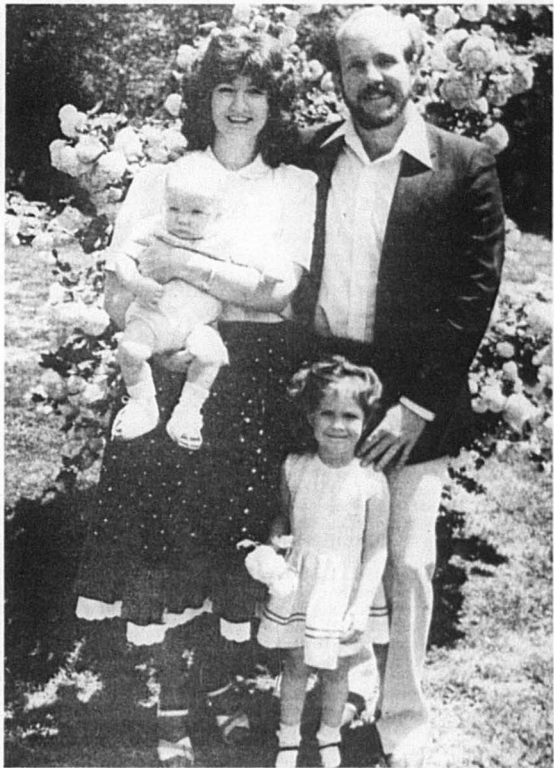
As a Christian, Peter considers himself "primarily a communicator and as a seed planter rather than as a preacher. Because I want to reach the largest possible audience, I'm interested in every sort of medium."

Peter and Barbara have two children: Rebekah, 3½, and Jeddiah, five months. When he's not speaking on college campuses or before other audiences, Peter tends to their cattle, cuts hay, helps with the family garden. In winter, they heat their farmhouse with a wood stove. Still, Peter pointed out, "we also have a microwave

and a home computer. We've learned that you can have the benefits of high technology without losing some of the time-honored knowledge from the past."

The Jenkinss chose to settle in the South "primarily because of the people and because we love the slower-paced lifestyle," Peter explained. "We also like the Christian influence you see in the South."

Peter estimates he receives more than 20 invitations to speak each week. Yet his and Barbara's appearance at the SBC is the only engagement he's accepted for the rest of 1983. "I need the time alone to write," he explained, "but we prayed about coming to the Southern Baptist Convention and decided perhaps God can use us to bring a special word to our fellow Southern Baptists."



Peter and Barbara Jenkins, pictured with their daughter, Rebekah, and son, Jeddiah, spoke during the Home Mission Board program Wednesday evening, June 15, at the Southern Baptist Convention in Pittsburgh.

# Your state convention at work

## Student Department

### Student names are important

Steve Masters, BSU Director at Arkansas Technical University at Russellville, was talking to me about the importance of having the names of enrolling college students before they arrive on campus. Steve became excited as he talked about the results of having the name of one particular student last summer.

Jan's name was sent to Steve early in the summer by her church's youth director. Steve and students from the Tech Baptist Student Union wrote to her several times during the summer before she enrolled as a freshman. Upon her arrival in Russellville, Jan immediately became involved in the BSU program. She served on the Freshman Council and by her second semester she advanced to the Executive Council. She moved her membership to a local Southern Baptist Church where she began to assist with youth activities and participated in the witness training program. As an active witness on campus, she helped to lead a student to accept Christ in March, and now she is serving as a BSU summer missionary.

Jan's involvement was a direct result of her church sending the names of college students to the BSU during the summer. A request has been made to Sunday school directors, this year, asking for students' names and the schools they will attend. We believe that, like Jan, students will be enlisted in BSU and encouraged to grow in their faith if their names are submitted to BSU directors before they arrive at the campus. If your church has not yet sent the names of enrolling students to BSU, send a list today to Student Department, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203. — **George E. Sims, associate**



Sims

## Church Training

### Dynamic Doctrines

This is the third in a series of articles on Developing Believers, the primary focus of Bold Mission Thrust for the coming year, 1983-84. Last week the Believer's Ministry Covenant was introduced. Now, let me introduce you to Dynamic Doctrines.

