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Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

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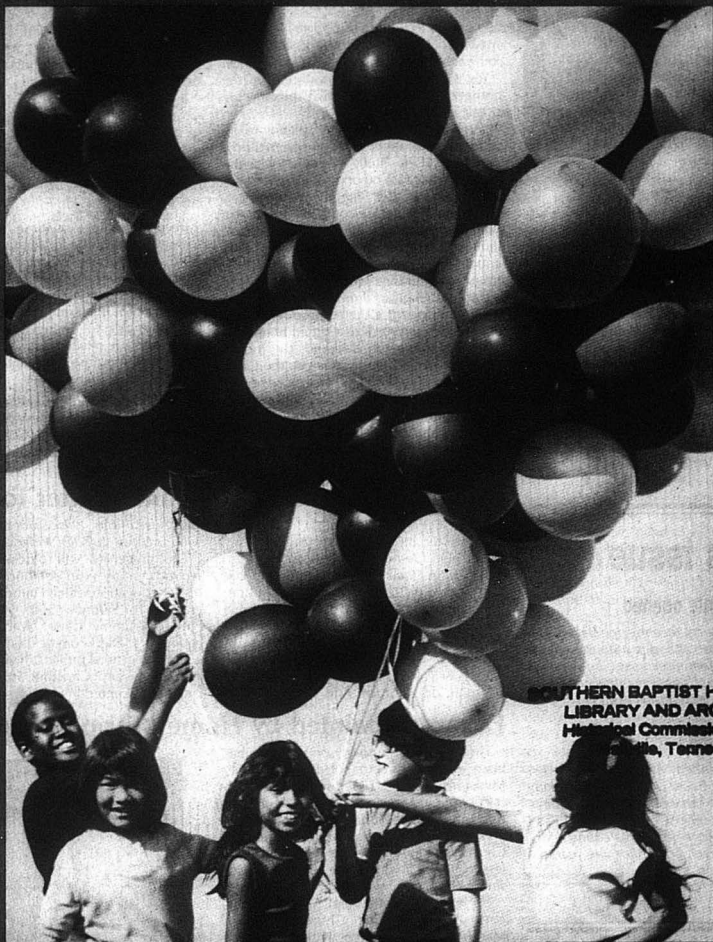
August 7, 1986

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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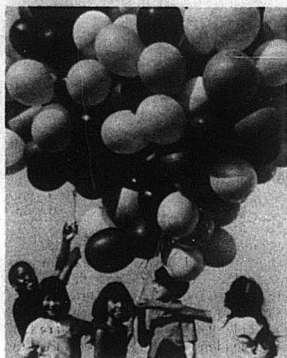
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August 7, 1986

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

Precious in his sight!
Language Missions Day
Sunday, August 10

On the cover



"Red and yellow, brown and white, they are precious in his sight . . ." The familiar words of a children's song provide the theme for Language Missions Day in Southern Baptist churches Aug. 10. The ethnic children of our land comprise a rich resource waiting to be tapped for the cause of Christ.

In this issue

9 time capsule opened

First Church, Mena, recently opened a cedar box time capsule cached in a stone vault for 50 years. They reminisced over the contents and made plans to conceal a steel capsule to be opened 50 years from now.

11 going home

Eloise Glass Cauthen, widow of SBC foreign missions leader Baker J. Cauthen, is making plans to return to Shandong Province, China, where she grew up as a "missionary kid" and served until missionaries left the country. Mrs. Cauthen will teach English for one year in a new university in Yantai.

Correction

A July 24 brief noting the retirement address for John Maddox should have said Maddox retired from Wynne First Church in April.

Language Missions Sunday

'My church? Minister to angels?

"Be careful to entertain strangers . . . angels unawares" (He. 13:2). "Love the stranger, for you once were strangers . . ." (Deut. 10:19).

Yes, God puts great importance on the stranger in our midst. Foreign missions are at our fingertips.

"Angels" like Unsky, from Finland, a skilled, well-paid employee of International Paper Co., Pine Bluff, could not use the telephone because no one could understand his English. "Angels" like Akemi, the attractive wife of a Japanese company employee, who must shop, enter her children in school, and take a driver's test with the barest book-learned English and the inability to pronounce our strange word sounds.

They are all around us—a Filipino nurse, a Chinese doctor, a Vietnamese restaurant employee, a young Thai woman abandoned by her American husband, the Indian motel owner with no friends yet, the Cambodian teenager who has seen more horror than we can imagine.

"Angels unawares" like the international students in our universities who will become the leaders of nations in the next 20 years. How will they remember Americans? Did

they experience real Christian love and acceptance? Or will they carry a bitterness toward us for our coldness toward their needs?

Some of the "angels" among us are the 25 percent in our state who are functionally illiterate, Americans who are strangers because they cannot read the road sign or menu or job application—or the New Testament. "If they can't read the words, they can't read the Word!"

Becoming aware of these "angels" and seeking to make the local churches and individual Christians aware, finding ways to minister to them and to involve Baptist people has been my assignment for the past seven months in Harmony Association and, to a lesser degree, in the Little Rock area. I have found it challenging, heart-breaking and worth the time it takes to minister to "angels."

I encourage Arkansas Baptists to celebrate Language Missions Sunday, August 10, by becoming more aware of these "angels unawares" in our midst.—**Thurman Braughton**

Opening dates set at Ouachita; Carter to speak

ARKADELPHIA—Registration for the 1986 fall semester at Ouachita Baptist University will be held Tuesday, Aug. 26, from 8:15 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Evans Student Center and Life Hall, according to Mike Kolb, OBU registrar.

The first day of classes on the Arkadelphia campus is Wednesday, Aug. 27, with the last day to register or add a course as Sept. 10.

All new Ouachita students and their parents will attend an opening convocation at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 23 in Mitchell

Hall Auditorium. New student orientation will continue through Monday, Aug. 25.

The university will officially begin its second century as an institution of Christian higher education with a Founders' Day program set for Saturday, Sept. 6. Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter will present the Founders' Day convocation address, to which the general public is invited, at 2 p.m. in the Roy and Christine Sturgis Physical Education Center.

Farrars appointed by Home Mission Board

Thomas Farrar, formerly of Arkansas, has been named director of Bland County Ministries for Rocky Gap, Va., by the administrative committee of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board in Atlanta.

Farrar, 58, has been pastor of Laurel Fork Church, Rocky Gap, since 1975, and professor at Bluefield College, Bluefield, Va., since 1968.

He was pastor at several Arkansas churches including First Church, Wilson; Markham Street Church, Little Rock; and First Church, McCrory. Farrar was also a member of the ABSB Executive Committee from 1961-64. He taught in the Trumann Public Schools from 1964-68.

He is a graduate of Bob Jones University, Greenville, S.C.; Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas; and Arkansas State University, Jonesboro.

Virginia Farrar, appointed for church and family work by the board, was a school teacher in the Lepanto, Wilson, and Trumann school systems.



Thomas and Virginia Farrar

A proud track record

The editor's page

J. Everett Sneed



Arkansas can be justly proud of the track record of the Arkansas Baptist Foundation. The Foundation is assisting individuals, churches, and the Arkansas Baptist and Southern Baptist institutions in a remarkable way with money management. During the last 12 months, the Foundation had 148 personal interviews with families. In many instances wills were written or monies set aside that will continue to work for Christ until he comes to earth again. This is possible because the principal is invested and only the interest will be given to the cause or causes designated by the donor.

In assisting individuals, the Foundation prepared over 300 legal instruments. This included such things as suggested wording for wills, proposed trusts, durable power-of-attorney and articles of incorporation. Recently an attorney indicated that these instruments would have cost the individual or institution for which they were prepared in excess of \$100,000 if they had been done in a private office.

Another function of the Foundation is to keep the work of the Foundation before churches and associations. In order to do this, Foundation personnel led 60 conferences on wills and estate planning. The Foundation stands ready to assist individuals in the development of personal wills and estate planning. This is done without cost to the individual when a portion of the estate is given for Baptist causes.

During the first half of 1986, the Foundation earned \$560,622 in dividends and interest. This money was distributed as follows: 88.9 percent to state Baptist institutions, associations and local churches; 6.6 percent to individuals under preferred gift contracts; 1.6 percent to out-of-state institutions and agencies; and 2 percent to Southern Baptist causes such as the Home Mission Board, Foreign Mission Board, and seminaries. This distribution represents a gain of 18.25 percent over the same period last year.

