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**July 17, 1986**

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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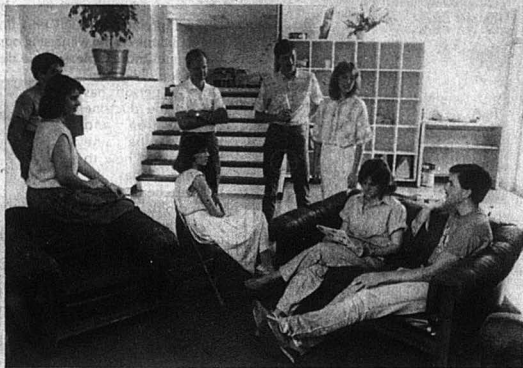
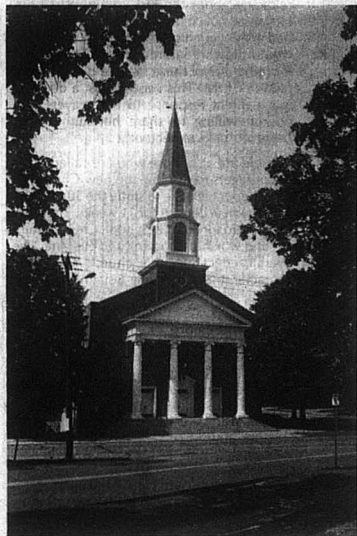
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17

July 24, 1986

# Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine



## BSU: Christ on the campus

pages 9-16





Photos by Millie Gill and George Sims

Baptist Student Union plays a strategic role in reaching college students for Christ. It is, in many ways, "Christ on the campus." This year's annual On-to-College emphasis focuses on that theme. A special section this week (pp. 9-16) spotlights Arkansas student ministries.

## In this issue

### 7 spanning the generations

When Charleston First Church celebrated its 140th anniversary June 29, Pastor Larry Horne recognized Nannie Van Meter as the member of longest tenure, 79 years. A symbol of the congregation's ministry across the generations came as Mrs. Van Meter's great-grandson, Bryan Neisel, made a profession of faith at the close of the service.

### 17 associational meetings

Preparing for this fall's state-wide round of annual associational meetings, the ABN publishes a list of dates and locations for 42 meetings.

## Testimony: part two of three What CWT means to the local church

by David McLemore

The apprentices of CWT encounter a different outlook on the witnessing opportunity. It becomes more a pleasurable desire than a dreaded obligation.

Once a person has studied the doctrine of salvation and knows what he believes and how to present what he believes, he becomes more bold. The emphasis becomes finding opportunities and learning that the witness can anywhere at anytime tell another of Jesus' love and forgiveness. These opportunities are literally everywhere.



McLemore

Linda had never asked a team of Jehovah's Witnesses into her home. She felt impressed to witness to them; therefore she invited them in and got her Bible. Her testimony was that she had memorized enough Scripture to answer each of their verses. After that experience, Linda said, "Before CWT I would have never invited them into my home." Last Sunday night Linda said in excitement that she would attend our Church Training class on cults. She wanted to be better prepared to witness to these by knowing what they believe.

Not only do these changed lives of the CWT participants affect a church but also the support of church members. Each of the active participants has a prayer partner. These often grow close together as they learn of one another through prayer. The fellowship that praying together creates is miraculous.

Another effect on the church is seen when someone accepts Christ as Lord. There is the expected excitement that the church has in rejoicing about the lost coming to Christ. However, now it takes on new meaning. We had made our list of those for whom we would pray on Saturday night. On Sunday morning one of these made a profession of faith in Christ. This was not just a decision but a direct response to the prayers of a church willing to share her faith. Many began to pray expectantly.

There are also those who are called on as encouragers to disciple the new Christians. The encouragers are to study the Survival Kit with the new convert for 11 weeks. They also meet them for Sunday School, Church Training and worship, morning and evening. The overall effect on the church takes the characteristics of the New Testament church making disciples.

David McLemore is pastor of Second Church, Russellville.

## New Orleans Seminary elects duo to faculty

NEW ORLEANS (BP)—Trustees of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary have elected two new faculty members.

Robert Rex Mathis of Santa Fe, N.M., was named assistant professor of religious education. Jerry E. Oswald of Silverhill, Ala., was elected associate professor of preaching. Both appointments are effective July 1.

Mathis, 38, has been minister of education and administration at First Church of Santa

Fe since 1981. A native of Harrison, Ark, Mathis holds degrees from Wayland Baptist University, Texas A&M University, the University of Texas at El Paso and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

Oswald, 48, has been director of missions for Baldwin Association in Silverhill. A native of Starkville, Miss., Oswald holds degrees from Mississippi State University and New Orleans Seminary.

## Kinchen elected leader of West Virginia Baptists

ST. ALBANS, W.Va. (BP)—Thomas A. Kinchen has been elected executive secretary-treasurer of the West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists.

Kinchen, director of the continuing education and doctor of ministry programs at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, will succeed Thomas E. Halsell, who will retire Dec. 31. Kinchen will begin work with Halsell in West Virginia Sept. 12 and will assume his new post Jan. 1, 1987.

A native of Thomasville, Ga., Kinchen has been pastor of churches in Georgia and Loui-

siana. He also has been a high school and seminary teacher. In addition to his current position at New Orleans Seminary, he has been administrative assistant to the vice president for student affairs, director of church/minister relations and communication and vice president for student affairs.

Kinchen, 39, is a graduate of Georgia Southern College, the University of Georgia and New Orleans Seminary.

He and his wife, the former Ruth Ann Hunter, have two children, Alex, 15; and Lisa, 12.



Christian encouragers are desperately needed today. An encourager can assist with the mild depression from which many people suffer. Others need an encourager to assist them in finding a sense of direction for their lives.

The greatest encourager in the New Testament was Barnabas. Through his encouragement he gave the world one of the greatest theological minds that it has ever known. By being an encourager, he gave the world the book of Mark which many theologians believe to be the first written. By being an encourager, he gave the world more than three-fourths of the New Testament. His name originally was Joseph but he was renamed Barnabas which means "one who encourages," (Acts 4:36).

Almost every time we encounter Barnabas in Acts he is encouraging or strengthening some individual. Our first encounter with him was when he sold some property and gave the money to encourage the struggling church in Jerusalem (Acts 4:36-37). He encouraged and assisted Paul after his conversion when all the other Christians in Jerusalem were afraid to have anything to do with him (Acts 9:26-27). Later he persuaded Paul to come to Antioch to join in the work of spreading the gospel (Acts 11:25-26).

Later we see Paul and Barnabas join in a dispute over whether John Mark should accompany them on their second missionary journey. Mark had left in the middle of their first missionary journey. It was Barnabas' desire to encourage Mark and to allow him to accompany on the second missionary journey. But when Paul steadfastly refused, Barnabas took Mark and went on a separate missionary journey. Paul selected Silas and made his second missionary journey. Barnabas, the encourager, obviously saved the ministry of John Mark.

Barnabas encouraged both Paul and Mark. Paul, in turn, influenced Luke who wrote both the gospel of Luke and the book of Acts. When you add together Mark, Luke, Acts and the letters of Paul, the result is well over three-fourths of the New Testament.

Encouragers have been needed from the earliest days of New Testament churches. They are still needed today. People often come to a particular point in their lives in which an encourager can enable them to move beyond an obstacle.

All Christians can and should be encouragers. Some individuals have special gifts for encouraging others. Everyone can be an encourager when he or she is willing to become

involved. Ministering to others requires time, energy and effort. It is also risky. When an individual deals with the problems in the life of another, there is always the possibility that the encourager will experience some problems himself. No one can help an individual who is dying of a disease without hurting. It is impossible to minister and to help to change the situation for a low income family without experiencing pain yourself. No one can come close to a family that is experiencing divorce without having trauma.

The need for encouragers today is greater than ever. Stress grips our entire society. Every home is affected to some extent by tension. No individual can truthfully say that he is exempt.

Statistics indicate the seriousness of the problems that exist in our society. Divorce directly affects nearly one and one-quarter million people each year. One-third of our nation can be classified as moderate to heavy drinkers. A recent study showed that 38 percent of the girls in our nation will be sexually abused by the time they are 18 years old.

Tensions are present, also, in many lesser ways. The regular activities that occur in the lives of every individual produce stress. People are regularly moving, losing their jobs; children leave home, illnesses occur, parents and other members of the family die.

Many of the problems that confront our society are serious enough that they require a skilled counselor such as a psychologist or psychiatrist. Some individuals require properly administered medication in order to work through their problems. But many lesser problems can be helped and overcome simply by a Christian encourager. The first step is to be willing to help. Most of us are not trained counselors, psychologists or psychiatrists. We need to be alert and recognize when referrals are necessary. But the greatest ingredient is a willingness to help and to get involved with others.

The benefits of being a modern day Barnabas are numerous. It will enable us to see changes in the lives of other people. It will bring joy in our own lives, as we see other individuals develop and become what God wants them to be. Barnabas had the joy of seeing Paul blossom into the great theologian. He, also, had the pleasure of seeing John Mark become one of the great leaders among the early churches. If you become an encourager, only eternity can reveal the positive results which may occur.

# Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

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

VOLUME 85

NUMBER 27

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## Letters to the editor

### Should not hinder

To claim that we Southern Baptists must be of the same theological belief to cooperatively go to missions and educational institutions is absurd.

If there are legitimate differences within the SBC there is absolutely no reason why in the Spirit of the Lord the differences could not be worked out.

Southern Baptists must not lose sight of their primary cooperative purpose; spreading the gospel and equipping God's servants to accomplish their God given tasks. Theological differences should be handled by SBC leadership in the spirit of John 13:35 and II Timothy 2:24-25, 3:16-17, 4:1-5.

Some may maintain that the differences are so extreme that compromise would be the same as agreeing with heresy in the church (by extension, the SBC).

To a person of my particular theological beliefs, the SBC is constantly preaching and teaching doctrine that I do not agree with but because I am called by God as a teacher I look at the differences as opportunities to instruct, gently correct, and pray that understanding may be given to God's people to God's glory.

How drastic are these differences? I'm a Calvinist (man's label); some who know me say I'm a hyper-Calvinist. Ever think you'd read a pro-Cooperative Program, promissory letter from a Calvinist Christian? Please believe me when I say that in Christ, missions and Calvinistic theology do not conflict.

If I, with my particular beliefs, can work within the SBC at peace with my brothers and sisters in Christ; I simply cannot see why others can't do the same unless they are unwilling to practice what they preach. You see, to me, the whole SBC is theologically very liberal, so called "liberal" and "conservative" alike.