Doctrinal study must be a major part of a church's efforts to develop believers. Paul emphasized the church's responsibility to, "prepare all God's people for the work of Christian service, in order to build up the body of Christ and so we shall all come together to that oneness in our faith and in our knowledge of the Son of God..." (Eph. 4:12-13 TEV). This oneness in the faith and this preparation for Christian service, are dependent upon an understanding of Christian doctrine.

Dynamic Doctrines includes a three-month study of basic Christian doctrine to be offered for adults, youth and children this fall quarter, October-December, 1983. The study materials will appear in the dated Church Training periodicals for these ages.

In addition to the doctrine study, the evening worship service can be planned to support the doctrine studied during Church Training. The hymns, special music and sermon can be planned to focus on these key doctrines. Pastors and ministers of music will find suggestions for the worship services in the fall issues of *Church Administration*, *Proclaim* and *The Church Musician*. The June issue of the *Church Training* magazine contains a suggested worship service outline for each Sunday of the fall quarter (pp. 26-35).

Don't miss out on Dynamic Doctrines. It can provide your



Holley

church one of its greatest opportunities for a well-coordinated emphasis on key doctrinal truths. — **Robert Holley, Director**

## Evangelism

### Evangelism, God's Priority

Jesus stated in Luke 19:10 "For the son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost". I am delighted to see evangelism made a priority by God's servants.

In a recent R.A. camp directed by Neal Guthrie, evangelism was made a priority. Six precious boys came to know Jesus as Savior and Lord.

Ervin Keathley and Glen Ennes directed a music camp for young people. The theme of evangelism was held high as former Sunday School Director Lawson Hatfield preached. There were eleven precious people saved.

Pat Glascock is the Director of G.A.'s in Arkansas. She stated, "We build our Bible Studies and programs around evangelism". In the last G.A. camp there were ten precious girls who came to know Christ.

The Evangelism Department in cooperation with the Home Mission Board has bought a new revival tent. The tent was used for the first time at Leonard Street Church, Hot Springs under the direction of Pastor Henry Applegate. Evangelist Rex Easterling did the preaching and Music Evangelist Clarence Hill directed the music. There were twenty-nine people wonderfully saved.

John Robbins, pastor of Second Baptist Church, Monticello, taught a recent witnessing class for the Evangelism Department at Siloam Springs. Twenty-seven adults were trained to share their witness. During the week they personally led six people to Christ.

I am excited and thrilled to see that God uses a variety of ways and means to bring about the end results; salvation of souls. — **Clarence Shell, director**

## Sunday School

### Weekday Early Education Workshop

Many of our Arkansas Baptist churches minister to preschoolers and their families through Weekday Early Education programs. These include kindergarten, day care, and Mother's Day Out.

The Missions and Sunday School Departments sponsor an annual workshop to assist WEE directors, teachers, and committee members in doing a better job of teaching and ministering to these preschoolers.

The 1983 workshop will be held on July 28-29 in the Geyer Springs First Church, Little Rock. Sessions are scheduled for 9:30-11:30, 12:30-3:15, and 6:30-8:30 on Thursday and 8:30-12:00 on Friday.

Lunch will be served at the church on Thursday. Reservations should be made by Friday, July 22.

Special interest conferences will include art, music, WEE directors, teaching younger preschoolers, learning centers, meal planning, Mother's Day Out.

Program personnel will include: Dr. Jeroline Baker, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; Dr. Otho Hesterly, University of Arkansas Medical Sciences; Pamela Arrington, Ouachita Baptist University; and Rose Jones, Arkansas Baptist Family and Child Care Services; and Angie Greer, Henderson State University.

For more information and luncheon reservations, write or call **Pete Petty** or **Pat Patton**, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, 72203, 376-4791. — **Pat Patton**



Shell



Raton

## Family and Child Care Baptists' cooperation

Recent reading of some of the events in our Arkansas Baptist State Convention history has refreshed my thinking on the concept of cooperation. As people become intensely concerned for others they reach out to help.