During the last 12 months, the Foundation took in over \$200,000 in profits on the sale of securities and distributed in dividends and interest \$1,250,000. It is noteworthy that for the first 27 years the Foundation received more money from the Convention for its operating expenses than it gained in investment income. Today, however, this situation has changed. Through 1985, the agency has generated in investment income approximately four and one-half times more than it received from the Convention since it was chartered in 1948.

It required 27 years for the Foundation to have \$1 million under its management. This first million dollar goal was reached in 1975, and since then, another \$12 million has come under Foundation management, making the total assets managed by the Foun-

dation over \$13 million today.

Foundation President-treasurer Harry D. Trulove says, "It would be impossible to over-emphasize the importance of an individual having a will. Basically, the law says, 'You have the right to give whatever you want to whomever you want whenever you want to make the gift as long as you are alive.' At death, this privilege ceases, and the state steps in to make the decision."

As a result of investments made through the Foundation, neglected and abused children will be given opportunity to discover the real meaning of love. Association and state mission projects will have added resources, and the blind Baptists of Arkansas will be able to receive the *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine* on tape each week. These are only a few of the projects that are supported by the interest and dividends from investments that are managed by the Foundation.

Another area of service offered by the Foundation is consultation on and preparation of incorporation papers for churches, associations, and camps. Both President Trulove and Vice-President-attorney Larry L. Page provide assistance regarding the pros and cons of incorporation. In the event an Arkansas Baptist entity decides to proceed with incorporation, the papers are prepared without cost.

During the month of August, Foundation Vice-President Larry Page will be dealing with the general subject of "Disability." In this series of articles, he will show the importance of preparing for disability, some financial safeguards, and some legal steps that every individual should take so that disability will not create problems for loved ones. This excellent series of articles should be required reading for every individual middle-aged or younger.

The services offered by the Foundation are extensive, indeed. Among these are: (1) conferences on wills, trusts, estate planning, and Christian money management; (2) individual estate planning consultation for persons who wish to make gifts to Baptist causes; (3) individual estate planning consultation with pastors and church staff families; (4) preparation of wills and trusts for pastors and church staff families; (5) consultation on and preparation of incorporation papers for churches, associations, and camps; (6) serving as a resource for tax information and charitable gift techniques; and (7) money management including investments, reinvestments, and distribution of income from funds placed with the Foundation.

Individuals needing any of the numerous services offered by the Arkansas Baptist Foundation should address President Harry D. Trulove, P. O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203.

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meeting the information needs of Arkansas Baptists

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J. Everett Sneed, Ph.D. Editor

Mark Kelly Managing Editor

Erwin L. McDonald, Litt D. Editor Emeritus

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Letters to the editor expressing opinions are invited. Letters should be typed double-spaced and must be signed. Letters must not contain more than 350 words and must not defame the character of persons. They must be marked "for publication."

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Letters to the editor

Don't boycott

Regarding these questions: Should a Southern Baptist Convention be held in Las Vegas? Should Arkansas Baptists boycott a Southern Baptist Convention held in Las Vegas?

In my opinion any Arkansas Southern Baptist who boycotts their convention's meeting in Las Vegas is missing an opportunity to be an encourager to the Southern Baptist Christians living in the state of Nevada. The distances in that state are great, and fellowship with other groups of like-minded believers doesn't happen often or easily for most Southern Baptists out there.

Since greater is he who is (or should be) in all Southern Baptists, than he who is in the world, I think the messengers to the convention should be able to stand up under the strain of being subjected to the Las Vegas environment.

When my husband and I spent some time working in a Nevada church, in a sister church situation, we learned how they value the encouragement of fellowship and being made to feel a part of the SBC. I feel confident that the convention meeting in Las Vegas will bless Christians all over the state of Nevada.—Virginia Lollar, Siloam Springs

Unity of the Spirit

In Ephesians, chapter 4, we are told that unity of the Spirit and unity of the faith are desired by God for his church. Unity of the Spirit and unity of the faith are supernatural and are indicative of the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, when the teachings of Jesus Christ are believed and obeyed by the children of God. Diversity, frequently mentioned, has not been set as a goal for his

church by Jesus Christ. It is a natural reality. Lukewarm, impotent, and dead churches result when there is a lack of belief and obedience, in the pulpits and the congregations.

Heresy and apostasy are very serious sins, unconsciously insulting to the Lord our God. If proven, there must be repentance, or, without repentance, persons involved must be dealt with according to Scripture, with Christ-like compassion and without hatefulness and vituperation. To ignore such sins is to disobey God and to harm the cause of Jesus Christ. There are many warnings in Scripture against unbelief. God states in Hebrews 3:12, "Take care, brethren, lest there should be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart, in falling away from the living God."

It is God, by his power and his Spirit (Zech. 3:6, 1 Cor. 2:5), who can heal the dissension and lack of harmony within the Southern Baptist Convention.

The following prayer by Andrew Murray from *The Ministry of Intercession* seems appropriate:

"Pray for the fuller manifestation of the grace and energy of the blessed Spirit of God, in the removal of all that is contrary to God's revealed will, so that we grieve not the Holy Spirit, but that he may work in mightier power in the church, for the exaltation of Christ and the blessing of souls."—Tommye F. Boston, Louisville, Ky.

Five basic needs

In his book, *Power For Living*, Buckingham refers to the theory of psychologists that mankind has five basic needs. It is assumed that it was his intention to list them in order of their importance, with which I

could not agree, since they are listed as follows: security, recognition, love, adventure and the right to create.

I would place love first in order. First: God's love for mankind. Space is inadequate to list them all, but John 3:16 and Romans 5:8 state it quite clearly. This love was demonstrated at the cross.

Our love for God: Psalms 116:1, Luke 10:27 (citing few of many).

Our love for others: 1 John 3:14, 1 John 4:7, and many others. The New Testament is replete with the admonition to love.

Second in importance I would place security. This word security is somewhat overworked. It is often sought for in the wrong channels. In man's endeavor for economic security he often overlooks the most important one (Jn. 3:18, Jn.10:27-29).

Recognition is listed second in his outline. This is a quality of human nature that must be kept under guard. In man's desire for recognition, he has been known to disregard the rights of others.

He lists as number four man's need for adventure. Well, life itself is an adventure. We should look forward with anticipation to each rising of the sun in anticipation of the day's adventure ahead. The Christian life is filled with adventure if you understand the true meaning of the word.

Last of all he lists the right to create. The word is overworked. Only God can create. To create is to make something from nothing. When we do creative writing, we work with the pen and ink man has made from material God created in the first place. The artist, too, makes beautiful pictures with the products God made long ago.—Eva Everett, Heber Springs.

Journeyman application deadline Sept. 15

RICHMOND, Va.—Those who want to be included in the next group of journeymen from the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board must have their applications postmarked by Sept. 15.

The journeyman program is for college graduates with four-year degrees. They must be age 26 or under and interested in using their skills on overseas mission fields for two years.

Applicants must be active Southern Baptists, U.S. citizens, in good physical and emotional health and qualified for specific mission tasks. They may be single or married but not divorced. Couples must be childless and married for at least a year by Sept. 15, and both must meet qualifications.

Positions are available in weekday ministries, youth work, student work, music, health care, media, agriculture, business, secretarial work and elementary and secondary teaching in missionary schools and local schools.

All expenses are paid for journeyman training, overseas service and transportation to and from place of service. Journeymen receive a monthly stipend. Severance pay is provided when the two-year term is completed.

Qualified applicants will be invited to attend a weekend information conference Oct. 24-25 in Richmond.

Applicants selected will begin training in January at the Missionary Learning Center in Rockville, Va., and go to the field in February or March.

The board commissioned 42 journeymen in April to work in 27 countries and 57 journeymen in July to work in 30 countries.

Those interested in applying for the 1987-89 program should contact the Foreign Mission Board immediately. Call Wendy Norvelle in the board's Personnel Selection Department at (804) 353-0151 or write to the department at Box 6767, Richmond, VA 23230.

Boyce Bible School announces schedule

Boyce Bible School has announced its Term I schedule, to run from Aug. 22-Oct. 11. Friday classes are as follows:

6:00-7:55 p.m., 0845, Christian interpersonal relationships—Ron Ford;
8:20-10:15 p.m., 0521A, Old Testament survey—W.T. Holland.