SBs have got to realize that despite our theological differences, God is using us and blessing us in the spreading of the Gospel of his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ both nationally and internationally. That is what is important. That is what we should be cooperatively involved in. Theological differences should not hinder that task. God willing, it won't.—Dale W. Morfe, Ft. Smith

### Already have a savior

Jesus Christ uniquely qualified himself as Savior when as the spotless Lamb of God he freely gave himself to ransom mankind from sin and its fatal penalty. Mere man is unqualified to be Savior. One might have concluded otherwise, however, by listening to the lavish accolades spoken in the nomination speech and introductions of our new Southern Baptist Convention president, and the "saviorly" applause and fanfare accorded him. I admire our new president, believe

him to be a true man of God, and look forward to his able and fair leadership in our Convention. Even so, Jesus Christ is the Savior of the Southern Baptist Convention, and we dare not look to any president to fill his unique office. Maybe next convention we can focus less on the Southern Baptist Convention president and more on our Savior who works in and through all 14 million-plus Southern Baptists to redeem mankind.—Allen D. Thrasher, Booneville

### Don't go to Las Vegas

I have just returned from Las Vegas where I attended Rotary International's Convention. My experience reinforced my conviction that Southern Baptists have no business meeting in Las Vegas in 1989. I am aware that the Convention is committed to going. I'm asking Arkansans to boycott the convention as a protest to the leadership for considering Las Vegas as a convention site.

I've been to American Dental Association meetings, Rotary International meetings, and Southern Baptist Conventions. I'm not saying dentists and Rotarians should not go to Las Vegas, but I am saying Southern Baptists should not.

It's ludicrous to subject our people to the environment of Las Vegas. Dr. Charles Ashcraft, our former executive director, made us aware of the good work Baptist are doing in Nevada. I am not condemning Las Vegas citizens but the difficulty of evangelizing the people Southern Baptists will be contacting the week of the convention is self-evident. It takes 100,000 tourists and gamblers to keep Las Vegas going each week. Reaching people who have come for the sole purpose of gambling and immoral activities will be almost impossible.

A quote from the novel *Joseph* speaks to this situation. Rachel, trying to explain the terrible experience at Schechem, said to Joseph, "Here is a lesson for you my son. Now listen closely, do not go any place where you know evil exists and thrives, it will be best to avoid that place completely. On the other hand, should you be in someone's tent and there find an evil thing happening, leave immediately, and if you can't find an open tent flap, make one."

My conclusion is: don't go to Las Vegas! You won't like it. Churches can spend money better. Messengers who pay your own way, give it to the church and you will get better returns.—James F. Sawyer, Little Rock

### Going the wrong way

After one of the SBC sessions I had returned to my hotel and took the elevator to my room. Instead of going up, however, the elevator went down and someone remarked, "This has happened every time. . . I guess we have to go the wrong way before we go the right way." After further reflections,

it seems this observation could equally apply as a prophetic voice for our denomination.

This principle is evident in Scripture. The Israelites had to go the wrong way for over 40 years before God could show them the right way and establish a nation for his purposes. Peter traveled through the gate of denial before he found the right way to serve his Lord. Paul was found persecuting the very ones he later came to serve after he went to right way on the Damascus road. God was and is able to use our disobedient, denying, hateful ways and turn them into stronger instruments of furthering his purpose which is always the right way.

Now it appears our denomination has continued to go the wrong way, for at least the philosophy it now espouses is certainly not the Baptist way, nor I believe God's way.

We go the wrong way when we require fellow believers to sign loyalty oaths. We go the wrong way when we try to make the Bible something it is not. We go the wrong way in a desire to remove those who don't believe our way. And we go the wrong way when we use the banner of religious liberty to cover the tearing down of the wall between church and state.

For those who will stay and seek to move our convention from the wrong way toward the right way, the years ahead will be difficult. But I believe if we can do this then we will learn from our mistakes and God will once again bless us and enable us to become a stronger and better denomination for his glory.—Michael D. Johnson, Pine Bluff

### Moonies in area

Reverend Moon's Unification Church (Moonies) has a group called CAUSA working the Pulaski County area. CAUSA is involved in helping the needy, but the primary purpose of the organization is to gain acceptance for Moon's apostate doctrine. Early in his ministry Moon declared himself to be the Christ.

The Moonies are visiting Baptist churches, and perhaps other denominations as well, in our area. They are polite, agreeable, and intent on gaining our approval, quieting our criticism, and seducing our membership.

It may well be that the warning has been sent out before now; but just in case, I'm sounding off. Remember II John 10: "If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your house (church) and do not give him a greeting."—Ronnie C. Simmons, Little Rock

Letters to the editor expressing opinions are invited. Letters should be typed double space and must be signed by one person, though the name may be withheld on request. Mailing address and phone number of the writer should be included. Letters must not contain more than 350 words and must not defame the character of persons. Letters should be marked "for publication." Only original letters will be considered.

Don Moore

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

It is hard to know where to begin as I think each week of things that will bless your heart about our work together. If you could follow me around and be a witness to what I see, sense and feel in the churches, you would know why I am nearly always high with excitement.

...The National Campers on Mission Rally was special. Held at Wilderness Point near Mountain Home, it was my joy to preach on a Friday night to over 429 people from across the nation who use their camping experiences to witness. Many use their campers for housing as they do volunteer mission work across the country. Our Arkansas chapter did a super job of hosting this record number.

...To share in anniversaries and dedications is a thrill. These occasions highlight the concerted efforts of God's people over long periods of history and in celebration of buildings completed. We recently shared in the 150th anniversary celebration of First Church, Hot Springs. To my knowledge it is the only church organized in the same year Arkansas was granted statehood. We have a few churches that date before statehood.

...I signed six certificates of recognition today. These were new work certificates for language churches. New deaf ministries have been started by Calvary, Marked Tree; First, Beebe; and Lake Street, Paragould. Gosnell has started a Vietnamese work.

Marrable Hill in El Dorado has started an Asian Indian work and Phoenix Village of Fort Smith has started a Korean work. Praise the Lord for people who see and seize such glorious opportunities.

...Laotian pastor Khamsing Norady of Grand Avenue Baptist, Fort Smith, was chosen by Governor Clinton to represent him at the celebration of the renewed Statue of Liberty celebration in New York this month. That blesses me!

...Twelve new mission churches have been started this year. These are not splits. They are planned strategies of concerned churches. This blesses me!

Keep it up Arkansas Baptists! You are doing a great work!

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



Moore



## One layman's opinion

Daniel R. Grant

### Focusing on sunrise enterprises

In our frantic search for new industry for our cities and our state, we run the risk of being so hungry for new jobs that we will settle for any kind of industry, good or bad. One of the economic problems of many of our southern states today is that we are saddled with some weak and low-wage industrial plants that do not have the strength to survive when the going gets tough.

Economists and industrial development experts are using a new term these days—"sunrise industries," as compared with "sunset industries." They tell us that the secret of the phenomenal economic growth of Japan after World War II has been their strong emphasis on "sunrise industries"—those that are in their early stages of rapid growth, innovative technological development, and strong consumer demand. Apparently the Japanese selected their areas of emphasis very carefully and put most of their energy and attention on being on the cutting edge of the electronic revolution, to name only one example. The Japanese success story is one of the remarkable achievements in the second half of the twentieth century.

A city or state in great need of the jobs and economic boost that new industries can pro-

vide should beware of ending up with sunset industries—those on the down curve of demand, growth, innovative excitement and technological development. Sunset industries all too often depend on polluting the air, land, and water of the community, and assume that old ways will never be overtaken by new ways. The new jobs can disappear as quickly as they appear if the sun is setting on that particular industry.

The idea of focusing on the sunrise rather than the sunset makes sense for many parts of our life other than the job market. Young people would do well to focus on sunrise careers, rather than sunset careers. Churches need to stay abreast of the very newest and best technology of communication for carrying out the Christian mandate of the Great Commission, from microcomputers and word processors to space satellites and television "dishes." And universities need to make sure they are teaching sunrise knowledge—eternal truth—and not engaged in the unctuous elaboration of the soon-to-be obsolete. That's especially true for a university about to begin its second century.

Daniel R. Grant is president of Ouachita Baptist University.

## Two receive Brooks Hays Award

Denis Jensen and Hezekiah Stewart were honored June 29 when Little Rock Second Church observed the fifth Brooks Hays Memorial Christian Citizenship Award Day.

The Brooks Hays Award was established to recognize and encourage the application of the gospel in public service and to provide an ongoing memorial to Hays, former member of Second Church, former president of the Southern Baptist Convention and U.S. congressman who served Arkansas for 16 years.

This year's awards were presented to Jensen and Stewart for ministering in the areas of poverty and hunger, in keeping with the church's benevolent ministries through the crisis closet, Union Rescue Mission and Dorcas House, the Stewpot, Interfaith Coalition on Energy, World Hunger and the Christmas Dame Estate children's ministry.

Jensen is executive director of the Union Rescue Mission in Little Rock and Stewart is executive director of the Watershed Human and Community Development Agency and serves as pastor of the Mount Nebo A.M.E. Church.



Jensen



Stewart

Under Jensen's leadership the mission served 120,000 free meals in 1985, gave 915 food baskets to families and provided overnight lodging and assistance to hundreds of homeless persons.

The Watershed Agency was founded by Stewart to provide services to help persons find employment and other basic necessities that enable them to be self-sufficient. Since its inception, the agency has provided job training, library services, home weatherization assistance and many other programs for the College Station area in Little Rock.

# Arkansas all over

by Millie Gill / ABN staff writer

## people

**Rosemary Massey Garton** of Augusta died June 28 at age 54. She was a member of Augusta First Church where she served as a junior high girls Sunday School teacher and as a choir member. She also was active in the church's bus ministry. She was an elementary special education teacher for Augusta Public Schools. Survivors include her husband, James W. Garton; two daughters, Mary



N. Wright and Laura Wiltshire, both of Little Rock; two sons, Paul W. Garton and John V. Garton, both of Augusta; her mother, Mabel Massey of Augusta; and two grandsons.

**Ken Jordan** recently resigned as pastor of

Hamburg First Church to enter full-time evangelism. He is residing at 867 Fendley Drive, Apt. C-3 in Conway.

**Wesley Hodges** is serving as pastor of Freeman Heights Church in Berryville. He is a recent graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Hodges and his wife, Dana, have a daughter, DeeDee.

**Boyd Tannehill** is serving as pastor of Parthenon Church.

**Lois Powell Coones** died June 28 in Hope at age 83. She was a member of Hope First Church where she had served for 18 years as librarian. She retired in 1968 following 22 years of service from the Baptist Book Store in Fort Worth. Her funeral services were held June 30. Survivors include a son, Gerald Jackson, an associate in the Church Training Department, Arkansas Baptist State Convention; three sisters, Ruby Daniels, Mary Ellis and Margaret Lewis, all of Hope; and two grandchildren. Memorials may be made to Hope First Church library or the Cancer Society.

