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**June 26, 1986**

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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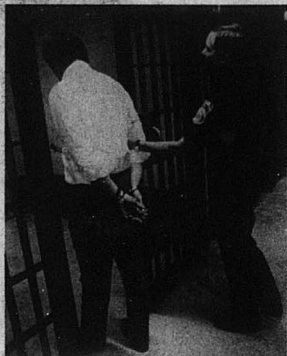
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SOUTHERN BAPTIST HISTORICAL  
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Nashville, Tennessee

When the world  
comes crashing in  
pages 10-11

June 26, 1986

**Arkansas Baptist**  
Newsmagazine



ABN photo / Milla Gill

Despite what many think, church staff families are not exempt from difficulties. When the world comes crashing in, Christian workers need to be honest enough—and free—to face their problems squarely and seek the help they need, says one Arkansas couple in this month's Helpline feature (pp.10-11).

## In this issue

### 8 a church is born

A new congregation near Benton was launched June 8. A survey revealed 1,500 unchurched people in the vicinity.

### 16-19 final report

The second report from the June 10-12 SBC annual meeting in Atlanta brings summaries of pre-convention meetings, Arkansans elected to offices, and more photographs.

### Skip issue July 3

The ABN will not publish an issue July 3, one of three such weeks each year. Double Sunday School lesson commentaries are skipped this week in "Lessons for living."

### Clarification

In the June 19 ABN, it was reported a motion was made to withdraw Southern Baptist support from the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs. The motion also included a proposal to use funds freed by the move to establish a Washington, D.C.-based agency supported solely by Southern Baptists.

## Christian Citizenship Sunday 'He that ruleth... must be just'

by Larry Braidfoot

God established rulers and authorities to insure justice among humans and nations. Only the ruler or elected official who works for justice is fulfilling his or her God-given opportunity.

No king in Israel or Judah was honored by the people and by God as was King David. In spite of his frailties, David led the people with great wisdom and loyalty.

In his last public address to the nation, David emphasized justice as an essential quality for the one who rules and leads the nation. The leader who acts with justice sensitizes the people to the need for equality and compassion in every area of government, including public policy.

Although our form of government is different and our leaders are not kings, David's words are still vital for our understanding of how political officials are to serve. The

requirement of justice binds our leaders to act for the good of the nation and not simply for their own personal interest. God expects this of them. We should expect it of them.

Christian Citizenship Sunday, June 29, 1986, is an occasion for prayer. It is a special day to pray that God will give the leaders of our local communities, states and nation the wisdom and insight to perform their duties with justice. It is a time to give thanks to God for the blessings of liberty and for those leaders who have helped establish the justice we enjoy as citizens of the United States of America.

Braidfoot is a general counsel and director of Christian citizenship development for the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention.

## Carswell, Shirley begin new commentaries

Sid Carswell, pastor of Crystal Hill Church, Little Rock, begins this week writing commentaries on the Life and Work series Sunday School lessons in "Christians and government."

Carswell is a graduate of Mercer University, Macon, Geo., and Golden Gate Seminary. He has served as pastor of churches in California and was a missionary to Brazil from 1963-1981.

Homer W. Shirley, Jr., pastor of First Church, Siloam Springs, also begins writing commentaries this week on the Bible Book series Sunday School lessons in "Judgment on Edom."

Shirley is a graduate of Southern Baptist College, Ouachita Baptist University and



Carswell



Shirley

Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has served as pastor at eight Arkansas churches and one in Texas.

## 'Catch-up' month keeps CP beyond inflation rate

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—Southern Baptists played "catch-up ball" in May with their Cooperative Program unified budget, passing along more than \$11.5 million in undesignated receipts.

May's Cooperative Program total of \$11,501,228 was up \$1,249,750 over the same period last year, for an increase of 12.19 percent.

After the first eight months of the current fiscal year, Cooperative Program receipts total \$84,236,504, an increase of 7.8 percent over receipts of \$78,144,259 through May of 1985.

The May receipts are a "great sign" for the strength of the Cooperative Program this year, said Harold C. Bennett, president and treasurer of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee. "We've been playing catch-up ball," he noted.

Indeed, May was the second-best Cooper-

ative Program month in history, trailing January of this year, when receipts reached almost \$12.8 million.

"I was delighted with the large Cooperative Program receipts for May," Bennett said. "We had heard this might be possible because many state Baptist conventions indicated their April receipts (partially passed along to the national level in May) were high."

Despite the good month, Southern Baptists still are not expected to reach their \$130 million annual Cooperative Program goal. "We expect about \$126 million or \$127 million," he said.

That figure will carry the Cooperative Program through the first phase of its basic operating budget and provide about \$2.5 million for capital needs, explained Tim Hedquist, Executive Committee vice president for business and finance.



Every individual is confronted daily with the task of making decisions. There are many different approaches to the decision-making process. For the child of God, the Christian dimension of morals and Christian values are essential. But how does one bring Christian ethics to bear on the decisions he must make day by day?