Sometimes the needs are so great the help of others must be enlisted to achieve the desired result. At that point a system of cooperation begins to emerge.

This cooperation reaches out beyond our own local area. It crosses many barriers to bring the needed help.

It is very refreshing to have people from various agencies and institutions cooperating together in ministry to hurting people. One recent example came from the Association of Women Students at Ouachita Baptist University. They raised some money for use by our child care agency in helping children. Along with the check came a letter with these words: "Thank you for allowing us to help in your work. God bless you and the children."

Being a part of our Baptist family where the spirit of cooperation prevails is indeed a blessing from God. We rejoice that we are a part of such relationships.

— Homer W. Shirley, Jr., director of development



Shirley

## Stewardship Department Debbie's goat

Debbie Moore, former staff member of Arkansas Baptist WMU, is now a Southern Baptist Missionary in Monrovia, Liberia. Miss Moore is one of our 3300 plus dedicated, busy, practical missionaries.

Gas is three dollars a gallon in Monrovia and Debbie found this too expensive to mow her yard. She found a cheaper way.

Our missionaries receive a housing allowance to provide for their shelter needs on the mission field. Debbie used a part of her allowance to buy a goat. With the goat mowing the grass, Debbie saves \$15.00 a week.

The Cooperative Program provides housing for our missionaries. It also provides for a lot of other daily expenses. Because the churches give together through the Cooperative Program, our mis-

sionaries labor with the assurance that Southern Baptists will provide for their needs.

And the missionaries stretch our mission dollars. Inflation has cut back money for programs. Dollars saved in housing or transportation are used for programs, materials and outreach. That's why Debbie bought the goat with Cooperative Program money.

Southern Baptists now have missionaries in 100 countries. We also have printing presses, buildings, schools, hospitals, vehicles, tractors and wells. Last year over 140,000 confessed Christ as savior and followed him in baptism as a result of our Cooperative Program expenditures.

— James A. Walker, director  
Christian Life Council

## The All-American Cop-Out

Jay Strack, dynamic preacher and pastor of the Riverside Church in Ft. Myers, Florida, probably speaks to more youth and adults about the drug problem in society than any other person. He has written a book, *Drugs and Drinking*. Every church library should have this. Anyone working with children and youth should read it. It is written by one who has been there. Christ turned Jay Strack's life around. He speaks from experience.

Why does one begin drinking alcoholic beverages? Why do other drugs find their way into a person's life style? Five reasons are suggested by the author. He uses the acrostic "peace": Pressure, Escape, Availability, Curiosity, and Emptiness. Pressure is something that both young and old have to deal with. Paul's admonition against conforming to the patterns of this age speaks to this (Rom. 12:1-2). The way to handle the stresses and problems of life is Christ, through whom we can do all things (Phil. 4:13). A scripture that relates to the problem of the awful availability of drugs in our culture is, "Where sin abounds, grace does even more abound," (Rom. 5:20). "Curiosity killed the cat." Curiosity often results in death and destruction. God's word tells of many who fell victim to such, including Adam and Eve.

Finally, emptiness is best solved by the indwelling and infilling power of the Holy Spirit. Thank God for writers and preachers like Jay Strack who out of personal and education experiences continue to combat such as "demon rum" and other murderous drugs.

— Bob Parker, director



Parker

## Arkansan aids Zimbabwe revival

Sanyati, Zimbabwe (BP) — Another round of spiritual revival erupted during a three-week period in Zimbabwe's bush country as 3,771 persons made profession of faith in. An Arkansas journeyman, Mark Dewbre, was among involved.

The responses, which may add at least 11 churches, followed repeated showings of the Life Ministries' film "Jesus." A team from Life Ministries (called Campus Crusade for Christ in the United States) showed the film twice nightly to 14,085 people throughout the Sanyati and Gokne area.

"Not a single Baptist church existed in 11 of the 24 areas the film was shown," said Southern Baptist missionary Bob Parker, a church developer. "We're praying churches will start there."

The first round of revival occurred late

last year when Parker visited 38 government bush schools. He preached to more than 20,000 students and accounted for 6,037 professions of faith.