**Nancy Carol Bryant** of Fort Worth, Texas, will leave this month for Ethiopia where she has been assigned by the Foreign Mission Board to serve one year as a nurse. Bryant served at the Little Rock Baptist Medical Center from May, 1978 to May, 1982.

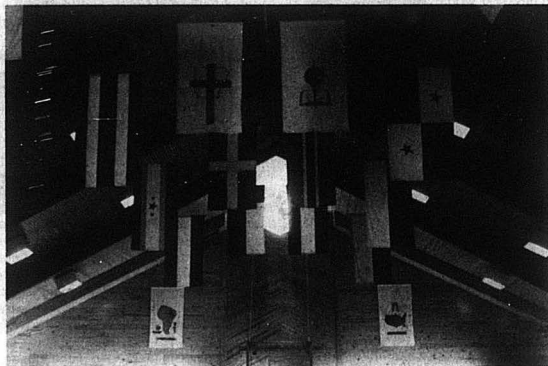
**Cecil Weller** of Fort Smith was recently in Nashville to participate in an orientation

session for new trustees of the Sunday School Board. He is a member of Grand Avenue Church, Fort Smith.

**Gina Godfrey** is serving Booneville First Church as summer children's intern. A native of Booneville, she is a senior at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

**Vern Falk** has accepted a call to serve as interim pastor of Burlington Church. He and his wife, Virginia, have served as volunteer missionaries in Yorktown, Ind.

**Tony Parr** is serving as music and youth director at Pleasant Grove Church in Ferndale. He is a student at Ouachita Baptist University.



Flags representing countries served by Southern Baptist foreign missionaries have been handmade by the Day Baptist Women of Bentonville First Church. They are being used to decorate the church's Family Life Center, according to Lorene Julian, president.

ABN photo / Mark Kelly



Mayor James Reid leads the congregation in the pledge of allegiance to the United States flag when Gravel Ridge First Church held a God and Country rally July 6. Platform guests included Clarence Shell, ABCS evangelism director; Arkansas Governor Bill Clinton; and Chaplain Lonnie Barker. Danny Veteto is pastor.

## briefly

**Marked Tree First Church** has purchased a 770 Rogers organ to be used in its music ministry.

**Heber Springs First Church** constituted Sugarloaf Mission into a church July 13 in a 6 p.m. service in Heber Springs worship center.

**Blaney Hill Church** near Conway, constituted in 1985, is in a building program for the purpose of enlarging its educational space.

**Jonesboro Central Church** is enlarging its single adult ministry by providing a class for single adults, 30-years-old and older. Goals also have been set to contact every single adult in Jonesboro and to minister to staff families. R.B. and Peggy McClung serve as directors.

**Dardanelle-Russellville Association** had 190 youth, representing nine churches at Baptist Vista June 23-27. Monroe Hunt, camp director, reported 14 professions of faith and eight re-dedications.

**Berry Street Church** in Springdale recently received 1,500 shares of industry stock valued at \$54,000 from an anonymous donor. The contribution will be used to pay the indebtedness on a new van, to pave the parking lot and to purchase additional property.

**Hot Springs Second Church** will blanket the city with backyard Bible clubs Aug. 4-8. Plans are being made for 25 clubs staffed by 150 workers, according to Pastor Nick Garland.

**Jacksonville Victory Church** ordained Willie Bryant, Danny Doen and Richard Roedel to the deacon ministry June 22.

**Grand Avenue Church** in Fort Smith will conduct backyard Bible Clubs Aug. 4-8 in Tilles Park. Jan Taylor, Edye Thornton and Gay Whitson are serving as coordinators.

**Hughes First Church** honored Mrs. Tom Raper July 6 at the annual church picnic, recognizing her 32 years of service as church custodian. She was presented with a love offering.

**Pine Bluff Central Church** added Boe Herring and Jonathan Baldwin to its deacon ministry during this church year. Herring was ordained Nov. 3, 1985, and Baldwin was ordained June 29, 1986.



**Loving spirit**—Nannie Van Meter, a member of Charleston First Church since 1907, was recognized as the member of longest tenure when the church celebrated its 140th anniversary June 29. Her day was made complete when her great-grandson, Bryan Neisel, made a profession of faith at the close of the anniversary message given by Ferrell Morgan, director of missions for Concord Association. Bryan shared his happy decision with Mrs. Van Meter and his mother, Patricia. Pastor Larry Horne presented plaques to 25 other members with 50-year or more memberships, and he recognized 17 others for their 40-year memberships. Since its organization, the Charleston church has met in four different locations, having been at their present location since 1922. Today the church has a resident membership of 320 with 292 enrolled in Sunday School. It gives 15 percent of its budget to the Cooperative Program and two percent to associational causes. Its programs include a nursing home ministry, mission groups, choirs, Woman's Missionary Union, Continuing Witness Training, Sunday School and Church Training. In 1858 the Arkansas Baptist State Convention convened at Charleston. J.B. Searcy, recording secretary, listed two important decisions made. One was the decision to begin publication of a denominational state paper and the other was to endow a Baptist college or university. J.S. Comper, born at Charleston while his father was pastor, later became editor of the state paper, which was known as *The Baptist Advance*, and served from 1919-1929.



## First Church, Mountain Home, occupies new facility

On Sunday morning, June 22, the keys to First Church Mountain Home's Sixth and Church Street properties were presented to community leaders as the church prepared to move to its new location at 400 Club Blvd.

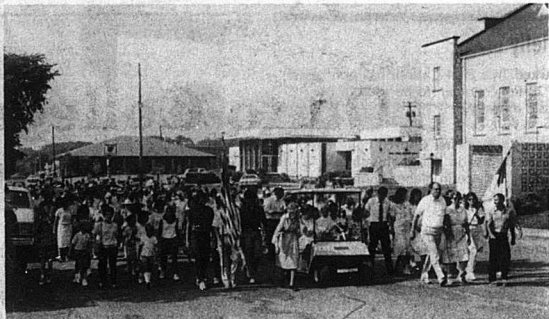
The members took an historic 1.8 mile walk to their new facilities; the walk symbolizing the hearty and pioneer spirit in which the church was organized 118 years ago. Following the walk, the church held its first worship service in its new facility with more than 700 in attendance.

The following Sunday, June 29, a formal dedication service was held at which Don Moore, executive director of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, was the featured speaker. Later that afternoon, the cornerstone was laid which included a time capsule to be opened in A.D. 2030.

The new building houses a 700-seat sanctuary, 90-seat choir loft, and a fellowship hall that will seat 400, according to Pastor Roy Fowler. The full educational facilities will accommodate 600 people. There is also built-in expansion space in the sanctuary; with the removal of some Sunday School rooms, the sanctuary could seat 1,300.

The theme of the cross has been carried throughout the church in an 8-ft. stained glass window, pulpit, communion table, lighting, and pews.

The new facilities cost a total of \$2.5 million dollars, and, according to Pastor Fowler, the \$700,000 still owed is almost entirely committed in pledges over the next three years. The old facilities were sold for \$750,000. The contributions pledged in the church's "Victory in Jesus" campaign are running ahead of schedule.



Members of First Church Mountain Home strike out from their old building toward the congregation's new facilities.



The new building, including a 700-seat sanctuary and a large educational facility, was completed at a cost of \$2.5 million dollars.



Following an old-fashioned dinner on the ground, members laid the cornerstone on the new building in a Sunday afternoon ceremony on June 29. The cornerstone also contains a time capsule to be opened in 50 years, in A.D. 2030. Articles in the capsule will include pictures of Sunday School classes, former pastors and other church notables; copies of church publications and lists of associational memberships. The new building which houses the cornerstone carries the theme of the cross from the steeple to the pews. The new sanctuary will presently seat 700 with built-in expansion room for 1,300. The facilities, including a 600-person educational space, cover a total of 42,000 square feet.

# Make On-to-College Day a time for supporting students

Churches who offer support for students as they enroll in colleges and universities can help strengthen the foundation of belief and faith that will help them carry Christ to the campus. One effective time of celebration is the churches' On-to-College Day emphasis, scheduled for August 3, 1986. This can be a time of support from the entire church focused on the college student and his family. Some suggestions for an effective On-to-College emphasis are:

1. Send special invitations to students and their families asking them to be prepared to be recognized in the service.
2. Prepare a continental breakfast for members of the collegiate department to be served before Sunday School.
3. Schedule talented students or groups of students to provide special music in the worship service.
4. Ask students to take other service or leadership roles by reading scripture, leading

prayer, serving as ushers.

5. Plan for a relaxed question and answer session for first time students to discuss their expectations about college life.

6. Ask a BSU Director to be a guest teacher in Sunday School.

7. Build a message on carrying Christ into life situations and include illustrations for students in college.

8. Ask a student to share his or her testimony in the service.

The names and addresses of college students should be sent to the Student Department, Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203 along with names of schools that they plan to attend. This will allow the BSU Directors to make contact with students before they come to the campus. The future leaders of our nation and of our churches are on our college and university campuses today. One of the best opportunities to take Christ to the campuses is for our Baptist students to be prepared to share a witness while they themselves are enrolled. Let's do everything we can to encourage our students on On-to-College Day.

George E. Sims is associate director of the ABCS Student Department.

## College campus missions

We Baptists believe we are to take the good news everywhere, and we believe the college campus is an important part of that "everywhere."

As Paul went to Mars Hill because of the unique place it was, Arkansas Baptists have gone to 27 college campuses of the state to say to the future teachers, doctors, engineers, housewives, "God is in Christ reconciling himself to the world..."

This special edition of the *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine* tells of "Christ on the Campus," the work of Baptist Student Unions on 27 Arkansas campuses, representing all of our Southern Baptist churches in Arkansas, and especially the work of the dozens of campus churches in Arkansas.

Students at

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217 West Union  
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Evening worship	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday service	7:15 p.m.



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Rev. Coyse David McLemore

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Welcome to ATU students!

We hope your college experience goes well. We pledge ourselves to provide for you worship & spiritual training during your tenure at Tech. When we can assist you we hope you will contact us.



## Southern College BSU maintains broad program

by J. Everett Sneed

Jackie Burton, BSU director for Southern Baptist College, Walnut Ridge, is also Dean of Women and teaches a two-hour course in Church Recreation each year. But in spite of her numerous involvements, the Baptist Student work at Southern is strong. Last year there were approximately 150 students involved in BSU.

Burton observed that the activity that involves the largest number of students at Southern is the noonday services. These services run from 75 to 100 in attendance. Last year the services averaged approximately 90 students throughout the year. The "noonday" service is a brief worship which convenes at 12:30 each day.

Other BSU activities at Southern include Bible Study in the dorms, Christian young women meeting weekly, and services conducted by the BSU at two nursing homes in the area.