Many are accustomed to using the words morals and ethics interchangeably. However, they do not have exactly the same meaning. The word "moral" came to us from the Latin word "mores," meaning custom or habit. Morals, then, are what people do. Ethics, on the other hand, comes from a Greek word which means "standard or norm." Ethics communicates the idea of what people ought to do rather than what they are doing. When we add to this the Christian dimension, the word is even stronger. It carries the idea of what a Christian ought to do in a given situation.

There are many wrong methods of making decisions. Some simply say, "I don't care. Whatever is done is fine with me." This apathetic approach can produce severe problems.

Others may say, "What do people in general think?" The individual who makes his decisions on the basis of public opinion obviously will never move beyond the mores of the general public. Hence this person's decisions often do not reflect Christ.

Still others ask the question, "Is it legal?" It is obvious that society needs laws. But the individual who is striving to stay only barely within the bounds of the law certainly is not making Christian decisions.

Other individuals say, "I felt like it was the right thing to do." This individual moves more on the basis of emotion than he does on the basis of logic or Christian ethics.

Decision-making can be complicated. Even defining and describing the process has occupied experts for years. But most basic to an individual's decision-making process are the values which form the framework of the meaning of his life. All individuals, in varying degrees, are like ancient Israel in that they have highs and lows in their allegiance to God and to principle.

At the core of our decision-making process, however, is our allegiance to God: Out of our relationship to God grows a series of questions. What place does Christianity hold in an individual's life? What is the place of prayer? What about the Bible? An individual's answer to these questions will determine the process that he or she will use in decision-making.

There are certain guidelines that every Christian should follow

in every moral decision-making process. First, he has a responsibility to make the best decisions he can possibly make under the circumstances in which he finds himself. In order to do so, he must already have a framework of ideals which guide his life.

Second, it is important to understand matters that need decisions. An excellent administrator once said, "Ninety percent of the things that come across my desk are best left without response. The difficulty is to know the ten percent that must be responded to and then to deal with it in a proper Christian manner.

Third, it is important to analyze the matter under consideration in small units when possible. Figure out the parts that need immediate attention. Determine if other parts can be held at bay for a time. This method can sometimes help by breaking a gigantic decision down into smaller decisions that are easier to evaluate and handle.

Fourth, an individual should gather data. Often, wrong decisions are made because of inadequate information. In the decision-making process it is not possible for an individual to know too many of the facts or to be too familiar with the item under consideration.

Closely related to the data gathering process is the matter of asking for advice. Some individuals feel that they are inadequate if they ask another for advice, or if they say, "I don't know." The truth is an individual usually gathers respect by acknowledging that he or she doesn't know everything.

Finally, it is imperative that an individual considers appropriate biblical material relating to the decision and seeks God's guidance through prayer. Prayer and biblical material deserve careful treatment. Scriptures should never be stripped from context as an individual seeks to make a decision. However, a principle can be found which will apply to almost every ethical decision an individual must make.

If the decision is wrong, the individual should learn from this wrong decision. It is important for us to ask God to forgive us from wrong decisions and then forgive ourselves. Such a process will help to sustain Christian growth.

The decision-making process requires practice and review and, most of all, dependence upon God. Each of us need to learn to make good decisions and to determine the elements that go into these good decisions. Above all, discovering scriptural principles for guidance in the decision-making process and dependence upon the Holy Spirit are absolutely essential.

# Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

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

VOLUME 85 NUMBER 25

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Erwin L. McDonald, Litt D. Editor Emeritus

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

Photos submitted for publication will be returned only when accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Only black and white photos can be used.

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## The Southern accent

Jerry D. Gibbens

### Uncle Joe just would not listen

At a recent family gathering, I was challenged by my Uncle Joe who asked me why a non-religion major should even consider a Christian college. He elaborated his position by saying the student would be required to take several religion classes that would not count toward a "real" degree and the cost was nearly double. He continued by stating that he felt students needed a strong emphasis in history, science, and English, not quasi-religious courses.

Having taught English at Southern Baptist College for the past 19 years, I saw double, for Uncle Joe had just waved the proverbial red flag in my face. Regaining my cool, I explained to him that I did not teach "Baptist English" nor did my colleagues teach Baptist history or science. I went on to explain that in my English classes we study parts of speech, sentence patterns, and short and long papers requiring comparison and contrast, description, argumentation, and

exposition, and that we read Homer, Shakespeare, Milton, Hemingway and Faulkner.

Uncle Joe responded by saying that I was such an excellent teacher that, of course, he did not mean that I taught quasi-religion courses called English. I assured him that I am not unique in my approach and that my classes include students who are majoring in nursing, agriculture, education, business, science, and Christian ministries.