Those converts were enrolled in "One Way Clubs" for discipleship training organized by Parker and led weekly by Dewbre and another journeyman. Zimbabwe Baptist leaders then projected a potential doubling of churches in the area.

Parker, Dewbre, and others promoted film attendance at One Way Clubs. Zimbabwe Baptists joined them in counseling converts and planning follow-up.

Missionaries expect the new converts promoted film attendance at One Way Club and enrollment in the Zimbabwe Baptist Mission's Bible Way Correspondence School.

Parker said the mission will seek to enroll

people more than 12 years old in the Bible Way Correspondence School and incorporate all school-age children into the One Way Clubs. He will encourage Zimbabwe Baptists to provide discipleship training for new converts.

He also plans to conduct weekend revival services where the film was shown.

## Recreation for any church

A church of any size can have a program of recreation for church members and others, according to Timer Hartley, minister of recreation at North Church, McKinney, Tex. Many people mistakenly feel that in order to have a recreation program, their church must have a recreation building.

Most churches have a fellowship hall where they can have activities like fellowships or exercise classes.

## International

### *Hannah: Faithful and prayerful*

by D. C. McAtee, member, First Church, Forrest City

Basic passage: I Samuel 1:9-11, 19-20, 24-28; 2:1-2

Focal passage: I Samuel 1:9-11

Central truth: God does hear our prayers, and delivers in his time.

#### 1. Hannah's background.

Hannah had a beautiful name. With a slight change it becomes Anna or Ann. She was a Godly woman who believed in prayer. She was the favorite wife of Elkanah, a good but easy going, undistinguished priest. Since Hannah was barren, Elkanah took to wife Peninnah, and had several children by her. Peninnah would chide Hannah for her inability to have children. This was probably due to the fact that she knew Elkanah loved Hannah more than he did her. Finally the condition becomes more than Hannah could bear alone.

#### 2. Hannah is a prayerful woman.

The time comes when Hannah could not be comforted even by her husband. Each year as they would go to Shiloh for special religious services, Peninnah seemed to irritate Hannah even more. Even though she was apparently a very religious person, there came a time when there was no where to go but to the Lord.

Verse 10 tells us that she was greatly distressed, and prayed to the Lord and wept bitterly. In verse 11 she makes a vow that if God will remember her and give her a son, that she will give him to the Lord all the days of his life and a razor shall never come on his head.

#### 3. Hannah's prayer is answered.

Having found spiritual victory in prayer (v. 18) Hannah's face was no longer sad. They arose early in the morning, worshipped before the Lord, and returned to their home in Ramah. As they continued their family relationships (v. 20) in due time, after she had conceived, she gave birth to a son, and named him Samuel, meaning, "Meaning because I have asked him of the Lord".

#### 4. Hannah keeps her promise.

These verses tell us how Hannah kept her promise to the Lord, and brought him to Eli at the temple, to rear and train, and use in the Lord's service as long as he lives.

5. Hannah shows her gratitude to the Lord.

This is evidence of the fact that good things do come to those who wait upon the Lord. Do we take time to show our love and appreciation for all the good things he does for us daily? If not, we should.

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## Life and Work

### *Living Justly*

by Tony Berry, First Church, Dardanelle

Basic passage: Psalm 2; Proverbs 14:5,12,21:16;8; Micah 6:8

Focal passage: Psalm 1:1-6; Proverbs 14:5,12,21:16;8; Micah 6:8

Central truth: Jesus Christ is ultimate truth. We must relate to him if we are to live justly.

Our day is one of questions and doubt. To say that God is ultimate truth is to bring argumentative questions from the non-believing community. To give a Biblical understanding as to the meaning of what living justly means is to operate from the perspective that Jesus Christ is "the way, the truth, and the life." Those of us who believe Christ is our Savior and example seek to model our living after him. We question God, not from the position of unbelief, but to learn all we can about the person whom we love.

The position of the Psalmist in regard to living justly is to institute God's law as the ultimate model. The person who relates to God as the model for living justly is:

1. A happy person because such a person rejects the temptation to walk or sit with those who scorn the model of God.

2. One who delights in the law of God. He gives attention to the study and practice of God's law day and night.

3. Living by the model of God strengthens the disciple of God: like a tree planted by rivers of water; bears fruit...regardless of the weather and he prospers in all that he does.