Saturday classes are scheduled as follows:
7:45-9:40 a.m., 0702, Practical skills of Christian ministry—Sam Adkins;

10:15-12:10 p.m., 0920, Communicating the Gospel—Michael Anders;
12:50-2:45 p.m., 0630, Preparation and delivery of sermons—Maurice Hurley.

Classes will meet and the old Baptist Hospital, 12th and Wolfe. For further information, please call Lehman F. Webb at 376-4791 or 227-1616, or write P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203.

Don Moore

You'll be glad to know...

Go up any highway in any direction and you will run across the evidence that Arkansas Baptists have not been "holding their

hands." In the rural areas, such as Royal and Pencil Bluff, you'll find churches. In the retirement areas, such as Fairfield Bay, Hot Springs Village, Cherokee Village and Bella Vista, you will find exciting churches. In the developing areas, such as Mountain View and Mountain Home, you will find new churches just beginning. In all of these cases these works have depended principally upon the state convention in their early stages for survival. Portable chapels, land purchases, pastoral aid or small church loans would have figured in each of these. What a joy and delight to be in a position to direct your love and contributions toward such worthy projects. These are typical situations. The number would be multiplied by the dozens if I tried to list them all.

Gamaliel is a community outside Mountain Home. Surveys indicated a church was needed. Six beautiful acres were purchased by the State Missions Department. A new portable chapel was bought with your Cooperative Program and Dixie Jackson money. Eastside Church, Mountain Home, has taken on the challenge of sponsorship and staffing.

Seminary students have spent the summer getting the work going. They are apprentices partially supported by the Home Mission Board. A layman from First Church, Mountain Home, paid for putting down a water well. The first Bible School has been conducted this summer. The first worship service was held a few weeks ago with more than 40 in attendance. To walk on the grounds, to breath the air, to imagine the future of this church is a real blessing.

Have you noticed all of the entities, circumstances and resources that combine to get things done like this? That's the Southern Baptist way of doing things—together. It's beautiful! Your prayers, involvement and support make things happen. If you are not thrilled with what you are accomplishing, it can only be because you are not where you can see it. Trust me, you are doing great things together!

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



One layman's opinion

Daniel R. Grant

The joy of repaying "honor debts"

In the depths of the Great Depression of the 1930s, the Arkansas Baptist State Convention was so deeply in debt that it negotiated a settlement, paying only a fraction of the total amount originally borrowed. Very few were disturbed about it at the time, because it appeared that "everybody was doing it" and the creditors seemed very happy to get even a portion of their money back. Arkansas Baptists in the 1940s did a remarkable thing, however, under the leadership of Dr. Ben L. Bridges. They called it an "honor debt" and proceeded to pay back every penny of the unpaid balance, even though there was no legal obligation to do so. Those were mountain-peak times for Arkansas Baptists, and many leaders in the business community around the nation still remember this outstanding example of integrity and Christian ethics in business relationships.

Recently I received a check for \$1,000, made out to Ouachita Baptist University. Accompanying the check was a letter from a Ouachita alumna who graduated 47 years ago. The letter included some very nice remarks about my father who was president at the time and who helped her secure a loan of \$100 so she could finish her college work and graduate. The letter then added,

"From the small salary I earned teaching my first year (1939-40) I repaid the principal. When billed for the interest, however, to my shame, I was upset and ignored it."

The letter then concludes: "This failure to fulfill my obligation has preyed on my conscience over the years. The Lord has richly blessed me in many ways. My financial situation has improved considerably. Hopefully, what I would like to do will help to erase that debt I owe to Ouachita." She spoke to John Cloud, of the Ouachita development staff, and asked about various needs. He made four suggestions, and she decided to help the Ouachita Tiger Marching Band purchase beautiful new purple and gold uniforms—the first new ones in 12 years.

In view of this outstanding example of the tremendous Arkansas Baptist tradition of paying off "honor debts," I now have a serious ethical problem. In calculating the legal interest on \$100, compounded over 47 years, I have discovered that her "honor debt" of \$87.50 was overpaid by some \$912.50. I may delegate to Ouachita Band Director Craig Hamilton the task of deciding whether we should pay back the overage.

Daniel R. Grant is president of Ouachita Baptist University.

More temptations demand stronger parenting

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP)—Being a parent in today's world is not easy, a Southern Baptist counselor acknowledged.

Society hands children of 10 a plate of maturity before they have even finished the first course of childhood. When most young people should be deciding which pair of tennis shoes to wear, some instead are deciding which brand of cigarettes to smoke.

"Christian parents are struggling with issues and how to impart a strong sense of values," said Dean Clifford, an elementary school guidance counselor from Winston-Salem, N.C.

"The world offers children so many choices," said Clifford, leader of a parenting course at Church Training Leadership Conference sponsored by the church training department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board at Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Conference Center.

Christian parents can prevent their children from being exposed to so much decadence by monitoring which television shows they may watch, as well as which books they may read, Clifford said, stressing, "Without being book burners, parents must study the literature that is available to their

children."

Parents also must face the modern-day problem of substance abuse among their children, she added. It is not at all uncommon to find grade school-aged children addicted to cigarettes, she said. Nor is it rare to find junior high and high school students using alcohol and drugs.

"And we must deal with the fact that what we knew about sex when we were in high school is nothing compared to what kids know today," Clifford said. "It's not rare to see fourth-, fifth-, or sixth-graders who are not only knowledgeable about sex, but who are also active."

Gary Hauk, supervisor of the family enrichment section of the Sunday School Board's family ministry department, agreed. "Statistics show that about 125,000 junior high students will get pregnant this year," Hauk said.

The family ministry department trained church, state and associational leaders during the church training sessions to teach Parenting by Grace, a new course designed to help parents integrate Christian ideals into their parenting techniques, which will be released to churches in October.

Arkansas all over

by Millie Gill / ABN staff writer

people

Donald E. Cochran is serving as pastor of Fort Smith Calvary Church, coming there from Koran Church at Haughton, La. A native of Arkansas, he is a graduate of the University of Arkansas and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He also has served as pastor of Pine Log Church, Booneville. Cochran has served in both state and associational denominational leadership roles. He and his wife, Betty, have two children, Carla Hogge of Waldron and Greg Cochran of Alma.

James E. Munns has joined the staff of Pulaski Heights Church in Little Rock as minister of music and administration. He is a graduate of North Little Rock Senior High School, the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and Ouachita Baptist University. He has been awarded numerous musical scholarships and served as guest soloist for Memphis Symphony, Arkansas Symphony and Arkansas Choral Society. He has been serving as clinical administrator for Crestview Family Clinics and served previously as minister of music for Little Rock First Christian Church. He and his wife, Pat, have two children, Kimberly Elizabeth and James Daniel.

Doug Alexander has resigned his position of six years as minister of education at Little Rock First Church. He has been called to serve as pastor of Sharon Woods Church in Columbus, Ohio.

Herbert Stout has been called to serve as co-pastor of Mountainburg First Church where he served as pastor from 1968 to 1976. His responsibilities will be the church's educational and music programs, as well as a Sunday evening Bible study. He recently resigned as pastor of Rudy Church. Stout, who has 31 years of pastoral experience, is a graduate of Hardin-Simmons University, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, the University of Arkansas and Luther Rice Seminary. Dr. and Mrs. Stout have taught in the Mountainburg Public School System since 1968 and they served from 1958 to 1964 as missionaries to Germany. They have two daughters, Kassie Woosley of Mountainburg and Fran Wakefield, a missionary to Fiji.

Lester Passmore has resigned as pastor of Angora Church, Leslie.

Bill Cybert is serving as music director at Bingham Road Church in Little Rock, coming there from Ward Calvary Church.



Cochran



Munns



Alexander



Stout

Alta Shaddox recently returned from Portugal where she served as a volunteer through the Foreign Mission Board to be a child care coordinator while missionaries in that country had their annual missions meeting. She was accompanied by her grandchildren, **Chandra and B. T. Kelley** of North Little Rock. Chandra served as pianist for a vacation Bible school. Mrs. Shaddox is a member of North Little Rock Park Hill Church where she serves as director of a Sunday School single adult department. Her daughter, Tommie, and son-in-law, Steve Smith, are missionaries to Portugal where he serves as treasurer for the Portugal Mission.

Jerry Hogan observed his fifth anniversary of service July 27 as pastor of Baring Cross Church in North Little Rock.