The two nursing homes in which the Southern BSU conducts services weekly are the Lawrence County Nursing Home and the Sheltering Arms Nursing Home. In the nursing home services the students preach, sing and visit with the residents. Burton said, "The personal visits of the students mean a great deal to those living in the nursing homes. Many of these people are lonely."

There are 14 or 15 students who assist in the weekly nursing home services. Burton said, "These services provide an opportunity for our students to be directly involved in ministering to individuals and to develop their God-given abilities. Ministering to the nursing home residents provides a great deal of joy to our students as well as for the residents of the nursing homes."

One of the major projects of the Southern BSU is the summer mission emphasis. There are about 30 students who are serving in various capacities as summer missionaries. Some of these were appointed by the state BSU, others by the Home Mission Board and still others are serving with organizations such as the Federation of Christian Athletes,

or Christian camp counsellors. The school conducted a commissioning service for the students near the end of the school year.

Fund raising for the summer missionary projects and for world hunger is a major endeavor of the Southern BSU. During the last year, the students raised \$5,000 for the summer mission program and \$1,000 for the World Hunger offering. Money raised for world hunger is sent directly through the State Convention to meet hunger needs.

Fund raising is done through a variety of methods. Among these is a puppet drama team that goes directly to churches throughout the state. All the money raised by the drama team, with the exception of expenses, goes directly to the summer mission projects or to world hunger. Many other students do a variety of fund raising projects on their own and give the money directly to the BSU fund raising projects.

Other fund raising projects for the students include a carnival at halloween time called, "A Peanut Carnival," and hikes to raise money for world hunger. But the greatest part of the money comes directly from student donations. Students have opportunity to give to world hunger each day at the noonday services. They can place their change in a large penny jug which is prominently displayed.

This year's summer activities included two



Burton

young men who went to Brazil. Both are back home now and serving churches. One is serving as a pastor while the other is a youth and activities director.

There are two young women working in the state GA Camp. They will serve in all four of the GA Camps as well as do other activities for the balance of the summer.

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and Christian fellowship

Two young men are working at Monticello in the Children's Home and another young woman is serving at Youth Home.

There are several young people from Southern BSU who are working out of Arkansas. One is serving in Chicago while another is serving in Indiana.

Burton said, "I'm always pleased with the response of our young people at Southern." She uses a variety of ways to encourage students to volunteer. She often talks about summer mission projects in the BSU meetings and has students to give testimonies as to the changes they have seen in the lives of others as well as the impact it had on their own lives.

Burton said, "A major factor in enlisting new summer mission volunteers is the enthusiasm that returned summer missionaries exhibit. As a result, many students make an application for summer mission projects." In some instances Burton goes directly to the students who, she feels, have special gifts and encourages them to apply for summer mission projects. On occasion she tries to match the information she receives concern-

ing project needs with the ability of students. She believes that it is important for her to solicit individuals.

Burton went to Southern Baptist College in 1965, but was not BSU Director. She came as a counsellor for women but started helping with BSU as a volunteer soon after her arrival at the college. She officially became the BSU Director on September 1, 1973.

Burton holds degrees from Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Ark., and from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex. She came directly to Southern Baptist College after graduating from Southwestern Seminary.

Several young people have indicated to Burton that she has had a profound impact on their lives. One such example is Sherry Barr who is spending her second summer as a summer mission volunteer in Colorado. Sherry recently graduated from Southern with a degree in Christian ministries. She spent her first two summers in college as a summer mission volunteer at Paron.

Burton said of Barr, "I have watched her grow and mature in the Lord. This next year

she will be a student-to-student worker at the University of Arkansas in Monticello."

Another example of dramatic growth witnessed by Burton is Kim Whiteside who will be president of BSU next year at Southern. Whiteside is seeking a Christian Ministries degree. Burton says, "She was a very shy person but has grown and developed in a remarkable way for the Lord."

A young man that has been helped to develop through the Baptist Student Union is Danny Joe Borrowers. He is currently serving on the staff at Immanuel Church, Newport. He will graduate in December with a Christian Ministries degree.

Burton maintains basically the same BSU programs on the campus at Southern that every other college campus uses. Burton said, "Each BSU program, of course, is unique. On a Baptist college campus there is probably a lot more support from the school than one would receive on a state college campus. I love my work at Southern."

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

## Welcome Arkansas State University students First Baptist Church, Jonesboro

*We at First Baptist Church of Jonesboro welcome students coming to Arkansas State University. We want you to be at home in our community, in our church and in our homes. We would be delighted to have you as a part of our family... there is a place for you.*



**Emil Williams**  
Pastor



**Nancy Burke**  
University Minister

*As university minister, it is my prayer that your church involvement will be an important part of your university routine. Our church believes that students are a real part of our ministry. I look forward to having the opportunity to meet you and become your friend.*

### Opportunities for Service at First Baptist:

#### Sunday

Early Service.....	8:30 a.m.
Sunday School.....	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship.....	10:50 a.m.
Youth/University Supper (free).....	5:30 p.m.
University Bible Study.....	6:00 p.m.
Evening Worship.....	7:00 p.m.

#### Wednesday

Fellowship Supper.....	5:30 p.m.
Youth / University Bible Study.....	6:30 p.m.

### Special Sunday Activities

Sunday School
Sunday Night Snack Supper / Bible Study
Adoption Program
University Council
Monthly Fellowships
ASU Day - September 14
Pastor's Reception - September 21
Fall Retreat - September 26-27

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# Baptist Student

## Arkansas State University



Dickerson



Inman

Arliss Dickerson, director  
Keith Inman, associate  
P. O. Box 730  
State University, AR 72467  
932-7241

## U of A Fayetteville



Jones



Loyd



Cross

Jamie Jones, director  
Lynn Loyd, associate  
Ann Cross, contract worker  
944 West Maple  
Fayetteville, AR 72701  
521-4370

## Henderson State



Glisson



Adams

Gary Glisson, director  
Patti Adams, associate  
713 North 12th  
Arkadelphia, AR 71923  
246-6592

## UCA & Hendrix



Boyles



Adkins

Richard Boyles, director  
Betsy Adkins, contract worker  
Box 575, UCA  
Conway, AR 72032  
329-5763

## UALR



McCauley

Dan McCauley, director  
5515 W. 32nd St.  
Little Rock, AR 72204  
562-4383



Holder

David Holder, director  
Box 3073, UAM  
Monticello, AR 71655  
367-5381

## Baptist Med Center



Burnett

Peggy Burnett, director  
Box 26, Nurses Residence  
12th & Marshall Sts.  
Little Rock, AR 72202  
370-7399

## Ouachita



Baber

Mark Baber, director  
Box 3783, OBU  
Arkadelphia, AR 71923  
246-4531



Scott

Franklin Scott, director  
Box 4123, UABP  
Pine Bluff, AR 71601  
535-8545

## UA Medical Sciences



Walker

Ken Walker, director  
323 South Elm  
Little Rock, AR 72205  
661-8078

## So Ark University



Turner

Robert Turner, director  
Box 1275, SAU  
Magnolia, AR 71753  
234-2434



Burton

Jackie Burton, director  
Box 48, SBC  
Walnut Ridge, AR 72476  
886-6741

# Chris

# Union:

## Ark Tech University



Masters  
Steve Masters, director  
1404 N. Arkansas  
Russellville, AR 72801  
967-3217

## East Arkansas CC



McAtee  
DC. McAtee, director  
708 Oxford  
Forrest City, AR 72335  
633-9393

## ASU - Beebe



Cunningham  
Brenda Cunningham, director  
Box 235  
Beebe, AR 72012  
882-3096

## College of the Ozarks



Frazer  
Kathy Frazer, director  
P.O. Box 196  
Lamar, AR 72846  
885-6448

## Garland County CC



Morris  
Al Morris, director  
316 Joy Drive  
Hot Springs, AR 71913  
767-5915

## Rich Mountain CC



Yates  
Jim Yates, director  
601 Bush Street  
Mena, AR 71953  
394-3893

## John Brown University



Finrock  
Joe Finrock, director  
P. O. Box 116  
Gentry, AR 72734  
736-2707

## SAU Tech



Demmitt  
Gary Demmitt, director  
Box 1275  
Magnolia, AR 71753  
234-2434

## Arkansas Baptist College



Moore  
Denise Moore, director  
4715 W. 24th Street  
Little Rock, AR 72204  
663-7257

## Westark CC



Simpkins  
Rosie Simpkins, director  
701 N. 50th St.  
Fort Smith, AR 72903  
782-1219

## North Ark CC



Whitaker  
Cathy Whitaker, director  
508 N. Liberty  
Harrison, AR 72601  
741-5089

## Phillips County CC



Fowler  
Mike Fowler, director  
P. O. Box 34  
Wabash, AR 72389  
827-3827

# t on the campus



## BSU helped reveal God's will

by R. Keith Parks



Parks

impressions that God gave me.

God spoke to me through people, events and experiences of BSU sponsored activities.

A BSU director was the first one who asked me if I understood that God was calling me to special service. This was a shock and a new thought. When in the context of BSU activities I understood and responded to a call to preach, my first impulse was to transfer to a Baptist college. However, participation in BSU caused me to feel that I should stay where I was. The BSU fellowship became the arena in which I studied the

Bible, studied Greek, experienced devotional and prayer times and in which God began using me in evangelistic outreach.

One year our BSU group was small; the church I attended pastorless; but the Lord stirred us to commit ourselves to a youth revival. The one Baptist student preacher on the campus was not available. The group decided that I must preach that weekend revival. During that weekend at a small church on the edge of Denton, Texas, God called me to preach while I was preaching my first sermon on John 3:16. He confirmed that calling as 13 people professed faith in Christ during that weekend.

It was in the context of BSU that I began active personal witness both on the campus and on BSU sponsored trips. The Lord saved various individuals in dramatic fashion that marked my life and ministry forever.

Toward the conclusion of my college days, it was another BSU director who challenged me to apply to serve in the newly created student summer missions program. During an overseas experience as a BSU summer missionary, God planted the seed in my

heart that grew into a tree of conviction foreign mission service was my life's calling.

BSU was a vital force at a crucial time in my spiritual development. Whether I would have ever had some of these experiences or made some of these decisions had it not been for BSU, I do not know. I do know that BSU became something of a decoding station translating the general impressions I was feeling in my heart into specific understandable decisions about service for him. I do know that it became a fellowship of encouragement and strengthening that enabled me to be a much stronger Christian witness during my college days. I do know that it provided a spiritual atmosphere in which God was able to confront me with choices that have determined the direction of my life and ministry since that time. My life would have been spiritually impoverished without BSU. It has been eternally enriched because of what I experienced through BSU.