I further explained to Uncle Joe that most Christian colleges require a six-hour Bible survey which does count toward a "real" degree and furthermore I feel all individuals who claim to have a liberal arts education ought to have knowledge and understanding of biblical principles and an insight into the best of all possible literatures. Uncle Joe said that made sense!

I continued our discussion by emphasizing that I had attended and taught in both

a Baptist college and a state university and the curriculums were not that different. However, I stressed that having an active, committed Christian teaching the class, and studying in an environment where the authority of God and the sanctity of the Bible is recognized and acknowledged is worth the economic difference.

Uncle Joe was still not convinced when my daughter Julie, a sophomore and non-religion major at Southern Baptist College, entered the conversation. Julie shared with him that she had been challenged academically and had grown spiritually and had volunteered for summer missions.

Uncle Joe did not leave the family gathering as a proponent of Christian education, but I think it is because state universities are less expensive!

**Jerry D. Gibbens is professor of English at Southern Baptist College.**

## Letters to the editor

### Thank you, Arkansas Baptists

More than ever before in all my life I am proud to be an "Arkansas Baptist." Born in Arkadelphia, raised in Little Rock, graduate of Ouachita, church staff member, etc. These all make me an "Arkansas Baptist," but I am referring to where my heart is: with Arkansas Baptists for who they are and who they can be.

I have been privileged to serve as your "missionary-in-residence" through the Stewardship and Annuity Department of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention from August 15, 1985 through May 31, 1986. During this time, I have preached and/or sung in Arkansas churches 86 times, plus 17 other times in churches in other states, and have led the music for four Arkansas churches in revival.

Thank you, Arkansas Baptists, for your tremendous support for and your interest in the Cooperative Program and our "Family of Ministries" which is the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, for your giving to the state, home and foreign missions offering, for your other special gifts to various ministries, and most of all for your vision of optimism at what God can do through us here in Arkansas and around the world. Thank you for holding together as never before when some are saying that we can go our separate ways and do more. Thank God "they" are few!

I encourage you to stick to the basics of what Baptists are all about in our cooperative ministries. Pray for each other, support each

other, love and work together, then depend upon God for great results! We as missionaries need now more than ever before to know that those at home are being faithful witnesses and stewards of all God has given us, and that the "ropes" you are holding for us are stronger than ever.

God bless you, Arkansas Baptists! I am proud to be one of you.—Ted Stanton, Buenos Aires, Argentina

### God's requirements

I am the wife of a music and youth minister. The calling of God of a man into the ministry is an awesome responsibility, and I believe God has special blessing for those who serve in leadership and nurturing capacities.

Why then does it seem that there are two or three members in every church who seem to make it their life goal to ruin God's man or make his life utterly miserable and unbearable? There is much truth to the saying "you can't please all the people all the time."

What one person wants in a leader is not another person's idea of a good leader. All a man of God can do is pray that he meets God's requirements.

It also seems there are people who think a man of God is not human or has no feelings. Well, he is. He hurts. He laughs. He cries. Sometimes his wife is the only one who sees his hurt.

I've seen my husband disturbed by

malicious remarks that "got back" to him. Gossip travels fast. Critical statements eat up a man's reputation the same way cancer eats up the body. Hurtful things are said and done to and about the leader and his family because one or two don't like him and start a personal vendetta to ruin or get rid of him.

Lies are spread and everything else one can imagine. I really can't understand how people can be so cruel.

My husband has considered resigning from his position because of a few people who never give up. Christians should build the church, not tear it down.

I would like to make three suggestions to those church members who might not realize that even some so-called "innocent" remarks hurt:

(1) If you don't think you can follow a man's leadership, don't call him to serve at your church.

(2) If you can't say something kind, don't say anything.

(3) Remember that church leaders are not the only ones whom God will hold accountable for their actions.—Name withheld

Letters to the editor expressing opinions are invited. Letters should be typed double-spaced 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 must be marked "for publication." Only original letters will be considered.

Don Moore

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

...Southern Baptists are still working together! You would have been pleased in most cases, at the way Southern Baptists did their business in Atlanta recently. Of course, there was strong disagreement over many matters. That happens in families with as few as two members. It happens in churches with few or many. It should be no surprise that out of more than 40,000 messengers there was not unanimity. What is remarkable is that 40,000 people meeting for any cause could be involved in deliberative activity. The professional parliamentarian believes our convention to be the largest deliberative body in the world. And we are still together!



Moore

I never expected our convention to split, though the annual messengers do divide up on many, if not most votes. Someone has to win on any debated issue. Someone has to lose. Both have to be responsible. Both should grow spiritually from dealing with their very difficult situations. The winner is responsible for reason, respect, restraint and humility in the stewardship committed to him or her. The loser is responsible for reason, respect, restraint and control in the face of frustration and disappointment. In sports and politics, rules and regulations require it. In the family of God, Christian conscience requires it.