Those who choose a model other than God are described as follows: useless as chaff and controlled by every wind of doctrine; the ungodly will not live justly and the life style of the ungodly will perish.

The writer of Proverbs shares insight into the benefits of the person who lives justly. The person who lives justly is known as one who gives a faithful witness. Misrepresentation and false witnessing are foreign to the person who lives justly. If we believe the words of Jesus, "I am the way, the truth and the life" then we must acknowledge God to be ultimate truth. Those who refuse to view God from this perspective are described in verse 12, "there is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."

Finally, Micah tells us that living justly is relating to God by doing justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God. Living a life attached to God through faith and service is the essential key to living justly.

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## Bible Book Series

### *The practice of wisdom*

by Bernard Beasley, First Church, Hardy

Basic passage: Proverbs 16:1-22:16

Focal passage: Proverbs 16:23-24; 17:5,7,15,23,28; 18:7-8,21; 19:17,24; 20:4,13; 21:3, 13,23

Central truth: The prudent person exercises wisdom in speech, diligent work, and his concern for others.

As difficult as it is to outline the thoughts, ideas, and truths of the book of Proverbs, there is unity in this book. Its dynamic focus is on the practical application of wisdom. Apparently the writer of this book did not have an outline in mind, thus this lesson is topical in approach.

The basic problems of relationship and motivation, which have been about the same across the years, are the very subjects to which the book of Proverbs addresses itself. As one observer says, "Our age may be different, but the problem spots that give rise to anxieties and difficulties to human beings remains pretty constant."

Over and over the writer of Proverbs says, "watch your language". Our words reveal our true selves. Distorted communication causes problems in every area of life. Difficulties in family relations, in our day-to-day lives, and in national and international relationships can be traced back to distorted communication. It has been pointed out that over 100 verses in Proverbs deal with the use of the tongue and how its wrong use brings travail. The Apostle Paul wrote, "Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer every one" (Col. 4:6RSV).

Much of this particular section of Proverbs has to do with wisdom and integrity in speech, one's relationships, and daily work. Over and over we read encouragements and warnings in the realm of family relationships.

Respect for parents, grandparents, children and grandchildren is revealed as an expression of true wisdom. Many of these "wisdom sentences" remind us of the maxims and teachings recorded in the Epistle of James in the New Testament.

The moral, ethical and spiritual precepts of this section of this book remind us of our responsibility to the poor, the value of our reputation, and the importance of our diligence in work. A well-known Baptist leader in our State a few years back, often stated his motto as being, "Stay humble, keep sweet, and work hard". This was his every day philosophy stated in simple and positive words. Much of what the writer of Proverbs said might be summed up in these seven words!

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**Mr. and Mrs. William C. Viser**, missionaries to Brazil, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Caixa Postal 2541, 20000 Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil). He is a native of Memphis, Tenn. The former Susan Sims, she was born in Camden, Ark., and grew up there and in Hot Springs and Pine Bluff, Ark. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1978.

**Patricia Frost**, Baptist representative to Jordan, has arrived in the States for furlough (address: General Delivery, Parks, Ark. 72950). A native of Parks, she was appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1978.

**Mr. and Mrs. James L. Crawford**, missionaries to Venezuela, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 5804 S. Fresno Ter., Ft. Smith, Ark. 72903). They are natives of Oklahoma. He was born in Tonkawa and lived in Bristow, Hugo and Poteau. She is the former Sammye Henson of Poteau. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1969.

**Sheri Grober**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Glendon D. Grober, missionaries to Brazil, married Bruce Burnett in Little Rock, Arkansas, on June 4. Bruce is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Johnny N. Burnett, missionaries to Brazil. The bride's parents are in the States on furlough (address: 717 North Hughes, Little Rock, Ark. 72205). Grober was born in Vicksburg, Miss., and lived there and in Russellville, Ark., while growing up. She is

the former Marjorie Stelle of Bullard County, Ky. The Burnetts are also in the States (address: Rt. 7, Box 364, Fayetteville, Ark. 72701). A Texan, he was born near Wills Point and grew up in the Terrell area. The former Barbara Evans, she was born in Hazelvalley, Ark., and lived in Wichita and near Haysville, Kans., while growing up. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1966. The Grobers were appointed by the board in 1955.