R. Keith Parks is president of the Foreign Mission Board.

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Pastor



David L. Jackson  
Minister to  
University Students

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- ★ University Choir
- ★ Church Orchestra
- ★ Campus Outreach
- ★ Discipleship Groups
- ★ Nursing Home and Home Bound Ministry

### Student Activities

- ★ Fellowships
- ★ Bible Studies
- ★ Retreats (Fall, Spring)
- ★ Ski Trips (Winter, Summer)
- ★ ASU Welcome Dinner - September 21, 1986

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ABN photo / Millie Gill



**Moment of fellowship**—Arllis Dickerson, who is in his seventh year of service as Arkansas State University BSU director and 16th year of total BSU service, is a director who meets the needs of students daily. He is never too busy to chat with students as they gather at the ASU Center for fellowship.

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## UAPB ministry experiences good "first" year

by Mark Kelly

They had a very successful pre-season down at UAPB last year, even with a team of rookie players.

"Most of our BSU students were freshmen last year," explained Franklin Scott, who at the time was just entering his own first year as director of the Baptist Student Union ministry at the 2,500-student University of Arkansas in Pine Bluff.

"I really saw my first year as a kind of pre-season, preparing a team to go out and play the game, training, growing together as a family, and looking to the future," he said.

But Scott closed out his "pre-season" warm-up with a record more appropriate to a veteran team in regular season play.

Scott came to UAPB in 1985, fresh from graduation at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky. He took command of a 23-year-old ministry which had suffered some setbacks. When he arrived, Scott found only "six or seven" students on campus committed to BSU.

In his first season, the South Carolina native established weekly Bible study and discipleship training times, organized intramural baseball and football teams, began a nursing home ministry, started a BSU choir, and established a BSU Council. He also had students hold three worship services for Pine Bluff congregations, took the BSU's first students ever to the State BSU Convention, and recorded four professions of faith. He finished the year with 45 on the BSU roster.

Scott disclaims credit for the successes of the year. "I haven't done anything special," he said. "I've just been available and involved around campus, and they've responded."

Scott found his athletic background provided a good starting point of contact. He volunteered for gym supervisor duty two days a week and worked as a clock-keeper for the UAPB basketball teams. He believes the visibility and relationships developed as a result benefitted the BSU ministry.

"Students are hungry for this kind of ministry. They want serious Bible study," he explained. "When they heard we did that, they came out." Remarkably, more young men than women attend the BSU functions, and two of the four professions of faith were made by young men.

Scott saw the students needed to learn how to share what they had. "So many were sitting back, waiting for someone to give them direction," he remembered. "They were willing to share, but they just didn't know how."

The discipleship training and the nursing home ministry helped a lot in that regard, he said. As students learned in discipleship courses how to share a brief Christian testimony, they became more confident

about sharing their faith. And as they sang and visited with nursing home residents, they began to overcome their timidity and share with others.

Scott sees the basic purpose of the BSU to be training students to live Christian lifestyles.

"Too many people think Christianity is only for Sunday," he asserted. "We're trying to get students to see it as a lifestyle, something for every day of the week."

"I want us to promote good Christian fellowship, but I also want us to involve ourselves in campus life and not isolate ourselves," he continued. "When we are good Christian sportsmen in intramural play, that's a good Christian witness."

"BSU should equip students to be servants. It should help them reach out and share what they have with lost students on campus."

Local church involvement also is important to Scott.

"We are not a church in ourselves," he declared. "I've pushed church involvement real hard, and most students have responded. We also work real hard to communicate to churches that we're not here to take the place of the local church."

In order to build stronger ties with area churches, Scott has promoted the idea of student-led worship services. He believes the three such services last year laid a good founda-



Scott

tion for future relationships with Pine Bluff congregations.

"We think God's going to do something great with us," he concluded. "We're trying to get ready for that."

Mark Kelly is managing editor of the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine.

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Stephen Davis  
Pastor

Johnny Burnett  
Student Ministries

## Taiwan revival teams score

TAIPEI, Taiwan—A new program for involving all Southern Baptist missionaries in direct evangelism proved popular in Taiwan last year. Revival teams—joined by a total of 35 missionaries and Chinese Baptists—visited 19 churches during 1985, leading 163 people to new faith in Christ. At least 18 churches have asked for revival teams this year.

## "Jesus cares" crusade

GEORGETOWN, Guyana—Fifteen Southern Baptist volunteers recently joined missionaries and 20 Guyana Baptist churches for the "Jesus cares" crusade, two weeks of evangelistic efforts. The churches reported that 440 people professed their faith in Jesus Christ as savior and 350 others rededicated their lives to him.

## Guatemala seminary grows

GUATEMALA CITY, Guatemala—The Guatemala Baptist Theological Seminary has launched two new programs this year and more than doubled its enrollment from 14 to 32. Southern Baptist missionary Jean Byrd is directing the new Department of Women's Studies. The two-year program offers a certificate or diploma in religious education for women church workers. Twelve have enrolled. Two Baptist pastors are studying in the new master of theology program, directed by missionary Harry Byrd. Twenty students are currently enrolled in the basic three-year seminary program.

## Taiwan senior center opens

TAIPEI, Taiwan—Taiwan Baptist Theological Seminary has opened the first floor of a new student dormitory as a place for ministry to the many elderly people living in the local community. During the first two days of operation at the Evergreen Activity Center, two people accepted Christ as Savior.

## 1986 Annual Association Meetings

Arkansas Valley	Oct. 20	Immanuel, Wabash
Ashley	Oct. 13-14	Eden, Hamburg; Meridian, Crossett
Bartholomew	Oct. 20-21	Second, Monticello; Hermitage
Benton	Oct. 14-15	Lowell
Big Creek	Oct. 16-17	County Line, Gepp; Mt. Zion, Salem
Black River	Oct. 13-14	Crossroads, Portia; First, Tuckerman
Buckner	Oct. 14-16	Fellowship, Witcherville; First, Waldron
Buckville	Sept. 27-28	Rock Springs
Caddo River	Oct. 13-14	Caddo Gap, Bonnerdale; Lake Ouachita, Mt. Ida
Calvary	Oct. 14	First, Beebe
Carey	Oct. 13-14	Southside, Fordyce; New Hope, Sparkman
Caroline	Oct. 14	First, Carlisle
Centennial	Oct. 8-7	First, Gillett; North Maple, Stuttgart
Central	Oct. 16	First, Benton
Clear Creek	Oct. 21	First, Van Buren
Concord	Oct. 13-14	Haven Height, Fort Smith
Conway-Perry	Oct. 14, 16	First, Morrilton; First, Perryville
Current-Gains	Oct. 13-14	First, Corning; Mt. Pleasant, Pitman
Dardanelle-Russellville	Oct. 13, 14, 16	Calvary, Dardanelle; Second, Russellville; First, Scranton
Delta	Oct. 20-21	South McGehee; Bayou Mason, Lake Village
Faulkner	Oct. 20, 21, 23	Second, Conway; Holland; Friendship, Conway
Garland	Oct. 13-14	Antioch; Grand Avenue
Greene	Oct. 27-28	Calvary, Paragould
Harmony	Oct. 27	First, White Hall; Immanuel, Pine Bluff
Independence	Oct. 20-21	Eastside, Cave City; Emmanuel, South Batesville
Liberty	Oct. 20	Elliott, Camden
Little Red River	Oct. 20-21	Lone Star, Greers Ferry; Palestine, Pearson
Little River	Oct. 13-14	Hicks, Ashdown; Wilton; First, Lockesburg
Mississippi	Nov. 3	New Liberty, Blytheville
Mt. Zion	Oct. 20-21	Lake City; North Main, Jonesboro
North Arkansas	Oct. 21	First, Harrison
North Central	Oct. 13-14	First, Leslie; Pleasant Valley
North Pulaski	Oct. 20	Marshall Road, Jacksonville
Ouachita	Oct. 13-14	Chapel Hill, Dequene; First, Hatfield
Pulaski	Oct. 13-14	Markham Street, Little Rock; Parkway Place, Little Rock
Red River	Oct. 16-17	Beech Street, Gurdon; First, Prescott
Rocky Bayou	Oct. 16-17	First, Calico Rock; Northside
Southwest Arkansas	Oct. 16	First, Lewisville
Tri-County	Oct. 20	First, Madison
Trinity	Oct. 13-14	First, Trumann; Corners Chapel, Trumann
Washington-Madison	Oct. 20-21	First, Lincoln
White River	Oct. 20-21	First, Cotter; First, Bull Shoals

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## Couple named missionaries to Hong Kong

Mr. and Mrs. R. Bruce Carlton were among 67 people named missionaries by the Foreign Mission Board June 29 at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center.

She is the former Gloria Carpenter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Carpenter Jr. of Elkins. She considers Elkins her hometown. She graduated from Georgetown College in Georgetown, Ky.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Richard Carlton of Georgetown, Ky. He graduated from Georgetown College and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. He is pastor of Northside Church, Laurens, S.C.

The Carltons will live in Hong Kong, where he will be starting and developing churches. The couple will also be involved in a variety of outreach ministries. They have two small children; Elizabeth Leeta and Mary Margaret.



## missionary notes

**Mr. and Mrs. N. Benjamin Kirby**, missionaries to Venezuela, have returned to the field (address: Apartado 8, Guanare, Portuguesa, Venezuela 3310A). He is from Little Rock. The former Charlotte Halbert, she was born in Little Rock and grew up in Star City. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1978.

**Mr. and Mrs. Paul A. Rhoads**, missionaries to Korea, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 829 Oakhill Dr., Poplar Bluff, Mo. 63901). He is a native of Little Rock. She is the former Lana LeGrand of Missouri. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1973.

**Mr. and Mrs. Ted O. Stanton**, missionaries to Argentina, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Bolanos 141, 1407 Buenos Aires, Argentina). He was born in Arkadelphia and grew up in Little Rock. The former Mary Ridgell, she was born in Prescott and grew up in Little Rock. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1976.

**Mr. and Mrs. Lee R. Walker Jr.**, missionaries to Chile, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 5805 W. 56th St., Little Rock, AR 72209). He was born in Texarkana and considers Little Rock his hometown. She is the former Phyllis Orr of Louisiana. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1982.

**Mr. and Mrs. Billy L. Bullington**, missionaries to West Africa, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: 01 BP 3722, Abidjan 01, Ivory Coast). He is a native of Charleston. The former Evelyn Robinson, she grew up in Russellville. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1966. He serves as associate director for non-English West Africa.

**Mr. and Mrs. Carl R. Hall**, missionaries to Kenya, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: P.O. Box 48, Namanga, Kenya). He was born Heber Springs and lived in Monette, Manila and Paragould while growing up. She is the former Gerry Wright of McCrory. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1970.

**Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Morris**, missionary associates to Kenya, have arrived in the field to begin language study (address: P.O. Box 32, Limuru, Kenya). He is from Parkin. The former Audrey Dulin, she was born in Earle. They were employed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1986.