John Selvage has joined the staff of Ozark First Church as associate pastor of youth and activities. He is a spring graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Clayburn Bratton began serving June 29 as pastor of Alma Trinity Church. He is a graduate of Southern Baptist College, Ouachita Baptist University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He was licensed and ordained to the preaching ministry by Batesville West Church and has served as pastor of churches in Earl, Charleston, Stamps and James Fork.

Ronny Ross resigned as pastor of Lockesburg First Church Aug. 3 to teach and coach in Bogota, Texas.



Flippin First Church dedicated a new 6,400 square foot educational building July 13 which houses 13 classrooms and a pastor's office and study. Dedication guests included Ed Powers, White River Association director of missions, and Terry Eaton of Decatur, a former pastor. Building committee members were (left to right) Bert Benton, Raymond Williams, Pastor Steve Martin, Becky Sanders, Randy Hopper and Ray Canary.

people

Ray Sease resigned Aug. 3 as pastor of Horatio First Church to serve as pastor of New Salem Church in Salem, S.C.

Rosco Myers has resigned as pastor of Mount Moriah Church, Murfreesboro.

Ken Howard is serving as pastor of Lone Oak Church, DeQueen.

Lehman Webb began serving Aug. 1 as interim pastor of Forest Highlands Church in Little Rock.

Richie Simmons is serving on the staff of West Memphis Church as part-time minister of music and youth.

Stewart Thibault has been named Baptist Student Union director at Nicholls State University in Alexandria, La. A native of Little Rock, he is a graduate of Louisiana State University and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He has been serving as pastor of Grosse Tete Church in Thibodaux, La. He and his wife, Phyllis, have three children.

Ralph Doyle White of Manila died July 25 at age 78. He was a retired farmer and was a member of Manila Westside

Church where he served as a deacon. His funeral services were held July 28. Survivors include his wife, Olive Thompson White; four daughters, Doris Gunn of Manila, Aleta Nowlin of Blytheville, Faith Jobe of Springfield, Mo., and Judy Berry of Bettendorf, Iowa; four brothers; two sisters; 12 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

Mary E. Cochran of Etowah died July 24 at age 85. She was a member of Osceola First Church. Survivors include a son, William Cochran of Etowah; five daughters, Mary Ellen Scott and Rose Cantrell, both of Osceola, Doris Sulcer and Dixie Wright, both of Dyess and Patsy Bradshaw of Payneburn; a sister; 37 grandchildren and 25 great-grandchildren.

briefly

Zion Church at Mountain View ordained Don Lock and Stan Morrison to the deacon ministry July 20.

Batesville Calvary Church mission team has returned from Crested Butte, Mont., where they conducted a vacation Bible school at the "Oh Be Joyful" Church. Average attendance for the school was 25.

First Southern Chapel at Bismarck will hold its first regularly scheduled services Aug. 24. The chapel is sponsored by Malvern First Church and co-sponsored by Prescott First and Arkadelphia First Churches as part of the Macedonia Plan for planting new churches. Arkansas Baptist State Convention Missions Department and Red River Association, L.B. Jordan, director of missions, have provided financial and prayer support for the new work. The congregation has been meeting since May, holding weekly Bible studies. Backyard Bible clubs and a people search were conducted Aug. 3-8 with summer mission workers Karen Gorham and Susan Menhinick assisting. A tent revival will be held near the site for the new church Aug. 17-21 with sponsoring church pastors, Zane Chesser, Bob Parsley and Lynn Worthen, serving as evangelists. Jerry Miller, minister of music and youth at Malvern First Church, will direct music.

Piggott First Church is re-activating its Deacon Family Ministry Plan and recently ordained to the deacon ministry Bill Veal and Larry Winberry.

Gosnell Church will observe its 100th anniversary Aug. 15-17. Activities will include a Friday evening fellowship, a Saturday afternoon fish fry, Sunday School, Sunday morning worship service, a potluck luncheon and Sunday afternoon anniversary celebration which will include the dedication of a new educational building.

Hot Springs First Church ordained Dan Sowell to the preaching ministry July 17. Sowell, a recent graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, is in the chaplain program at Little Rock Baptist Medical Center.

Bryant First Southern Church will host "Ladies Night" Aug. 14, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Jo Ford of Little Rock will be speaker.

Cocklebur Church at Ward celebrated its 25th year as a Southern Baptist Church July 20. Former pastors Marvin Hill and Lonnie Autry were speakers. Special music was by Mount Carmel Heir, Borne and the Hodges Family. Wayne Edwards is pastor.

Woodlawn Church in Little Rock observed homecoming Aug. 3. Glenn Hickey, Pulaski Association director of missions was speaker.



Highland Hills Church near Texarkana dedicated a new educational building June 25. Those on program were Pastor James Lindsey; Delbert Garrett, a former pastor; Carroll Caldwell, Southwest Association director of missions; Jesse Baker and Joe Jefferies. Serving as building committee members were (left to right) Jackie Kirkland, Joe Jefferies, Charles McAfee, Lindsey, A.A. Smeltzer and Robert Everett.

State convention president discusses pastorate, presidential goals

by J. Everett Sneed

ABN photo / Mille Gill

Lawson Hatfield, pastor of First Church, Fordyce, and president of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, recently discussed his work as pastor, as well as his concerns for the Arkansas Baptist State Convention and the Southern Baptist Convention. Dr. Hatfield returned to pastor First Church, Fordyce, after serving in denominational work for 24 years.

Hatfield left First, Fordyce, to go to the SBC Sunday School Board. After serving there approximately one year, Dr. S. A. Whitlow, then Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, invited Hatfield to come to Arkansas to follow Edgar Williamson, who had just retired. Hatfield accepted the invitation and served 23 years as Sunday School Department director.

Hatfield says of his return to Fordyce, "It is somewhat unusual that a man would come back to the same church after being in denominational work for a quarter of a century. But this church is considerably different than it was when I was here before. The adults were young people when I was here previously. Only about one-third of the membership is the same. But I have been thrilled with the warmth and affirmation that the people have given me upon my return."

Hatfield observes that pastoring a church requires a different kind of study than being a denominational worker. He said, "When I came I promised the Lord that I would, for the most part, preach all new sermons."

Hatfield reports he has kept this commitment and preached a large percentage of expository sermons. He has preached a few topical sermons dealing with the home and problems of young people. He has preached through entire books such as Luke, Acts, and some of the letters of Paul, as well as the January Bible Study books.

Hatfield observes that time is also a major problem for a pastor. In his situation, he must visit a number of hospitals. He says, "Of course, I have many more funerals to conduct than I had when I was in denominational work. But it is a joy to have the opportunity to work with the same people week after week and win people to Christ."

Hatfield further observes that pastoral styles have changed since he was in the pastorate previously. He said, "When I was pastor here before, a pastor expected to attend all committee meetings. For the first year I was here, I did attend all of them, but now many of the committees meet without me. I am always consulted and always know what is going on in the committees, but there is no necessity for me to attend them all."

Hatfield observes he does give close attention to the Stewardship Committee that deals with budget finance) and Nominating Committee. He says, "These committees convene at strategic times and demand a lot of careful planning."

The church at Fordyce has approximately



State Convention President Lawson Hatfield and his wife Juanita are enjoying the pastorate at First Church, Fordyce, after 25 years of denominational work.

900 members with about 650 of these being resident members. Sunday School attendance when Hatfield arrived was about 300; today it is approximately 530.

The church has a fully graded choir program and Church Training and places major emphasis on youth work. The youth make a summer mission tour each year and do a variety of activities, including backyard Bible clubs, vacation Bible schools, revival meetings, and in some instances do repair work on the facilities of churches.

Hatfield says, "This kind of involvement for young people gives good training that will, hopefully, continue to encourage them to be involved in missions all their lives."

Hatfield has two goals as president of the state convention. First, it is his hope to encourage pastors to help church members become regular daily Bible readers. He says, "We encouraged our church members to read through the Bible last year. This gave us a lot of spiritual strength, growth and satisfaction in the Lord."

Hatfield plans to distribute at the state convention a Bible reading plan which will enable individuals to read through the Bible in one year.

Hatfield's second emphasis is to encourage Planned Growth in Giving. He observes, "In recent years we have been receiving a smaller percentage of the church's receipts for state and world missions. In Arkansas, the state convention is moving toward giving 50 percent of its Cooperative Program receipts to the Southern Baptist Cooperative Program. If this plan continues, and churches continue to send smaller percentages of their budget to the Cooperative Program, state causes will suffer.