Our SBC staff did a masterful job in aiding our officers and messengers with an unbelievable, almost impossible task. The city of Atlanta, particularly the Police Department, were extremely helpful. The service provided in hotels and restaurants was commendable. Messengers shared more respect and restraint than any convention in recent history. The overwhelming attendance that was feared did not materialize. The technology of electronics played a major role. It was a more pleasant experience than had been expected.

The best of the convention was in the reports given by our mission agencies. It never ceases to be amazing and thrilling to see what God does with us as we work together. We are working together! It works to work together! Let's keep it up and do even better.

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

## ACTS executive board formed in state

ARKADELPHIA—Five Arkansas Baptist State Convention churches and organizations recently joined together to form a television executive board entitled the American Christian Television System (ACTS) of Arkansas. The group's purposes are to promote cable television access for ACTS, the 24-hour national television programming produced by the Southern Baptist Convention's Radio and Television Commission based in Fort Worth, Tex., and to further encourage the growth of local church television programming via cable outlets to regional audiences.

Mal Couch, telecommunications director at Ouachita Baptist University, has been elected as executive director of ACTS of Arkansas. Others elected to serve on the board include: Mike Huckabee, pastor of Immanuel Church of Pine Bluff, elected as board president; Carol Roper, director of ACTS for Little Rock, chosen as secretary-treasurer; Bruce Roderick, minister of media at Immanuel Church at Pine Bluff; and Mark

Brooks, pastor of Elmdale Church of Springdale.

ACTS is now in its third year of operation on a national scale and is currently available to 4 million households via 225 cable systems and nine broadcast affiliates. The ACTS network now encompasses Arkadelphia, Pine Bluff, Jonesboro, Little Rock, Springdale, Magnolia and Fort Smith.

"Our goals for this year for ACTS of Arkansas are to educate churches and associations throughout the state as to ways to begin a television cable channel in their area and to exchange and share broadcast programs throughout the network," said Couch.

"One of the keys to the effectiveness of the ACTS network is locally originated programs" said Dr. Jimmy Allen, president of the SBC's Radio and Television Commission. "Another key to ACTS' effectiveness is the fact that small churches, as well as large ones, can find ways to use television as a tool of ministry," he noted.

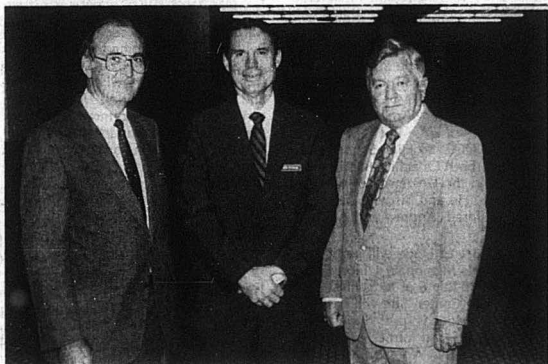
## Cooperative Program report: May

### January-May gifts

Summary for May 1986	
Received	\$1,005,788.24
Budget	\$1,020,833.33
(Under)	(\$ 15,045.09)

Year	Over (under) budget to date	% increase over previous year
1981	\$ 89,949.31	13.17
1982	(\$125,584.90)	6.88
1983	(\$ 36,859.90)	12.41
1984	(\$315,225.95)	1.67
1985	(\$124,586.57)	10.92
1986	(\$149,619.95)	6.39

Thank you for your contributions. Your gifts meet needs in Arkansas, the United States, and in 106 foreign countries.— Jimmie Sheffield



**Nicholas elected**—D. Jack Nicholas (center), president of Southern Baptist College, Walnut Ridge, was elected secretary of the Southern Baptist Education Commission during the agency's annual meeting. Also elected as officers were Bob R. Agee (left), president of Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, Okla., vice-chairman, and John E. Johns (right), president of Furman University, Greenville, S.C., chairman.

# Arkansas all over

by Millie Gill / ABN staff writer

## people

**Dr. and Mrs. W.O. Vaught** of Little Rock will observe their 50th wedding anniversary June 26 with a dinner at the Little Rock Club. Their son, Carl Vaught, chairman of the philosophy department at Penn State University, and his family will host the dinner. The Vaught's were married in a double wedding ceremony in the chapel of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary June 26, 1936. Mrs. Vaught's father, then serving as pastor of Parkland Church in Louisville, performed the ceremony for Dr. and Mrs. Vaught. Dr. Vaught then stepped into the pastor's place and performed the ceremony for his sister, Anita Vaught, and Sibley Burnett. Vaught and Burnett both were graduates of Southern Seminary. Vaught retired in 1983 as pastor of Little Rock Immanuel Church following 38 years of service there.



W.O. and Mary Frances Vaught

**E. Amon Baker** has accepted a call to serve as associate pastor of Riverside Church of North Little Rock. His services there will include music, education and youth. A native of Texas, he is a graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Baker served Immanuel Church in Little Rock as minister of music for 21 years. He has served on the faculty of Southern Baptist College at Walnut Ridge, as minister of music at Walnut Ridge First Church and Pine Bluff First Church. He is married to the former Joynelle Gammon. They have three daughters.