**Mrs. and Mrs. Hugh E. Provost**, Baptist representatives to Yemen, report a change of address (9710 Mt. Pisgah Rd. # 101, Silver Spring, MD 20903). He was born in Jonesboro and grew up in Lepanto, Hughes, Harrisburg and West Memphis. She is the former Brenda Bryles of Pine Bluff. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1981.

**Mr. and Mrs. J. Dennis Murray**, Baptist representatives to Israel, report a change of address (P.O. Box 414, 46103 Herzliah Bet, Israel). He was born in Arkadelphia and she, the former Bonita Pettus, in Magnolia. Both consider El Dorado their hometown. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1985.

**Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Cartwright**, missionaries to Burkina Faso, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: P.O. Box 176, Lipan, TX 76462). He was born in Texas and she, the former Kay Goodwin, in Oklahoma, but both consider Bella Vista their hometown. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1982.

## BJCPA head urges Congress to avoid taxing churches

WASHINGTON (BP)—While members of the House of Representatives waited for news of final Senate action on the current tax reform bill, they received a separate, yet related, message.

That message—delivered through letters from Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs Executive Director James M. Dunn and copies of Southern Baptist Convention-approved resolutions—urged each congressman to help in eliminating a House tax reform provision that if incorporated into the House-Senate compromise on the tax reform legislation would tax church pension boards.

"I am sure you do not want to allow the Congress to say, in effect, to the churches, 'We will tell you that caring for the elderly, ill and widowed servants of the churches is not a part of your ministry,'" Dunn wrote. "Since it is a part of the ministry of the church, it should retain exemption."

Dunn's letter referred to language in the House bill specifying "annuity contracts shall be treated as providing insurance." Coupled with a provision to repeal federal tax exemption for non-profit organizations offering "commercial-type insurance," that language would strip church pension and welfare groups—including the Southern Baptist Convention Annuity Board—of their tax-exempt status.

The Baptist Joint Committee head asked House members to express concern about the threat to church pension groups to colleagues on the House Ways and Means Committee. Selected members of that committee will join Senate conferees in trying to reconcile the two versions of the tax reform bill, H.R. 3838.

Dunn also wrote separate letters to Ways and Means Committee members. Accompanying those letters were copies of two resolutions—one passed June 11 by the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Atlanta and another passed earlier by the SBC Executive Committee.

"For Congress to suggest it has the right to determine the mission and purpose of the church raises serious constitutional questions," Dunn warned. "The pension boards of the churches, along with other not-for-profit agencies, would be taxed on their ministry of caring for their own retired, disabled ministers and their widows, unless this serious flaw is corrected." Dunn asked the committee members to consider carefully the SBC resolutions, both of which voice vigorous opposition to taxation of church pension boards.

Meanwhile, Dunn also wrote to congratulate Senate members on their passage of tax reform legislation that leaves church pension boards' federal tax exemption in place. Dunn also offered the Baptist Joint Committee's assistance during the conference process.

# WMU makes history with live teleconference broadcast

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP)—With a vision of 2 million members, Woman's Missionary Union broadcast live the first teleconference from Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Conference Center during the recent WMU conference.

Vision 88 Teleconference focused on the WMU plan to have 2 million members by 1988. The national organization currently has about 1.2 million members in 26,000 Southern Baptist churches.

Women who gathered at more than 200 sites coast to coast joined the 2,500 WMU'ers at Ridgecrest via satellite to receive both inspiration and practical helps for enlarging their organizations.

Carolyn Weatherford, national WMU executive director, told the audience the average total WMU enrollment in churches is 46. "This means that we are made up very small clusters of children and adults. Our

quality of work, however, will not be judged on quantity of results," she said.

Asking WMU members in larger churches not to be content with the average number of 46, Weatherford stressed the necessity of enrolling every woman, girl and preschooler in missions education in all 36,000 Southern Baptist churches.

"The church of today needs Woman's Missionary Union. The lost and needy persons of the world need visionaries who can tell them the story of Jesus and who have the gift and skills for meeting their needs," Weatherford said.

She noted last year WMU led Southern Baptists to give \$214 million to home and foreign missions through the convention's Cooperative Program budget, as well as the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.

WMU also led Southern Baptists in praying for more than 7,000 of the convention's missionaries.

"Prayer support is not a fringe benefit that missionaries receive. It is a necessity that we depend upon," said Nancy Parks, foreign missionary to Egypt.

Keeping the Southern Baptist Convention on its mission track is the only purpose of WMU, Weatherford insisted. The quality of missions support in the convention is directly related to the WMU's missions vision, she said.

Weatherford asked viewers to find specific ways of enlisting past members not currently involved in WMU as well as first-time members. "This is the day of vision for Woman's Missionary Union. You are the vision," she said.

## Former WMU leader takes natural step to new post

DALLAS (BP)—After 23 years at First Church of Lake Jackson, Texas, moving into the minister of missions role there seemed a natural step for Bobbie Kidwell.

The need for a minister of missions in the Southeast Texas congregation became apparent when the church began long-range planning for the five years of Mission Texas, the Baptist emphasis on spiritual awakening, developing believers, strengthening missions and reaching people through 2,000 new churches and missions.

"The biggest concern we had was that it became clear our people are not reaching the low-income, blue-collar workers. We're

not meeting their needs," Kidwell says.

First Church recognized the need to start new work among the lower socio-economic groups in the Lake Jackson area, and the church realized it needed the leadership a minister of missions could provide.

"The decision was made to call someone out of the church," she explained. "I already know the people, I know the community, and that should speed the work somewhat."

Kidwell says after being Woman's Missionary Union director on both the church and associational levels and serving on the associational missions committee, accepting the volunteer role of minister of missions

seemed to be "a natural step." She is not aware of any opposition in the congregation to a female staff member, saying the church has been "totally supportive."

Kidwell now fills the nonpaid staff position and is helping First Church begin six indigenous satellite units among the low-income and blue-collar population in Lake Jackson.

As for the future, she hopes the church will be able to begin ethnic missions among the Japanese and Vietnamese communities as well as an Anglo, upper-middle income congregation in a new subdivision.

For now, though, the church is directing its attention to the Lake Jackson working class. Kidwell says First Church's membership originally was blue-collar for the most part. But as the church has grown to its current average attendance of about 950, the educational and income levels of church members have risen.

"Many of our old members would not feel comfortable coming back into First Church, but they could come into a small indigenous satellite unit and feel comfortable again there," she notes. "We hope through our new work we can reach the lost and bring back some of our own who have gone by the wayside."

## Grenadians' dream fulfilled

GRENVILLE, Grenada—A dream shared by missionaries Carter and Charlotte Davis and Allen McGuire, a bank manager, has come true. For years the Davises asked for new missionaries who could work in the Grenville area, which had no Baptist church. The dream began to materialize when new missionaries Bob and Oakie Blevins arrived and started a prayer meeting and Bible study in McGuire's home. Full worship services began in the Blevinses' home in February with 52 people and are growing.

### Immediate Opening: Industrial Marketing Coordinator Wayland Baptist University

**Responsibilities:** Assist industry and business in identifying needed training programs, and coordinate the development and presentation of industrial training programs. Supervise, monitor and evaluate industrial training program presentations. Communicate with industry and business regarding the availability of management development and technical training and employee-skills development training programs.

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**The Institution:** Wayland Baptist University is located in Plainview, Texas, a coeducational, multi-purpose institution of approximately 1,900 students. Off-campus centers are maintained across Texas, as well as in Hawaii and Alaska.

**Salary:** Commensurate with training and experience.

**Closing Date:** July 25, 1986.

**To Apply:** Send resume and names, addresses and phone numbers of three references to Dr. Billie Henderson, Dean International Occupational and Lifelong Learning Center, Wayland Baptist University, Plainview, TX 79072; phone (806) 296-5521.

Wayland Baptist University is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer.

## Cotey named chairman of HMB search committee

ATLANTA (BP)—A seven-member search committee has been appointed to recommend a new president for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board to succeed William G. Tanner who has become executive director-treasurer of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma.

Eugene Cotey, pastor of First Church of Murfreesboro, Tenn., is chairman of the search committee.

Committee members were appointed by the five elected officers of the 85-member board in accordance with the agency's bylaws.

Travis Wiginton, pastor of Bethel Church in Norman, Okla., and chairman of the board, announced the selection of the search committee in a letter to all members of the board the week after the Southern Baptist Convention in mid-June.

In the same letter, Wiginton also announced appointment of an eight-member "site development committee" to study and recommend improvements in the board's property in mid-town Atlanta.

In an interview, Wiginton said the five officers sought to appoint members of the

search committee to give a balance between men and women, pastors and lay members, new and older members.

"The committee was not appointed on the basis of theology or politics in the denomination," Wiginton said. He added there was no attempt to "balance" political points of view on the committee.

Wiginton said he and the officers had received 35 suggestions of persons to serve on the committee yet the bylaws stipulated the committee could not be more than seven members.

Cotey, chairman of the search committee, urged all Southern Baptists to pray for the committee, and to send any recommendations they want the committee to consider to him in writing in care of First Baptist Church, 200 East Main, Murfreesboro, Tenn. 37130.

The committee will hold its first meeting in Atlanta on July 8 to begin drawing up a profile of the qualifications they will look for in a president and reviewing resumes, Wiginton said. Cotey and Wiginton asked recommendations be submitted in writing before that date.

Other members named to the search committee are:

—J. Don Aderhold, pastor, Columbia Drive Church, Decatur, Ga.;

—Lawauna McIver, television hostess on the ACTS network and member of Wilshire Church, Dallas, where her husband is pastor.

—Troy L. Morrison, director of church-minister relations for the Alabama Baptist State Convention, Montgomery;

—Lula D. Walker, Woman's Missionary Union director and adult Sunday school teacher for First Church, Beaverton, Ore.

—Frank S. Wells, pastor of Briarcliff Church, Atlanta, and former missionary to Indonesia and director of the SBC Foreign Mission Board's missionary orientation;

—M.A. Winchester, medical doctor and member of First Church, Stearns, Ky.

As chairman of the board, Wiginton will be an ex officio member of both the search committee and the site development committee.

Appointed to the site development committee were John P. Faris of Greenville, S.C.; chairman; Carolyn Byrd of Charlotte, N.C.; R. Herschel Chevallier of Knoxville, Tenn.; Clifford E. Hogue of Midland, Texas; Ronnie H. Yarber of Mesquite, Texas; Clark G. Hutchinson of Marietta, Ga.; Helen S. Landers of Jonesboro, Ga.; D.F. Norman of Stone Mountain, Ga.; and Marvin L. Prude of Birmingham, Ala.

Board officers who made the search committee appointments were Prude, first vice-chairman; Norman, second vice-chairman; Barbara Fain of Dunwoody, Ga., secretary; Wells, assistant secretary; and Wiginton.