**Mr. and Mrs. Graydon B. Hardister**, Baptist representatives to Jordan, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 37 Walnut Valley Dr., Little Rock, Ark. 72211). They are natives of Arkansas. He was born near Reyndell and also lived in Pine Bluff. She is the former Betty Williams of Bauxite. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1965.



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# Parkway Village

## Hollinger named California editor

FRESNO, Calif. (BP) — Herbert V. Hollinger, editor of the Northwest Baptist Witness, was elected editor of "The California Southern Baptist," newjournal of the Southern Baptist General Convention of California, in a called meeting of the board operations committee of the Executive Board, June 7.

He will assume the office Sept. 1.

Hollinger succeeds Elmer L. Gray, who has been the editor since March of 1974. Gray is retiring but will continue with the paper as a consultant until December.

Hollinger, a graduate of the University of

Idaho and Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, began his career in journalism with secular newspapers. He worked with the "Reminder" and "Reminder Morning News" of Burley, Idaho, and later was editor and general manager of the "South Idaho Press," also of Burley.

He was called to preach in 1970 by First Baptist Church of Graton, Calif.

Hollinger will be the sixth full-time editor of "The California Southern Baptist."

Hollinger is married to the former Mary Hartsfield and they have three children: Doug, 17; Kerri, 15; and Tracy, 12.

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Hurley

Others were bi-vocational pastors. My advice to them through the years has been to build a good library and spend much time in it studying.

Now Southern Baptist Seminary is attempting to carry out Dr. James P. Boyce's dream of 1859 of "offering to every man such opportunities of theological education as he is prepared and desires." Boyce Bible School, an extension of Southern, with its broad curriculum and well trained faculty, is carrying out this dream in Little Rock.

I am delighted to be a part of this missionary venture that is carrying theological education off the seminary campus and making it more available to both the man of God and the layman who desire it. — W. Maurice Hurley

**Soviet Baptist groups reconciled, Claas says**

PITTSBURGH (BP) — Two major Baptist groups in the Soviet Union have taken an important first step toward reconciliation, the general secretary of the Baptist World Alliance, (BWA) announced.

Gerhard Claas of Washington, D.C., just back from a meeting in Moscow, said 20 representatives of the Autonomous Brethren accepted an invitation to meet with BWA and European Baptist Federation officials and with 10 members of the presidium of the All-Union Council. The council is the government-recognized organization for five evangelical denominations, including Baptists.

The Autonomous Brethren, who also call themselves the Separatist Brethren because they have chosen to leave dissident Baptist ranks and register with the government, knelt together and were reconciled around the communion table, Claas reported.

One representative of the dissidents, whose former chief Georgi Vins now lives in the United States, participated in the meeting as an observer, he said.

Claas cautioned there is still "a long way to go, but this is a very important first step — a great step forward."

Nobody knows the exact number of evangelicals or Baptists in the Soviet Union today, Claas explained, because it was 20 years ago that official registration occurred and the government refuses to acknowledge that evangelicals have continued to grow.

But some estimates range upward to 4.5

million evangelicals, about 2.5 million of these Baptists, he said.

The All-Union Council is officially listed with about a half million members.

Claas said about 10,000 to 15,000 Soviet citizens are believed to be members of the 64 churches which decided sometime back to withdraw from Vins' Church Council of Evangelical Baptists and register. About an equal number apparently are still in the council which Vins formerly headed.

Claas said Vins' former church is among the 64 who now have registered with the government.

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## Three SBC agencies join forces

by Carol Sisson

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP) — Woman's Missionary Union, the Home Mission Board and the Brotherhood Commission agreed to combine their mission action efforts in order to work more productively with Southern Baptist churches, and ultimately respond more effectively to Bold Mission Thrust and its objectives.