**John Ross** has joined the staff of South Highland Church in Little Rock as minister of music and youth. He came there from Alexander First Church where he served as minister of music and youth. A native of Little Rock, he is a graduate of McClellan High School and has attended both Ouachita Baptist University and the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. He and his wife, Teresa, have two children, Andrew and Amber.

**Deborah Moore** of Hope will participate in the Woman's Missionary Union Conference June 30-July 6 at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center. She will participate in the missions vespers during the meeting. Moore, who formerly served on the staff of Arkansas Woman's Missionary Union, is now furloughing in Hope from her assignment with the Foreign Mission Board in Monrovia, Liberia.

**Bill Bustin** is serving as minister of youth and activities at First Church Camden. A

native of Alabama, he is a recent graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Bustin and his wife, Sue, have a six-month-old daughter, Haley.

**Clyde Glazener** has resigned as pastor of Calvary Church in Little Rock, effective June 29, to serve as pastor of Southside Church in Tempe, Ariz.

**Floyd Emmerling** has resigned as pastor of Shannon Hills Church.

**Aaron Thompson** is serving as pastor of Redfield Church, going there from Alexander First Church. A native of Perry, he is a graduate of Perryville High School and Boyce Bible School. He has also served as pastor of Formosa First Church. He has served in leadership positions with both Pulaski Association and Arkansas Baptist State Convention. Thompson is married to the former Mary Louise Wurz. They have one daughter, Nila Sue.

**Steve Patterson** has resigned as pastor of Hopewell Church at Corning.

**Ivan Fletcher** has resigned as pastor of Petty's Chapel, Marianna.

**Roy Buckelew** is serving as interim pastor of Hot Springs First Church. He is associate professor of speech, communication and preaching at Ouachita Baptist University where he also serves as chairman of the speech, drama and speech pathology department. He is a graduate of Southwestern Baptist



Baker



Ross



Moore



Bustin

Theological Seminary and the University of Southern California.

**Mike Bedford** is serving as interim music director at University Church, Fayetteville.

**Frank Terry** is serving as youth director at Farmington First Church.

**Don Hubbard** has resigned as minister of education at Stuttgart First Church to serve as pastor of Almyra First Church. He and his wife, Valerie, have two children, Julie and Brad.

**Gregg Roberts** has joined the staff of Fort Smith South Side Church as part-time minister of youth. He is a youth liaison counselor and caseworker at Comprehensive Juvenile Services. Roberts is a graduate of Roland High School and the University of Arkansas. He is married to the former Susan Whitesides.

**Marion "Bud" Fray** is serving as interim pastor of Central Church, Magnolia. He is a staff member at Ouachita Baptist University and prior to that he and his wife, Jane, served as missionaries to Africa.

**Mary Davey** is serving Judsonia Working Church as music director and is working with a newly formed children's choir.

**Jim Cope** of Little Rock is serving as part-time music and youth director at Lancaster Road Church in Little Rock.

**Curtis L. Sergeant** has been named one of four recipients of the Elizabeth Lowndes Awards for 1986 by the Woman's Missionary Union, Southern Baptist Convention. He is a senior at the University of Arkansas and is the son of William and Laveta Sergeant, foreign missionaries in Taiwan. This award is presented to outstanding college graduates among children of Southern Baptist home and foreign missionaries.

**Myrtle E. Mason** of Swifton died May 24 at age 85. She had been a member of Swifton Church since 1924. Survivors include a son, James Mason of Stuttgart; two daughters, Billye Crawford of Tuckerman and Freda Willmuth of Swifton.

**Steve Hanley** of Little Rock has been asked by Gov. Bill Clinton to serve on the Governor's Commission on People with Disabilities. He is a member of Pulaski Heights Church.

**Steve Matthews** is serving as pastor of Mammoth Spring First Church. He is married to the former Staci Childers.

**John Eason** is serving as pastor of Palestine Church at Quitman. He had served the church as interim pastor.

**Mark Baggett** is serving Pine Bluff Immanuel Church as summer intern in the media ministry. He is a student at Ouachita Baptist University and a native of Arlington, Texas.

## briefly

**Little Rock Immanuel Church** recently gave special recognition to its senior adult members. Mrs. W.N. Haley, age 102, was recognized as the oldest member while Mrs. Jamie Cook and Flora Hammett, both baptized in 1903, were honored for 65 years of service as Sunday School teachers. Mrs. Cook also was recognized as the first baby in the Immanuel nursery. Others receiving recognition were Howard Lavender for 40 years of service as a SS department director, Grover Hemphill for 40 years of service as church treasurer and Lucill Little for 50 years of service in the nursery.