## Cooperative Program headed toward 97 percent

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—Southern Baptists' national Cooperative Program budget should reach almost 97 percent of its goal if trends established during the first nine months of 1985-86 continue.

The 1985-86 Cooperative Program allocation budget is \$130 million. Through June, the ninth month of the fiscal year, \$94.3 million had been contributed from churches through 37 Baptist state conventions. If the monthly average of almost \$10.5 million holds for the July-September quarter, the final tally should be about \$125.8 million.

The current year's budget was boosted by receipts of \$10,106,146 in June, announced Harold C. Bennett, president and treasurer of the Executive Committee. Although only 1.16 percent ahead of receipts for the same period in 1985, the monthly total made this June the first \$10 million June in the 61-year history of the Cooperative Program.

"If the present trend continues, a predic-

tion of \$126 million for the 1985-86 Cooperative Program seems reasonable," said Tim Hedquist, Executive Committee vice president for business and finance.

He noted June receipts traditionally are unpredictable, but given the trajectory of the Cooperative Program thus far this year, \$126 million "still looks pretty good." If the \$130 million goal is reached, Southern Baptists must contribute an average of \$11,885,783 per month for the next three months—an amount which would be the program's second-highest monthly total.

The \$94.3 million in receipts for the first three quarters of the current fiscal year has put the Cooperative Program 7.04 percent ahead of its 1984-85 pace and growing about twice the U.S. rate of inflation. Expected receipts for the year should allow dependent SBC agencies to meet the first phase of their operating budgets and allow convention-selected entities to receive capital funds.

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### Workshop leaders:

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Register by August 15

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Contact the ABSC Church Music Dept., 376-4791

# Arizona pastor safe, preaches service after armed abduction

by Elizabeth Young

PHOENIX, Ariz.—Richard Roberts, pastor of Siloam Indian Church on Arizona's Gila River Indian Reservation, was abducted at gunpoint and robbed shortly before the Sunday evening service, June 30. He later was released unharmed.

Two juveniles were taken into custody by the Phoenix Police Department, and one later was released after Roberts said he was not involved in the crime. The case was turned over to the Gila River Indian Community, and a 16-year-old male remains in custody, pending proceedings. Specific charges have yet to be filed, and no decision has been made whether the suspect will be tried as an adult.

The drama began about 5:30 p.m. when Roberts and his landlord, whom he had given a ride to church, heard a dispute outside the church. A 16-year-old boy from the community threatened to kill himself with a .357-caliber Magnum.

The boy came into the church, yelling "Get me out of here," Roberts said. He asked Roberts for his car keys and then ordered

him to get in the car. "I didn't argue with him," Roberts said. The landlord, who had hidden in a closet when she saw the youth approaching the church, was not abducted.

Another boy joined the 16-year-old in the car, but Roberts told police he tried to talk his friend out of doing anything reckless and was not part of the crime.

The 16-year-old took \$411 in cash from Roberts, holding him at gunpoint, and also demanded his credit cards, but Roberts had none. The pastor said \$60 of that taken belonged to the church and was to be used to buy an evaporative cooler motor.

Throughout the ordeal, Roberts said, the boy had the pistol cocked, and he wavered it about, sticking it in Roberts' face and side. It's "by the grace of God," the gun did not go off, he said.

"I've been around guns all my life," the pastor said, "and I know you don't pull the hammer back and keep your finger on the trigger and swing it around; it doesn't work. The hand of God was there absolutely."

Roberts said they traveled at speeds of 80

to 90 miles per hour toward Phoenix. About 10 to 15 minutes later, when they stopped behind a pickup truck at a traffic light in South Phoenix, Roberts said he bailed out and flagged down a passing police car.

The boy shot out the right passenger window, and the bullet grazed a bystander, ricocheted off a car hood and grazed another bystander. Neither was seriously injured.

When they learned about the abduction, church members held a special prayer service for Roberts prior to the regular evening worship service. They went on with their usual service after police told them the pastor was unharmed.

Roberts arrived at 8:30 p.m., "as cool as a cucumber," according to one member, and preached the evening message. Asked how he had remained so calm throughout the experience, he replied, "I put my trust in the Lord. I had no one else to turn to."

Elizabeth Young is associate editor of the Arizona Baptist Beacon.

## Missionary pilot averts disaster in forced landing

by Mike Chute

SAO LUIS, Brazil (BP)—Southern Baptist missionary Warren Rose averted disaster when the mission plane he was flying developed engine trouble and was forced to land without power in a remote region of Brazil's Maranhao state.

No one was hurt, and the plane was not damaged in the recent incident.

With Rose in the one-engine, six-seat plane were three Brazilian pastors and Maranhense Baptist Convention leaders—President Adonias Brelaz, Executive Secretary Joao Cristostomo and Director of Evangelism Antonio Martinz Prito. The team was enroute from the city of Sao Luis to lead weekend evangelistic services in three interior cities

of Maranhao.

As they neared the city of Alto Paranaiba, the engine "blew one valve and possibly a second," said Rose, a missionary pilot and church starter from Covington, Tenn. "The unburned fuel was seeping out of the cylinders. So I had to shut the engine off. I was concerned about a fire."

"Well, if this is the great day that the Lord will carry us home, then we are ready," Cristostomo said.

Rose glided the plane for about 10 minutes before he spotted an open field in the hilly, rocky terrain, where he landed.

"The Lord was really good to us," said Rose, adding he was about 10 miles off course when the engine trouble occurred. Because of the remoteness of the region, "there are no check points out there," he noted. "If we had been on course, there would have been no place to land around Alto Paranaiba. It's full of jungle there."

The glide took the plane some 40 miles west of Alto Paranaiba. Once on the ground, Rose used the plane's new high-frequency radio to call for help. Word quickly got out that a plane was down in the region, but information was sketchy and inaccurate.

Rose's wife, Kathy, notified church members in Alto Paranaiba, who sent a truck to the area. Meanwhile, Rose and the three pastors spent a night in the home of a farmer. It took the team three days to travel the 500 miles back to Sao Luis, by horse, truck and bus. It is a three-hour trip by plane.

Mike Chute is a writer for the SBC Foreign Mission Board.

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## Baptists ask to contact Christians in Vietnam

HUE, Vietnam (BP)—Southern Baptists have told Vietnamese officials they would like to help Vietnam produce more food if, among other things, missionaries are allowed to establish contact with Christians there.

The condition was stated during recent talks in Vietnam between Southern Baptist missionary Earl Goatcher and Vietnamese government officials. The officials asked Goatcher if Southern Baptists would help Vietnam increase its food production.

In response, Goatcher asked that missionaries be free to establish contact with Vietnamese Christians and monitor any agricultural projects in which Southern Baptists might become involved.

Goatcher, a missionary assigned to Thailand, spent several days talking with officials scattered from Hanoi, the capital city, to Hue, capital of Bien Tri Thien Province. He asked them to submit specific project proposals to the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

The talks came while Goatcher was in Vietnam helping distribute \$380,000 in emergency rice and medicine provided from world hunger contributions of Southern Baptists. Vietnamese government officials requested the assistance. Monsoon storms in the South China Sea and licensing procedures helped cause a six-month delay in the arrival of the aid.

Goatcher said he was received cordially by officials in Hanoi. After three days of discussions, he flew with senior officials to Da Nang before driving to Hue, about 50 miles away.

There he monitored the emergency relief distribution and visited local officials, who encouraged Southern Baptists to begin long-term relief and development projects in the area. During the 400-mile road trip back to Hanoi, he stopped and talked with other Vietnamese officials. In Hanoi, the seat of government, more requests came for Southern Baptist help, he said.

"With Vietnam not being self-sufficient in food, and not having foreign exchange with which to purchase what it needs, requests relate almost totally to agricultural projects," said Goatcher.

Much of the coastal strip between Hanoi and Hue was devastated last year when three major typhoons swept ashore in rapid succession. The typhoons destroyed crops, food stocks, buildings and entire villages. Thousands of people were left without food and health care.

Goatcher monitored the aid distribution for more than two days, visiting remote areas where sacks clearly marked "Rice Donated by Baptist Christians in USA" were being given out. "I sensed their desire to document in detail all that had been done, and to

demonstrate to my satisfaction that everything was in order," he said.

Goatcher traveled with senior officials to hospitals and village clinics where medicine from Southern Baptists, also clearly marked, was being used. "I came away convinced that the aid went where it was intended to go, that it was desperately needed, that it was appreciated and that it would not be hauled away later for other uses," he said.

Language limitations barred Goatcher from carrying on extensive conversations with people in the villages. But enough English was understood for the people to understand who he was and that Christians were providing the relief and a Christian organization was being recognized by the government, Goatcher said.

Goatcher does not anticipate Southern Baptist missionaries returning to live in Vietnam in the immediate future, as they did in South Vietnam from 1959 until 1975. But he said the opportunity to contact Christians in Vietnam could show them the world is aware of their plight and people are praying for them as they stand in the face of suffering.

"Life is difficult in Vietnam, especially for Christians, and there is a great need for them to have a sense of being a part of the wider fellowship of Christians in other parts of the world," he said.

## Killing didn't end with Amin in Uganda; Baptists endure

KAMPALA, Uganda (BP)—Missionary Jim Rice is too mild-mannered to boast about persevering in a land where more than 1 million people have died at the hands of their own rulers.

"I've often wondered, 'Why am I here? What talent or talents have I got?'" Rice admits. He concedes he does "an adequate job" as chairman of Southern Baptist missionaries in Uganda, but "It may boil down to availability. I may not be so talented, but at least I'm here."

Missionary Rick Goodgame, a physician, recalls everyone hoped "the worst was over" when dictator Idi Amin fell from power in 1979. Religious freedom was restored, but otherwise, "It got worse."

Six times since, the reins of power have been grabbed through military coups, a suspicious election or a war replete with artillery and machine gun barrages. The forces of Milton Obote, in power from 1980 to 1985, may have equaled Amin's in the number of people they killed—an estimated half million. The mayhem reflected longstanding tribal animosities in Uganda. Many soldiers had no qualms about murder, rape, breaking into homes or demanding payments at roadblocks throughout the country. "Sin had free rein," Rice recounts.

However, Ugandans believe they have cause for some celebration this year. Yoweri Museveni, whose National Resistance Army

came to power in January after several years of warfare, has pledged there will be no "thieves," "murderers" or any "remnant of the bad governments of the past" in his regime. Museveni's troops are under control. No longer are roadblocks dreaded points of harassment.

In Baptist work, some strides forward occurred during Uganda's post-Amin turmoil, but there also has been decline or stagnation. One association of 18 churches no longer exists; guerrilla warfare made refugees of churchgoers and their neighbors. About 20 churches closed in a region where Karamajong warriors often murdered cattle owners and stole their herds.