"The only way the state can continue to send larger and larger percentages of its Cooperative Program receipts is for churches to increase their percentage of giving," Hatfield continued. "Giving should start with individuals who are willing to increase their giving as the Lord prospers them."

Hatfield observes that small churches might be able to increase two or three percent in Cooperative Program giving each year, while larger churches could increase a half of a percent or three-quarters of a percent. He says, "It's my desire that we not penalize our state work in order to carry on our home and world mission work. It takes a strong home base to keep our world mission program growing."

Hatfield is thrilled over the mission projects Arkansas has been involved in in recent years. He says, "The linkages Arkansas has had with Indiana and Brazil have been very helpful in involving our own Arkansans in mission work. We also have been able to enhance the work in Brazil and Indiana."

Hatfield believes that, when these projects are completed, we should place major emphasis on the Macedonian Mission Plan formulated by Church Extension Director Floyd Tidsworth. This plan is designed to start new works in Arkansas.

Hatfield says, "This might be less glamorous than the previous projects we have been involved in, but, in the long run, it might hold more potential, because the greatest growth comes in new works. More people are won to Christ and more new money is brought into the Lord's work when new works are started."

Another prayer concern of the Hatfields is the controversy in the Southern Baptist Convention. He says, "My wife and I pray

daily for peace to rule in the hearts of the leaders of our convention and in our churches. Christ is interested in the brethren having peace, and, when peace prevails, we will invest more time and money in mission causes."

Mrs. Hatfield is enjoying being a pastor's wife again. She said, "I have always loved the pastorate because I enjoy working with people. I also enjoy being where Lawson is preaching."

The Hatfields, who married during their senior year at Ouachita, have three children. All are involved in their own local churches. The oldest is Gracie, of Arlington, Texas, who has two daughters and is a trustee on the board of Baylor University. Jerry lives in Arlington, Va., and works at the Library of Congress. He does bivocational church work and was married this year. Steven is pastor of First Church, Grandview, Tex., and is completing his Ph. D. at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has three daughters.

Hatfield encourages pastors and laypeople to make plans to come to the state convention Nov. 18-20, at Geyer Springs Church, Little Rock. Hatfield says, "My prayer is that people will come in large numbers and in the spirit of the Lord so we can have a great convention, moving us forward to another great year of service."

J. Everett Sneed is editor of the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine.



Historic vault opened—Members of Mena First Church opened the "Ebenezer" vault at their church on Sunday, June 15. Lee McMillan (left) and Claud Johnston (right) removed the cedar box from the vault. Of the 400 people attending the ceremony, nearly 70 were present whose names were placed inside the box when it was sealed 50 years ago were present. Items in the box included a Bible, several pieces of church literature, American and Arkansas flags, and newspapers of the day. The vault was erected June 14, 1936, as a monument of freedom and faith, after Rev. L.D. Summers, then pastor of the church, led a fight to close Commonwealth College, which was believed to be teaching the communist doctrine. The vault was named Ebenezer, which was derived from 1 Samuel 7:12, "Then Samuel took a stone and set it between Mizpah and Shen, and named it Ebenezer, saying 'Thus far the Lord has helped us.'" A new chest of moisture-proof stainless steel will be set back in the vault with items from the current church and times with instructions to future congregations to open it on June 15, 2036.



Woman's viewpoint

Mary Maynard Sneed

Jesus, superior to Moses

When God revealed himself to Moses on Mt. Sinai, it was to declare that even God's chosen people, Israel, were sinful and in need of forgiveness. That God delivered his commandments to Moses on two tablets of stone provided for the preservation of God's written word over word of mouth. That Moses' face caught the radiance of God was proof of the genuineness of the commandments. It was by this same glory that the disciples of Jesus were discerned as having been with him.

When Moses faced the people, it was with a veil over his face, because the glory of God was a source of fear for them. Thus, Moses became an intermediary to his people, much as Jesus was to become a mediator between God and man. As Moses veiled his face to shield God's glory from man's sinfulness and man from God's holiness and glory, Jesus

took upon himself a veil of human flesh, that man might behold his glory as of the only begotten of the Father.

Yet Moses never made possible direct communication between God and man, as Jesus did. Because of Christ's sinlessness and substitutionary death, which caused the veil of the Temple to split from top to bottom, we no longer need communicate with God through an intermediary, but directly from the heart. Because of Christ's atonement for our sin, we now have free access to God. Rather than observe a written law, we now have a living relationship between the believer and God, because of the new life he has created in us.

In comparing Christ's ministries and mediations with Moses', we see that Moses' ministry led to death, for the letter of the law (the commandments on the tablets)

promises that the punishment for sin is death. But the ministry of Christ was toward life eternal, the life of God, which has no end. Moses' ministry and mediation were to be done away. But Christ's mediation of righteousness imputed the right of free access to the redeemed of God.

The unsaved person is, even yet, unable to look upon the glory of God or to recognize God's presence, unless he accepts Jesus Christ as his personal Savior and Lord. When we come to our Lord the veil is taken away. As we are bound to Christ, we are free to perform God's will.

Mary Sneed, the wife of the editor and mother of two daughters, is an active member of the Park Hill Church in North Little Rock.

Planning for disability: first of four Planning for disability—as important as a will

by Larry Page

A will is an integral component of planning for the future. By its use one can direct the disposition of property and assets at death, making adequate provisions for the family and, if circumstances permit, providing support for some area of the Lord's work. Also, the will permits the nomination of a personal representative, a trustee for spouse or children and a guardian for minor children.

Encouragement to prepare a personal will comes to us from the media, financial and estate planners, attorneys, accountants and our clergy.

Emphasis on the necessity of a will is not misplaced and its importance has not been misstated. However, there is another area of planning which has been widely and unwisely overlooked. This neglected planning concerns the subject of disability. The lack of interest in planning for disability, in contrast to the attention given wills, may be due to the certainty of death and the uncertainty of disability.

Does disability pose a substantial risk, indicating the need for prudent planning? Perhaps the answer can be gleaned from figures compiled by the insurance industry. A 22-year-old is 7.5 times more likely to suffer a disability of 90 days or more than he is to die. Such a disability is 4.25 times more likely to occur than death for a 62-year-old.

At 20 years of age, 789 persons out of 1,000 can expect to suffer a disability of 90 days or more at some time in their lives. At age 40, 635 of 1,000 persons can expect disability, while such a disability will be suffered by 221 out of 1,000 60-year-olds. Since

these statistics were put together in 1964, there have been phenomenal advances in medical technology, probably resulting in substantial increases in the chance of suffering a prolonged disability.

It would appear from these numbers that some thought should be given to planning for the consequences of disability. In fact, planning for disability may be as important as a will. For most of one's life, disability is more likely to occur than death. A will primarily relates to one's property, while planning for disability concerns one's life, health, and other important matters as well as property.

Serious mental disability can cause much more disastrous economic consequences to the family than death. Death can create or free up assets, such as insurance proceeds and trust principal, compared to serious disability which can require substantial expenditures for litigation, special care and other associated costs.

The onset of serious mental disability results in the loss of some very important legal rights, such as the privileges of entering into contracts, making gifts or other dispositions of assets, property and property rights and making valid testamentary dispositions through a will or trust.

In the next three articles, we will briefly explain some of the ways planning for disability can be accomplished. These articles will highlight guardianship, the durable power of attorney, the revocable trust and the living will.

For more information, please contact your Arkansas Baptist Foundation at P. O. Box 552, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203, or call (501) 376-0732.

Larry Page is vice-president of the Arkansas Baptist Foundation.



Page

Church growth parallels deacon, pastor partnership

by Jim Lowry

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP)—New growth and fellowship likely will be evident in Southern Baptist churches where deacons are partners in shared ministry with the pastor, said leaders of a National Deacon Conference at Glorieta (N.M.) Baptist Conference Center.

Bruce Grubbs, supervisor of the pastoral section of the church administration department at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, urged deacons at the conference to be "partners with God, the pastor and all believers and minister-servants."

"Ministry is the work of the whole body of Christ, not an elite group," Grubbs told the deacons. "The distinction among us is for role, not rank. Ministry is the work of the whole body and the responsibility and privilege of each believer."