**Waldron First Church** held a service June 22 to dedicate the new east wing of the church. Don Moore, Executive Director of Arkansas Baptist State Convention, was speaker. Nelson Wilhelm is pastor.

**West Memphis Second Church** will observe "Old-Fashioned Sunday" June

29 with a barbecue luncheon provided by the Brotherhood; worship services and special music.

**Pulaski Heights Church** in Little Rock single adults are continuing "Friday Night in the Heights" activities during the summer with a June 20 picnic, a July 18 game night and an Aug. 15 Hawaiian Luau. Kim Walker, minister to children and singles coordinator, has planned the summer program.

**Jonesboro Central Church** observed Family Ministry Day June 22 with services that included the ordination of Marvin Emmons and the licensing of Jerry Muckensturm.

**El Dorado First Church** mission team were in Chicago June 12-22 to assist the Uptown Church with backyard Bible clubs and ministries in half-way homes and nursing homes.

**Morrilton First Church** launched an I-40 rest area ministry May 31, when they served coffee, lemonade and tea to more than 643 visitors. Workers included Howard and Inez Bradley, Bernice Lindley and Gladys Boyle.

**Fort Smith First Church** held a Hispanic Crusade May 24-28 led by Ruben Hernandez of San Antonio, Texas, and Richard Gonzalez of Rockdale, Texas. There were 17 professions of faith with an average attendance of 65 to 70 each evening. The church made over 1,000 phone calls to its membership May 31 that resulted in over 53 visitors and eight new members in Sunday School June 1. A 50,000 square foot expansion is being added to the church's education wing for provide for continued SS growth.

**Riverside Church** in North Little Rock was constituted May 25 when John Maddox, retired pastor of Wynne Church, was speaker. The fellowship is currently meeting at Rest Hills Chapel located on Landers Road. A pastor search committee has been elected and E. Amon Baker is serving as associate pastor.

**Morton Church** will observe its 50th anniversary Aug. 3 with all-day activities, starting with the morning service. There will be special music and former pastors will be speakers.

**White Hall First Church** has linked up with West Helena Second Church in the Macedonian Mission Plan. They will be giving support to West Acres Chapel in

West Helena. Jack L. Ramsey is White Hall pastor.

**Little Rock First Church** ordained Bobby Courtney to the preaching ministry June 22. Courtney is a student at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and serves as pastor of Bala Chitto Church in Magnolia, Miss.

**Markham Street Church** in Little Rock broke ground June 1 for a 30,000 foot two-story education building estimated to cost approximately \$1.2 million. It is scheduled for completion in early 1987, according to Pastor Manuel Weeks.

**Reynolds Memorial Church** in Little Rock broke ground June 1 for a 30,000 foot two-story education building estimated to cost approximately \$1.2 million. It is scheduled for completion in early 1987, according to Pastor Manuel Weeks.

**Baring Cross Church** in North Little Rock men recently assisted with a construction program at Boles Mission.

**Van Buren First Church** will host the 11th annual Tom Cox Evangelistic Association Bible Conference July 2-6. Speakers will include Pappy Daniel of India and Margaret Lawson of Johannesburg, South Africa.

**Hope First Church** volunteer carpenters, Larry Barton and Bill Jones, recently assisted with a construction project at Hope Migrant Center.

**Little Rock Second Church** recently organized a Heritage Club and certificates of membership were presented or mailed to 26 people who had been members for 50 years or longer.

**Nettleton Church** in Jonesboro mission team recently returned from Cumberland, Ind., where they distributed 168 Bibles, reached 12 prospective families, conducted two backyard Bible clubs and recorded six professions of faith.

**Third Avenue Church** in Paragould observed its 35th birthday May 25.

**Monte Ne Church** is sponsoring summer mission work at Horseshoe Bend Park.

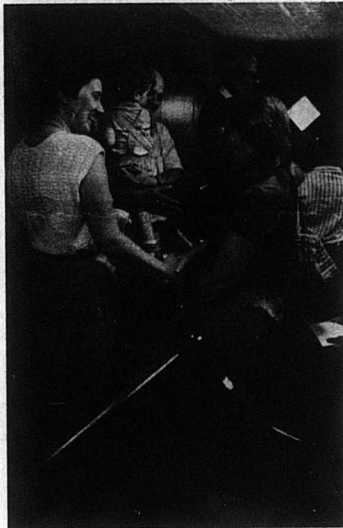
**Lakeside Church** at Rogers is sponsoring summer mission work at Prairie Creek Park.