The Baptist Union of Uganda reports 185 churches. Most are small and weak. The nation's strife made it impossible for Baptist leaders to travel to assist churches, says union General Secretary John Ekuudu, a botany teacher at Makerere University in Kampala. Correspondence wasn't even an option, because the mails were sporadic and unreliable.

Southern Baptist missionaries have faced times of peril. Five years ago, a drunken soldier shot and killed a milkman in front of Larry and Sharon Pumpelly's home. A vehicle Linda Rice was driving was stolen by four men with machine guns in broad daylight.

Two missionary homes in rural Uganda were destroyed and two ransacked during

the past year's upheaval. The missionary families were elsewhere each time.

When Museveni's forces invaded Kampala in January, the part of town where the Rices and Goodgames live became a battleground. The Rices spent two days huddling in the hallway of their house, with 2-year-old daughter Kristen and 11 other missionaries and children. Rick and Susan Goodgame and their five children spent much of the time barricaded in their kitchen.

On several fronts, Baptist work has progressed. Kampala Baptist Church, the union's largest congregation, opened its new building in May. New work is beginning in Uganda's most prominent indigenous language, Luganda. There's a Luganda service at Kampala Church and two new Luganda congregations. Lugandan Bible Way materials also are being prepared.

In student work, the Pumpellys launched a fellowship for college graduates last November, and average attendance has reached 50. Six hundred oxen are being purchased in northern Uganda with Southern Baptist hunger relief funds.

"For faithful Christians, 'this tribulation' can be a blessing, says Methuselah Sebagala, a Baptist associate pastor and high school teacher in Kampala. "Many people have cried to God for help." Peace may be at hand. "It is quite a ripe time," he says, "to preach the gospel vigorously."

## International

### Personal responsibility

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

Basic passage: Ezekiel 18

Focal passage: Ezekiel 18:1-13,25,30

Central truth: We are personally responsible for our moral behavior.

One of the great principles of the Bible is dealt with in the eighteenth chapter of Ezekiel: that of individual responsibility before God for one's own actions. Apart from this chapter, Ezekiel deals with personal responsibility in 3:16-21; 14:12-20; 33:1-20. This was not a new principle in God's revelation (see Deut. 24:16; 2 Kings 14:6).

Ezekiel was forced to deal with the issue of personal responsibility because the Israelites of the Exile were apparently charging God with unfairness in his dealings with them. After all, they were not responsible for the suffering heaped upon them—it was the fault of their forefathers. They expressed their attitude in the parable, "the fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge" (18:2). But this proverb was not applicable because they were not innocent of the evil for which the Lord was judging the nation.

Ezekiel plainly states that God holds each individual responsible for his own sin. The soul (the person) who sins must die (18:4,20). This does not contradict the teaching of Exodus 20:5 because children have a tendency to repeat the sins of their parents.

Ezekiel proceeds to give a concrete example of the truth stated in verse 4. Three generations are presented—a godly grandfather (vv.5-9), an ungodly son (vv. 10-13), and a godly grandson (vv. 14-18). It is interesting to note that three kings of Judah fit these descriptions—Hezekiah, Manasseh and Josiah. God states that his ways are just and their ways are unjust (vv. 25,29). He then makes a plea for repentance on the part of Israel so that they might live (vv. 30-32).

Ezekiel's teaching of personal responsibility is needed for our day. People need to become free from guilt about the sins of their parents, their children or others. They also need to squarely face the truth that they are responsible to God for their own actions. To blame others for one's conduct is unacceptable to the righteous God of the universe. If man is ever to be rightly related to God, he must accept personal responsibility for his sins and turn to God in repentance and faith.

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

## Life and Work

### Racism

by Sid Carswell, Crystal Hill Church, Little Rock

Basic passage: Genesis 1:26-27; Acts 10:1 to 11:18; 17:16-34; Ephesians 2:11-22; Galatians 3:26-29

Focal passage: Acts 10:34-35; 17:24-26; Ephesians 2:13-18

Central truth: Racism is a sin.

I left Georgia for California in 1953. This was before the Central High School crisis. It was before the Montgomery bus boycott. California was very different. Black people didn't go to the back of the bus. They sat at the next table. Black people ordered from white waiters. This was strange to me.

I was never taught prejudice in a direct way. There were certain taboos in south Georgia. Black people did not come to the front door, they came to the back. If they asked for water, you did not give it in a glass the family used. You gave it in a mason jar. Black people had a separate (but by no means equal) school system.

The movement to bring black people and other minorities into the mainstream of our national life is biblically based. Prejudice is as old as Genesis. It can be based on a difference of speech, dress, religion, or the color of one's skin. The Bible teaches we should accept people on the basis of personal worth.

Peter was a good Jew. He would not go into Gentile houses. He did not want to mess up his neatly organized religious system. God gave Peter a new vision. He learned God loved a Gentile named Cornelius, a Roman soldier. Peter learned that God has no favorites (Acts 10:34-35 NEB).

God helped me see this truth first in California. Our churches there had people from Africa, Asia, South America and the Middle East. They worshipped and worked together.

My understanding of this truth grew on the mission field. We found God had many competent servants in Brazil. They spoke Portuguese. The color of their skin was not always white. We had many guests in our home in Brazil. People with black and brown skins slept in our guest room. They ate at our table. Our lives were enriched by those whom God sent our way.

Old prejudices are hard to overcome. The Bible teaches they can and should be overcome. Both the Bible and experience teach that it is worth the effort to eliminate preconceived ideas from our minds.

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## Bible Book

### The judgment of the Lord

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

Basic passage: Zephaniah 1:1-3:8

Focal passage: Zephaniah 1:7-12; 2:3,8,11; 3:1-4

Central truth: The judgment of God upon sin can be escaped only by repentance.

When God speaks we would do well to listen. He often speaks through people who are attentive to his will. One such person was Zephaniah. The words spoken by the prophet are actually the words of God (1:9). The prophet becomes the voice of God.

Since God is always true and right we really cannot argue with his words to us. Those words here set forth his attitude toward sin and his intent to do something about it. Whereas in Nahum the judgment was directed toward Nineveh, the enemy of Judah, here it is directed toward Judah as well as other nations (1:4).

"The day of the Lord" is a way of referring to the time when God will triumph over sin and his foes. He will exercise his sovereign power in judgment upon sin and in deliverance of his people. It is a special day of God's visitation. Those who are not anticipating his visit and who have not prepared for it will experience his judgment for their sins.

Zephaniah sees the day of the Lord as near (1:7). Apathy among God's people is a serious sin. God will thoroughly search his people and punish those who are, "settled on their lees" (1:12). The term settled means thickened. It was used in reference to win that had thickened as a result of not being transferred from one container to another. Left undisturbed, people like wine, become thick and unresponsive. In such a state people come to believe God will do nothing. (1:12).

The only hope for change and for avoiding judgment is to seek the Lord. People must seek right standing with God (2:3). Such change involves repentance. It requires a change of mind toward sin and toward God. His word must be obeyed and his person must be enthroned in our lives.

Those who refuse to obey the call of God to repentance and do not follow his correction can rest assured of his judgment (3:1-2). He will not allow the disobedient to go undisciplined. He reaches out to people in love and forgiveness. But when we refuse his love and forgiveness he has no alternative but to act in judgment.

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## Self-understanding called benefit of new seminar

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—An improved self-understanding, which can be translated into goals to deal with weaknesses in personality and ministry, was the focus of the first Personal and Career Development Seminar offered by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

A primary area of concentration for ministers attending the seminar was to evaluate strengths and weaknesses through feedback from a support group and personality tests, said Terry Peck, consultant in the church administration department of the Sunday School Board and director of the seminar.

The personal and professional needs of ministers typically are not addressed in their daily routine, said Peck, who noted ministers cannot evaluate strengths and weaknesses without receiving feedback for support.

Three ministers attended the first seminar, which had limited attendance to allow for maximum participation by each person. During the six-day conference, ministers spent about 37 hours in conference time, in addition to study assignments which took as much as two hours each evening.

Roger Swann, a missionary to Tanzania who was one of the participants, said people who attend the seminar experience a certain degree of pain when they take an honest look at their personality and their ministry.

Swann and the other two participants agreed the honest appraisal taken in the seminar should help them grow spiritually as well as minister more effectively.

John Tappan, minister of education at First Baptist Church of Clinton, Miss., said he got both positive and negative feedback on his ministry and his personality that will help him better determine the future direction for his ministries.

Tappan said this type of seminar should be a requirement for seminary students to help them get a dose of the reality of ministry to go with the theory they learn.

The other participant in the seminar was a minister of music from Tennessee who recently had been terminated from his church. He said he was attending on the recommendation of a friend who was counseling him regarding future ministry options.

He said the introspective aspects of the seminar had been "surprising in some areas, but it has helped me deal with the sense of my loss of mission. It also has helped me learn how I should redirect my energies into developing a sense of ministry regardless of the fact I am not exercising it right now."

The three participants agreed there is a need for ministers to take a seminar such as this to evaluate their ministries prior to traumatic experiences in their ministries or interruptions through forced termination.

The Personal and Career Development Seminar is a shortened version of the Personal and Professional Growth Seminar which was introduced 12 years ago and is 11 days long. Peck said the new seminar was an attempt to make the service more affordable and available. Three Personal and Career Development Seminars will be offered in 1987.

## Association leadership training multiplies efforts

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP)—As Baptist Sunday school enrollment increases, associational leadership training is becoming increasingly important, said Harry Piland, Sunday school department director for the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

That theory was the basis for a Sunday school leadership conference at Glorieta (N.M.) Baptist Conference Center for ASSIST (Associational Sunday School Improvement Support Team) members.

The conference was attended by 1,848 people representing 169 district associations in 29 states and Canada. A similar conference at Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Conference Center in August has an advance registration of more than 2,200.

Many more churches will receive benefits from the ASSIST conferences than the regular Sunday school leadership conferences, Piland pointed out.

"The potential is to reach more churches more effectively. We will never have enough consultants to reach every church in the convention. We will need more multipliers. ASSISTeams are our multipliers," he said.

The ASSISTeams members are learning to

be conference leaders in their associations—not just workers in their individual churches, Piland explained. "We are investing in multipliers who will spread our training across the convention," he said.

The Sunday School Board paid much of the costs for the people attending the conferences, which provide training information for Sunday school program emphases through 1990.

The board also will fund additional state training sessions for ASSISTeams members during the next three years as part of a commitment to associational training.

ASSISTeams have been established in 1,183 of the 1,230 associations in the convention. Those teams include more than 8,800 members. The associations represented at the Glorieta conference include 6,282 churches, said Cliff Burchyett, an associational unit consultant.

ASSISTeams were developed in 1979 as a way for associations to provide Sunday school leadership training at the local level. A basic team includes five members and can be expanded with additional specialists.