"All believers are ministers, not just the clergy," Grubbs continued. "The greatest church will be one made up of great lay people who support the pastor with prayer and in the work of Christ."

"What we need to be is persons equal to each other," he said. "We're brothers. The preacher is not the boss of the deacons, and the deacons are not the preacher's boss. Even though society is set up in 'pecking order,' church language is language of equality."

With tongue in cheek, he said some people don't think Jesus was meant to be a leader, because all he know how to do was love people. Grubbs said any leadership not modeled on Jesus will go away because it is based on culture.

"Ministry is most effective and fulfilling when it is conducted on the basis of gifts," he said. "This results in a partnership where you do your part and God can do his part."

Joe Stacker, director of the board's church administration department, said deacons as partners in shared ministry is appropriate because of the biblical role of deacons as leaders alongside the pastor, as shown in Philippians 1:1 and 1 Timothy 3.

"The New Testament is clear that deacons join with the pastor as servant leaders to enable the church to become a servant church," Stacker said. "This does not encourage the position of prominence or authority, but one of ministry through a sharing of one's self in Christ."

"Deacons who share this ministry add a dimension of enthusiasm and integrity to a church that can come from no other source," Stacker continued. "I would suggest that any pastor who wants to lead his church to become a 'Great Commission' church should begin by enlisting, equipping and motivating the deacons to be partners in ministry with him and the church."

Jim Lowry writes for the Baptist Sunday School Board.

Weekend of activities slated at OBU

ARKADELPHIA—"Pulling together" is the theme for a full weekend of activities slated for Aug. 28-30 on the campus of Ouachita Baptist University. The events are being sponsored by the Ouachita Student Foundation, OBU Student Entertainment and Lecture Fund and the Baptist Student Union.

Included in the schedule is the 13th edition of Tiger Traks, sponsored by the Student Foundation. The event is the kickoff for a busy academic year in which foundation members solicit monetary donations from businesses and individuals across the state to assist in the scholarship program for deserving students.

Competition for this year's Tiger Traks will be between approximately 32 co-ed teams which will compete in five events: "oozeball" (volleyball played in six inches

of mud), tug-of-war, tandem bike races, women's trike races and raft races. In addition, a "Simon Says" competition will be held on the first day in conjunction with a campus-wide picnic.

The special weekend of events will conclude with a Dan Peek concert, sponsored by the OBU Student Entertainment and Lecture Fund, on Saturday, Aug. 30, at 8 p.m. in Mitchell Hall Auditorium. Peek was a founding member of the pop group "America," and after seven years with the group, he left to become a contemporary Christian music vocalist.

For more information on the weekend of activities at OBU, persons should contact Andy Westmoreland at OBU, P.O. Box 3754, Arkadelphia, AR 71923 or call (501) 246-4541, ext. 174.

Eloise Glass Cauthen going home to Shandong Province

by Erich Bridges

(BP) photo by Stanley Leary

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—At long last, Eloise Glass Cauthen is going home to China.

The widow of longtime Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board leader Baker James Cauthen will begin teaching English in China this fall at the invitation of Yantai University. The university is located in Yantai, once known as Chefoo, a coastal port in the northeastern province of Shandong.

The one-year teaching invitation comes from the very city where Cauthen, now 76, spent her early years in boarding school. She was born in 1909 in nearby Hwanghsien to Southern Baptist missionaries Wiley and Eunice Glass.

She spent her childhood in the midst of war and revolution, famine and starvation, religious revival and heroic Christian sacrifice. Her parents knew legendary Southern Baptist missionary Lottie Moon well. Moon lived and worked in Penglai, formerly Tengchow, only 20 miles from Hwanghsien.

Cauthen's mother, who died of tuberculosis in 1914, was buried in Yantai. So were two infant brothers. Her father later married missionary nurse Jesse Pettigrew and kept teaching and preaching until the two were imprisoned and deported by Japanese forces during World War II. Her older sister, Lois, also worked in Shandong as a missionary. But few foreigners—and no Southern Baptist missionaries—got back into the Yantai area after the war.

Cauthen came back to China as a missionary, too. She worked with her husband in the southern city of Guilin (Kweilin) and in Shanghai in the 1940s and early '50s, until all missionaries left China. After Cauthen retired as executive director of the Foreign Mission Board, the Cauthens revisited Guilin and several other cities in 1980. But she hasn't seen the places of her youth in nearly half a century.

"It's where my roots are, where I spent all my growing up years. I love the hills at Chefoo and the long bluffs beyond the harbor and the islands and beaches. It's all so much a part of me that it will thrill me to pieces to get to go back."

"I keep telling myself it won't be home," she admits. "It's all different now, I'm sure. But it's where my roots are, where I spent all my growing up years. I love the hills at Chefoo and the long bluffs beyond the harbor and the islands and beaches. It's all so much a part of me that it will thrill me to pieces to get to go back."

She discovered the opening at Yantai University on a list of work opportunities for foreigners in China. In their intensive drive to modernize, the Chinese are welcoming foreigners who can help the nation progress in education, science, technology and other



Eloise Glass Cauthen looks over some of the materials she's been studying in preparation for an English teaching assignment in China. Mrs. Cauthen, the widow of longtime Foreign Mission Board leader Baker James Cauthen, will teach for one year beginning in September at Yantai University. The university is located in the very city where Mrs. Cauthen, now 76, spent her early years as a schoolgirl. She was born in 1909 in nearby Hwanghsien to missionaries Wiley and Eunice Glass. At the time, Lottie Moon was still alive and working only 20 miles away.

areas. Teachers of English, the most international of languages, are high on the wanted list.

At first Cauthen assumed she was too old to be eligible. "I was sighing. 'Oh, if I were just young enough, I'd go in a minute,'" she says. After learning there was no specific age limit, she immediately decided to apply. An invitation from the university's foreign language department arrived in June.

Yantai University is a new school. The first academic year ended in June with an enrollment of about 1,000 students, Cauthen said. She says school administrators anticipate possible growth to 5,000 students during the coming year. She is not sure how large her own classes will be.

What is her goal for the coming year? "To do a good job," she answers without hesitation. "I think a Christian should do a good job when they take a job, and without being offensive, to live as a Christian in a way that will speak—not in the words I say, but in the life I want to live."

Cauthen admits her Chinese is "very rusty." But in preparation for the assignment, she has studied intensively the teaching of English as a second language in several workshops. She will concentrate on helping her students develop conversational skills.

She looks forward to communicating and developing friendships with young Chinese students at Yantai. They are part of a new generation eager to take advantage of opportunities for education and advancement.

She also hopes to see what has become

of all the people in the region, where Christians like her parents invested "such a tremendous expenditure of life." For many years, she says, only "rumors and sad stories" of Christians in the area reached the outside world. Few people she knew personally remain alive after so long. But she has heard of one woman she knew well, now in her 80s, who still lives in Hwanghsien. "I would love to see her," she says.

Christian congregations now meet in both Yantai and Hwanghsien, and a new church building recently has replaced the old one destroyed long ago in Hwanghsien. Chinese Christian leader Wang Sunyuan reported 60 open churches and 2,000 home meeting places in Shandong Province in 1985, with an estimated 250,000 believers.

Cauthen has one other hope—to recover her father's diaries of nearly 40 years as a missionary, if they still exist. He left them in the attic of a house in Hwanghsien where he was kept under guard by Japanese forces in China after the Pearl Harbor attack. He later was taken to an internment camp and eventually repatriated to the United States. The house in Hwanghsien still stands, according to recent visitors.

"My brothers and sisters have a great desire to see if we can't get the privilege of investigating if those things are still there," she says.

Cauthen departs for China in August.

Erich Bridges writes for the SBC Foreign Mission Board.

160 million Americans need to hear gospel's liberating message

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP)—On the heels of the nation's Liberty Weekend celebration, Southern Baptists concentrated on methods to spiritually free 160 million non-Christians in America.

With the theme "Good News Lost America," home missionaries and guest speakers spoke to the problem of reaching America with the gospel during Home Missions Week at Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Conference Center.

"We have the manpower in this room tonight to reach these 160 million," declared William Hinson, guest preacher for the evening worship services.

Hinson, special assistant to the president at Baylor University in Waco, Texas, spoke to the nightly crowd of 1,500 people. "We celebrate Liberty Weekend by singing 'God Bless America,' but we forget that two-thirds of America is lost," he said, noting the problem is one of spiritual attitudes; fear, arrogance, selfishness, apathy.