# Congo Road Mission begins with spirit of giving

photos by Millie Gill



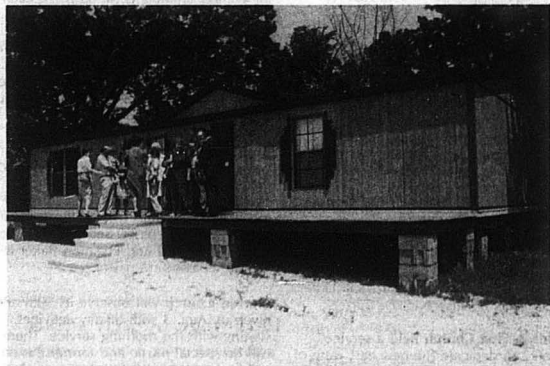
A new work survey that revealed approximately 1,500 unchurched people in a new development area near Benton has led to the establishment of Congo Road Mission by Benton Trinity Church where Harold Stephens serves as pastor. The survey further revealed an immediate potential membership of 302 with a prediction of 541 possible members by 1990. Eight participated in a June 8 launching service and June 15 marked the first organized program with 15 present for Sunday School and 20 in attendance for worship services. Jesse Holcomb is serving as mission pastor; Jack Washington, Sunday School director; Flora Keener, clerk and Esther Gatlin, treasurer. Sponsors are amazed at the willingness of others to assist in getting the new work established through their volunteer services as teachers, assistance in grounds preparation and financial contributions. Above, Jesse Holcomb leads the June 15 services with his nephew, Terry Holcomb, a member of Pine Bluff Immanuel Church, assisting by leading the music.



John and Diana Lewis, among the first new members to join the mission, were greeted at the close of services.



Little ones are welcome at the new mission, too. Caleb Lewis is already enrolled as a nursery member.



A portable mobile building has been furnished by Central Association as a meeting site for the new mission. A volunteer unexpectedly leveled the driveway on Saturday in preparation for worship services.



# Helpline

for the local church

May is a good month for graduations and weddings. It has been a good month for the ministries we perform for you, also.



Moore

**Golden age evangelism conferences at Springdale, Dumas and North Little Rock drew almost 350.** Winning senior adults to Christ is a difficult task. Participants received much that would motivate and equip them to reach their family and friends. This is a good beginning for our first efforts in Golden Age Evangelism.

**Eight receive Christ in recent CWT Seminar in El Dorado!** Twenty were trained in the CWT gospel presentation. Those trained will go back to train others in their churches. CWT continues to prove to be the best training available for personal evangelism. Praise God!

**Discipleship training helps have never been better!** This is the conclusion of the large group who came to Ouachita for MasterLife/MasterBuilder/DiscipleYouth II training. Tools we have desperately needed are now available. New believers can be led on to maturity and responsible Christian living with these tools. The churches using these materials break out of lethargy, and complacency as their people begin growing.

Similar reports could be given to inspire and bless you on the Senior Adult Celebration and the Chaplaincy Awareness Conference. Wonderful participation and a spirit of expectancy was manifest in these and other meetings in May.

Here is what's ahead to bless.

**Preachers, preachers, you may need this!** "Money Management for Ministers" is a conference with John Morgan, a most gifted pastor from Houston, Texas. His insights are biblical, practical, and most helpful. God will use John Morgan to help you in your personal management. You will also be prepared to help your church families after this conference. This is a rare opportunity being given you. The meetings are at Grand Avenue, Fort Smith, July 14, and the Baptist Building chapel, July 15. Both meetings begin at 9:30 a.m.

**Super has come to be a common word.** "Super Summer" is not common. It is the most extraordinary event Arkansas Baptist youth have had, perhaps ever! Enrollment had reached capacity and closed, but cancellations have made some space available again. All of us need to pray earnestly for God's best blessings to be upon these 1,000 youth who will be gathering July 14-18 at Ouachita. Our deepest thanks to the Steering Committee which gave direction to the development of this outstanding ministry.

**Four weeks of Siloam Springs are still available!** If you missed getting into Super Summer, you can still have that unique Siloam experience. July 7-11, 14-18, 21-25, and July 28-August 1 are the weeks yet remaining. One more word of encouragement could a get a young person to Siloam who is in great need

of help. Let's get every person we can under the good teaching, preaching and singing that goes with Siloam.

**Musical Arkansas!** Now this is for adults as well as youth. The dates and place are July 28-Aug. 1 at Ouachita. Junior high through adults are included. The emphasis on drama will open up new avenues of communication of the gospel. You can learn how to use drama effectively in your church. "Walk In Love" and "Praise" are musicals that will be performed by the participants. This has real promise for you who love to show your love for Christ through the ministry of music. Choral directors Charles Wright and Theresa Trull will be at their best.

## July's special opportunities

by Don Moore

**July is the month for Girls in Action.** Mini-camps are held at Paron, July 1-3, and 9-11. Full week camps are held at Paron, July 7-11 and 14-18. A Mother-Daughter camp is held at Paron, July 11-12.

A large part of our reason for hope concerning world missions lies in these special camping experiences in which young people come to grips with their Christian obligation to the world. Pastors and parents need to help the ladies who will be desirous of getting their girls to these camps. We all can help by prayer.