Chief executive officers Carolyn Weatherford (WMU), William Tanner (HMB) and James Smith (Brotherhood) signed a formal agreement in February, defining each agency's area of initiative in mission action. The intent is to use the Home Mission Board's

expertise in ministering and WMU and Brotherhood's expertise in using volunteers. Marketing and program specialists from the three agencies met this month to begin implementing plans outlined in the agreement.

"All three of these agencies minister and witness to persons of special needs. This agreement will help us put our efforts together for greater impact and less duplication," Jane Whitlow, associate executive director for WMU, said.

Primary responsibility for mission action still resides with WMU and Brotherhood. However, the HMB's church missions committee and associational missions will now be the one to survey and to identify mission actions needs and opportunities in the community and association.

Surveying was previously conducted by all three agencies individually. Each still has the option of initiating its own survey, if the need should arise.

WMU and Brotherhood will continue to organize and carry out mission action work in churches but will work more closely with the HMB in using their expertise in identifying and ministering to specific target groups. The three agencies will jointly use materials that will be used in ministering to these groups.

## Single adults an untapped resource

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP) — Single adults can make significant leadership and financial contributions to Southern Baptist churches but they remain the greatest untapped resource in the Southern Baptist Convention.

John C. Howell, professor of ethics and family life at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo., and Dan Crawford, national evangelism consultant with singles, Home Mission Board, Atlanta, Ga., addressed 65 participants attending the second national conference for single adult special consultants. The conference is a project of the family ministry department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

Crawford said 34 percent of the United States adult population are single adults and "while we sit around talking about Bold Mission Thrust and evangelism the world is literally going to hell because we have failed to utilize one-third of our resources." Non-Christian singles are also one of the greatest mission fields available to Southern Baptists, he said.

Howell believes churches are "slowly realizing single adults can make significant contributions through time, money, energy and talents."

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## CP giving hits record

by Craig Bird

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — More money, \$9,115,509, was received by the national Cooperative Program of the Southern Baptist Convention in May, 1983 than in any May in history.

"This is only the fourth month in the 58-year history of the Cooperative Program (the SBC's unified giving plan) that gifts have exceeded \$9 million," Harold C. Bennett, executive secretary-director of the SBC Executive Committee, said. "And this is the first time Southern Baptists have given at that level in some month other than January."

The monthly total is 17.17 percent (\$1,335,482) above May, 1982 figures. For the first nine months of the SBC fiscal year, CP contributions are 9.4 percent (more than \$5.8 million) ahead of the same period a year ago.

"I am awed and thankful for the commitment to Bold Mission Thrust (the SBC effort to share the message of Christ with everyone in the world by the year 2000) and for the confidence in the national SBC programs these gifts reflect," Bennett said.

"When you add the designated gifts to the Cooperative Program gifts, Southern Baptists provided almost \$17.8 million during May to help present the claims of Jesus Christ to our world, both immediately

through our mission programs and in the future through our educational efforts," he added.

The more than 36,000 SBC churches send voluntary contributions to the 34 state conventions which, in turn, decide for themselves what to send to the national level. Approximately one-third of the money sent to the states is forwarded to the national SBC.

The \$9 million month also pushed the budget back on target to meet both the basic and the challenge budgets of the SBC. If the present level of giving is sustained, national Cooperative Program receipts would total \$102,717,318.

Designated gifts to national programs are up 6.15 percent over a year ago. After nine months designated gifts totalled \$68,172,808 (\$66.2 million to the Foreign Mission Board and the Home Mission Board).

If both CP and designated giving continues at the same rate, the national programs will receive more than \$200,000 million during the present fiscal year. After nine months the combined CP and designated totals are more than \$10 million ahead of last year.

## Executive tabs chairman

PITTSBURGH (BP) — Members of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee have elected a Dallas layman as chairman and authorized the establishment of a five-person committee to oversee construction of a new \$8 million SBC building in Nashville.

W. Dewey Presley, a Dallas businessman and member of Park Cities Church, was unopposed for a one-year term as chairman. He has been vice-chairman of the committee.

Nelson Duke, pastor of First Church, Jefferson City, Mo., was elected vice-chairman