"We're not seeking to save the lost because we're arrogant. We label people a liberal, a fundamentalist, a homosexual, a drunkard. By attaching a label in the house of God or in the marketplace, we displace them," Hinson warned.

In another session, C.W. Brister, professor of pastoral ministry at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, addressed the issue of care for the caregivers.

Listing common illusions about religious professionals, Brister claimed even they often are unrealistic in self-expectations. People think "ministers must be strong at all costs; ministers are above mistakes; ministers lead 'charmed' lives," he said.

"Preachers preach and don't do anything else, is also a common misbelief." But one of the most dangerous illusions of ministers is that "self-care is selfish. Ministers often are not concerned with health, exercise, a beautiful home, stylish dress because it is a selfish act," Brister told a group of directors of missions.

Brister, author of *Caring for the Caregivers*, warned against this idea, pointing out "ministers should love because they are loved.

And they should love themselves, as well."

In another session, Brister warned against the caregiver caring too much: "Theologians can ponder the mystery of God, but pastors must do the work of God. However, care must be part of the energy that keeps things going. Inordinate and inappropriate investments of time, energy and money in the objects of one's care may become idolatry."

Brister suggested ministers and other caregivers set priorities and limits in respect to life's time-frame. He also told the audience to get a "clear theological focus, asking, 'Does God expect what society wants?'"

More than 2,000 people attended the week-long eastern conference sponsored by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

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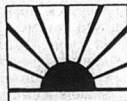


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Baptists help launch hay express to drought-stricken farmers

HOUSTON (BP)—A Houston Baptist layman and his fellow workers helped extend a lifeline to a drought-stricken family in South Carolina and opened the floodgates of aid to other suffering farmers.

The saga of people helping people began in mid-July when dairy farmer Tom Trantham appeared on ABC Nightly News to explain he and others in the Southeast were facing bankruptcy because of lack of feed. Trantham and his family are members of Washington Baptist Church at Pelzer, S.C., near Greenville.

Robert Polley, a farmer in Atlanta, Ill., saw Trantham on television and called to offer several hundred bales of hay free, if transportation could be provided.

That is when Archie Dunham, executive vice president of Conoco in Houston, and his subordinates stepped in to bridge the gap. Under the coordination of Dunham, a

deacon at Champion Forest Baptist Church in Houston, and Conoco employees, arrangements were made for two 45-foot vans and four drivers to move the hay as fast as possible to the Trantham farm in South Carolina.

Neighboring farmers gathered at the Trantham farm, and when the trucks came into view amid their cheers, Trantham said softly, "It's answered prayer."

As the sweet green alfalfa spilled onto the parched earth, Trantham held up a handful for his friends to see. "We'll have to get some Roloids for my cows... they're not used to having such a delicacy," he joked.

"It was an opportunity to provide the leadership to get a lot of people involved in doing something about some serious needs. We as Baptist laypersons have a responsibility to demonstrate our concern for people," Dunham said.

As events caught the attention of media and spread across the country, calls began pouring in from drought-stricken farmers needing help and from other farmers offering to donate hay. President Reagan announced he would send two cargo planes for transport.

The Trantham farm became the emergency station for the "hay express" with the designation as Farmer to Farmer, Route 2, Box 244, Pelzer, SC 29669. One of the great needs is for more trucks to transport the hay that is given.

Another drought in 1983 cost the Tranthams \$72,000. "I know we're not supposed to question the Lord," said Trantham, "but a couple of weeks ago, we couldn't understand why he put the drought on us. "Now we understand. It's restored our faith in the American people, and the Lord has used this to call attention to the plight of the family farmer."

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Baptist Council acts on hunger, homeless, peace

SINGAPORE (BP)—The Baptist World Alliance (BWA) General Council concluded its annual sessions in Singapore with strongly-worded resolutions on world issues of peace with justice, action on International Year of Shelter for the Homeless 1987 and commitments to pray and work toward resolving the continuing world hunger crisis.

The General Council also approved resolutions dealing with current conditions in Afghanistan, Nicaragua and South Africa, and urged release of prisoners of conscience by governments holding them as well as calling upon Baptists "to remember" such prisoners constantly in their prayers and to take whatever action is appropriate in their behalf.

Some 300 persons from all major continents attended the Singapore meetings, hosted by the Singapore Baptist Convention, whose 20 affiliated churches have 5,000 baptized believers.

In other action, the council held to its earlier decision to hold its 1987 sessions in Amman, Jordan, although recommendation of an alternate site in Nassau, the Bahamas, had been proposed. The General Council meets yearly and BWA Congresses are held every five years, with the next congress scheduled for Seoul, Korea, July 10-15, 1990.

Baptists of the United Kingdom already have invited the BWA to hold its 2005 Congress, celebrating its 100th anniversary, in London where the world body was founded in the year 1905.

A major action of the council was the approval of a "Baptist Fund for World Evangelization" proposed by the BWA Division of Evangelism and Education. The fund, to be used especially by Baptist unions and conventions in developing or currency-controlled countries for domestic efforts in evangelism and missions, would help to support national evangelism workers' ministries where there is no other available resource.

Further actions included approval of a new logo for use by the Baptist World Alliance and in relationships with it by constituent bodies, and provisional approval of new guidelines for the operations of the Division of Baptist World Aid. World Baptists contributed more than \$2,200,000 (U.S.) through BWAid in the past year for relief efforts in countries stricken by natural disaster or catastrophic occurrence and for Baptist church building and other help.

G. Noel Vose of Perth, Australia, international president of the BWA until 1990, chaired the Singapore sessions.

In an address to some 100 youth leaders

from 25 countries in advance of the General Council, Vose, a school principal, said the way of the willful, isolated loner is not the way to real strength of leadership.

Vose, who warned that the "my way, my affair" attitude fails to demonstrate a priority of leadership, cited the Old Testament story of Samson and his great strength and potential and said even in personal concerns no person today can afford to be a loner. "Great natural gifts do not guarantee great careers," said Vose, who was elected to head the world Baptist organization last year at the 15th Baptist World Congress in Los Angeles. The first Australian to hold the post, he is principal of the Baptist Theological College (seminary) of Western Australia.

Two new member unions were received into the BWA, bringing the total of its constituent conventions and unions around the world to 136 in 94 countries. Membership in the union is 34 million Baptists.

Upon recommendation of its membership committee, the international organization's deliberative body approved applications from the 48th Autonomous Baptist Community of Wamba-Bakali in Zaire and from the Evangelical Baptist Church of Malawi.

These groups come in addition to existing BWA members in both countries.

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International

A vision of God's glory

by C.A. Johnson, Walnut Street Church, Jonesboro

Basic passage: Ezekiel 43:1-12; 47:1-12

Focal passage: Ezekiel 43:2-12

Central truth: God dwells forever with those who commit themselves to him.

Earlier in his prophecy, Ezekiel had stated that the glory of the Lord, the Shekinah glory, had departed from the temple (see chapter 10 and 11; especially 10:10 and 11:23). The removal of the glory symbolized the Lord's abandonment of his people to their enemies. The nation had become Loammî ("not my people," Hos. 1:9). But this condition was not to be permanent. At the end of the chastisement, the nation was to be restored and with it the visible presence of the Lord.

Ezekiel was brought to the east gate, the same one by which the glory of the Lord had departed. The voice was like the sound of many waters, indicating power and majesty. The appearance was glorious like the previous visions of chapters one and 10.

The one who addressed Ezekiel (vv. 6-7) was the Lord in the form of a man, that is, the Angel of the Lord (Compare 2:2 and 40:3). The Lord was going to dwell forever in their midst. The land must be purified.

Chapter 47:1-2 is sometimes called the vision of living waters. The waters will issue from the entrance to the temple proper and will increase rapidly. Ezekiel was brought through the waters in the vision to reveal to him both the size and depth of the river. The waters of the river would increase and flow east to the Dead Sea. The contact of the fresh waters will bring healing to the barren Dead Sea waters. To show how thorough the healing of the salt waters will be, the prophet added details of fishermen plying their sport in the sea that once was dead.

Sometimes people think that God has forsake the earth. After all, there seems to be so little evidence that God is concerned with earth's problems. Where is God when mankind staggers beneath the crushing blows of war, famine, disease, suffering and death? The return of God in his glory as predicted by Ezekiel gives hope to all who have ears to hear and hearts to believe. God will dwell with his people one day. Everything that pollutes and defiles will be removed. Healing waters will flow from his throne. In the light of this glorious future, every child of God should "lift up the hands which hang down" and sing "hallelujah; for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth."

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Life and Work

Alcohol

by Sidney G. Carswell, Crystal Hill Church, Little Rock

Basic passage: Proverbs 20:1; 23:29-35; Romans 13:13-14; Ephesians 5:8-18; 1 Timothy 3:1-9

Focal passage: Proverbs 20:1; 23:29-33; Romans 13:13-14; Ephesians 5:8-11,15-18

Central truth: Christians should confront the dangers of drinking alcoholic beverages and should help deliver society from alcohol's devastating personal and social effects.

"A drunk driver kills someone every 21 minutes." This fact was proclaimed on a recent PBS television program.

The newspaper carried the story of a 16-year-old who was sentenced to two years in prison. She drove while drunk. There was a wreck. Two friends were killed. A group of youth in church camp talked about it. One thought it was terrible to give up two years of life. Another pointed out the friends gave up all the years of their lives.

Sin always hurts others. The cost of drinking alcoholic beverages goes beyond money. Families of alcoholics fear for the life of their loved ones. They often fear for their own lives. Homes are broken. Lives are lost needlessly. Financial burdens are created by drinking alcoholic beverages. Insurance costs are higher. Treatment programs are expensive. Hospital bills are created that never should have occurred.

Alcohol is a problem in our society. The Bible says whoever gets drunk "is not wise" (Pr. 20:1 NASB). The Bible teaches the dangers of alcohol. Noah got drunk. His daughters committed incest with him. Young people get drunk. They forget their standards. They forget their moral codes. No good thing comes from beverage alcohol.

Paul speaks against drunkenness in Romans 13:13; Ephesians 5:18. Southern Baptists have taken a strong position against the use of beverage alcohol. Our church covenant says we agree "to abstain from the sale of, and the use of, intoxicating drinks as a beverage."

A Christian's life should be full of joy. True joy comes from knowing Christ. True joy will not be found in a bottle. The best solution to the problems arising from beverage alcohol is total abstinence. The Bible presents Daniel (Dan. 1:8) and the Nazarites (Num. 6:1-4; Luke 1:13-15) as models for the ideal of total abstinence. Beverage alcohol is a problem, never a solution.

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Bible Book

Achieving God's purpose

by Homer W. Shirley Jr., First Church, Siloam Springs

Basic passage: Zechariah 1:1-6:15

Focal passage: Zechariah 3:1-2,6-8; 4:1-6,8-10a

Central truth: God's message to people centuries ago is still fresh and meaningful for us today.

God spoke through Haggai to encourage his people to rebuild the temple. It was time for those returning from exile to begin a major restoration program. They built their own houses but God wanted a place of worship built.

This building program was to ultimately include far more than the temple. It would encompass Jerusalem. So God called Zechariah to reinforce the words of Haggai. Their ministry overlaps by one month.

Before we can achieve the purposes of God in constructing buildings, we must be right with him in our spiritual lives. God reminded his people that he was displeased with their fathers (1:2). Because of the refusal of their fathers to turn back to God, they were carried away into exile. Sin is a state of exile from God among many other things: So God calls for his people to turn unto him and he will turn unto them (1:3).

Surely you and I can read for ourselves the end result of refusal to turn to God. We must remember that God has a storehouse full of blessing ready for our claiming through our obedience to him. He wants to meet with us in worship. He wants to live in us and through us. He will not only build his temple (1:16), but he will comfort his people and establish his dwelling with us (1:17).

We cannot deceive God. He has his own patrol in the world to keep tabs on us. This is symbolized in the horsemen riding through the earth (1:8-11). But we must always remember God's knowledge of us and our sin does not change his love and mercy toward us. His people are "the apple of his eye" (2:8). He will protect them. Even Satan himself cannot destroy God's people (2:2).

In order for God's work in the world to be realized through us, we must recognize that it is not by our might or power but by God's spirit (4:6). Perhaps this is our greatest weakness. We must reach the end of our own resources before we are usable by God. He has set forth the criteria for fulfillment of his purposes. Our only option for fulfillment is obedience.

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All races in South Africa cooperate in relief effort

by Marty Croll

CAPE TOWN, South Africa (BP)—South African Baptists of all colors are working together to provide shelter and relief for blacks who fled their burning homes in the sprawling shanty settlement of Crossroads.

Whites, Asian Indians and "coloreds" (the South African race of mixed ancestry), are taking supplies to the offices of the Western Province Baptist Association in Pinelands, a suburb of Cape Town. From there Southern Baptist missionary **Charles Hampton** and a black pastor distribute them to Crossroads refugees.

Hampton, a church starter from Monticello, Ark., has been working with the pastor, Michael Dwaba, to start churches in and around Crossroads. In the relief program, Hampton picks up food, clothes and blankets left at association offices and transports them into the black community of Langa, where Dwaba helps him with distribution among the Crossroads refugees.

Shielded inside his pickup truck behind stainless-steel mesh, Hampton also drives supplies about once a week to an army tent outside Crossroads that shelters about 5,000 refugees. To distribute the supplies there he works with Baptists living in the camp. He estimates South African Baptists have cared for up to 1,000 people through this program.

The 65-year-old missionary outfitted his truck with wire mesh in June after youths in Langa tossed cement chunks through his windshield. Rival groups of blacks started fighting each other in the region in May. In June the South African government declared a state of emergency.

During the violence in Crossroads, about half of the city was burned. At one point up to 70,000 blacks were wandering around looking for shelter from the cape's winter rain or bundled up, shivering in wet blankets. Strong winds have hampered relief efforts, at least once blowing down a tent with several thousand people under it.

Hampton and missionary Mark Morris, a church starter from Memphis, Tenn., are exploring the possibility of securing land from the government to build homes using Southern Baptist relief funds. Under the proposal, black pastors would help the missionaries identify families to live in the homes. The organization of Southern Baptist missionaries, however, has not yet requested the funds from the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

Since his arrival in the Cape Town area eight years ago, Hampton has helped bridge the gap between the four races in South Africa whose lives normally run on different tracks. Now Baptist churches in Western Province Association are multiplying despite racial conflict surrounding them.

"We can't seat the people," said Hampton. "Every time I go somewhere they say,

'We've got 30 people awaiting baptism,' 'I've got 16 people awaiting baptism' or 'I'm counting 50 that are going to be baptized.' The coloreds, the blacks and a number of the European (white) churches just can't take care of the people with their buildings. We can't keep up with building buildings big enough.'

Western Province Association is an integrated group of about 100 churches, missions and preaching stations. Its representatives meet every two months, and its officers are picked freely from each of the racial groups, Hampton said.

Missionaries and South African Baptists on the Cape of Good Hope have found ways to spread the gospel in the midst of this most recent crisis. For one, they stuff Bibles and tracts donated by the South African Bible Society into bundles of relief items they give to people Dwaba identifies.

Dwaba preaches nightly under a tent where about 200 refugees sleep. The tent stands on a church lot awarded Baptists in Khayelitsha, about three miles from Crossroads, where the government built housing for 100,000 blacks. The word, "Khayelitsha," means "my new home" in the Xhosa tongue. The residents pay minimal fees, mainly for water and sewerage.

Hampton has received the best treatment he could want from government officials, as he and others have worked to provide relief behind checkpoints in trouble spots, he said. "The police everywhere I've been have been cooperative. I had occasion yesterday to take a step way up the line to a major's office for something I needed to know and work out. Every one of them was just as cooperative as he could be, right up the ladder."

God is blessing the work of Baptists in South Africa, Hampton said: "What people are seeing on the news media is certainly only a small part of the story. The Lord has blessed us far beyond any dream we could have ever had, in the midst of all of this."

One night Hampton arrived at a youth meeting after dodging fires on the roadway to Strandfontein Baptist Church in Mitchell's Plain, the largest colored community in the region. Upon his arrival, 40 to 50 youth there rose up, applauded and prayed, praising God. Then they broke out in a chorus, singing, "At times like these we sing out a song, we sing out a love song to Jesus."

"I know this is a terrible time for anybody, but God's children have rallied together for each other and have loved each other through this thing," Hampton said. "There's a lot of sunshine that's shining through the clouds."

Marty Croll writes for the SBC Foreign Mission Board.

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