**Here is another missions experience.** Our Baptist Men's Director, Neal Guthrie, will be taking a group of RA boys and RA leaders to Grayling, Michigan to conduct a RA Camp for the RA boys in that part of Michigan. Carroll Fowler, former Arkansas pastor, is the director of missions for that area and will have a good number of boys in the camps. Program, materials and equipment will be furnished by our Arkansas people. The men will assist in church building projects and conduct revival services on the weekend.

**What is your church doing in missionary education?** The church may be seriously deprived if they only glean from the pastor's personal knowledge of missionaries. Can we claim to be building New Testament churches if world missions is on "the back burner?" Can we build truly missionary churches without missions information and education? Who carries the spiritual responsibility for leading the church in missionary consciousness and commitment? Is this responsibility insignificant enough to simply leave in the hands of a few in the church? At the present level of missionary education and missions awareness, can we expect world missions programs to increase or decrease over the next 15 years? What will be our reason for neglecting the rest of the world when He told us clearly, "the field is the world"?

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

This monthly Helpline is a cooperative ministry of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention Executive Board and the *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine*, designed to inform about and interpret the helping ministries of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention to the churches. Pages 12-14 are produced by the ABSC Executive Board.

### 10-11 when tragedy strikes

*Pastors' families are no more exempt from tragedy than any others, but too often church staff families are reluctant to seek professional help. One couple shares their struggle and how they found help.*

### 15 coming up

*July, August, and September are busy months for Arkansas Baptists. A three-month planning calendar highlights all the events sponsored by the state convention during those months.*



## Family crises call for honesty, professional intervention

by Betty Kennedy

Marvin and Beth Reynolds know pastors' and missionaries' families are not exempt from tragedy. What they would like to say to such people is that seeking professional help when disaster strikes is not a sign of weakness nor is it unchristian.

The cast of characters in the story includes three sons. On his 18th birthday son A, one of their four, was detained and charged for selling pills at school. Another son was sent home from boarding school on the mission field for possessing marijuana, the same "weeds" the boys grew in Africa hidden among their mother's flowers.

When the family returned from overseas, more than one of the boys had marijuana rolled up in socks in his luggage. However, the Baptist missionary sons got it past trusting customs officials.

These incidents and others in a nine year series of crises are not the kind of struggles most folks would expect to plague the family of Southern Baptist foreign missionaries. The reality is it's all too common among vocational ministers' families, as well as "laypersons," explain the Reynolds. They say they have been telling their story in the hope others will be willing to seek the support of both professionals and friends.

"We want people to realize it's not a sign of weakness to seek help," Beth emphasizes. Marvin says he knows of one case in which a church staff member was dismissed because his family experienced child-rearing problems.

"I didn't know, at first, what kind of reaction I would get giving my testimony about our problems," Beth admits. "I cried every time," she says. What she found was many folks who prayed for her and others who admitted having similar problems who decided to seek professional help.

The Reynolds' professional help came from Glen McGriff, Arkansas Baptists' director of the Ministry of Crisis Support since 1980. Dr. McGriff works, free of charge, with pastors, church staff and denominational workers and their families to help them get through crisis and maintain the effectiveness of their ministry.

The Reynolds family's struggle to free three sons from drug use and its consequences began in Botswana, Africa. From 1968 to 1980, Marvin was a general evangelist and Beth was a church and home worker. The couple pioneered Southern Baptist work there and things went well until the late 1970's.

"One day while Marvin was off in the bush somewhere," Beth recalls, "the head master of the boarding school our second son attended called to tell me we had to



*Confronting their problems honestly and seeking assistance from others brought the Marvin Reynolds family through a crisis which brought them back from the foreign mission field and challenged their faith God could pull them through. Pictured are (back row, left to right) Teddy, Marvin, Beth, Timmy, Randy, (front row) Robby, and Beth's mother, Margaret Haley.*

come get him and said he couldn't tell me over the phone what the problem was."

The Reynolds flew the 500 mile trip to meet their son and were told he had been caught with marijuana in his room. As they were making arrangements to take early furlough to get help for that son, a second stress hit. His brother reacted to the strain of the expulsion by getting involved in an altercation with an instructor and also was sent home.

Adding to the stresses, Beth hurried to prepare for leaving, working to furnish a house for the new couple, and training people to carry on the work. And they had learned that an older son, in college in the States, was having a problem with drugs.

It's not as if the couple was unaware of the extra stresses on kids from living in a different culture. The SBC Foreign Mission Board often provides on-the-field family counseling for missionaries, and the Reynolds had been to sessions as a family.

A visiting missionary pointed out to the Reynolds the number of major stresses they were carrying, saying that any one of them could render a person unable to function.

So the Reynolds came to the States for furlough, hoping to work through the problems and get back to Botswana. They were expected to speak about their work but at first were afraid to be candid.

"I was afraid to share these situations with

folks," Marvin recalls. "I thought it made me look like a failure as a father."

That began to change after the couple attended a state convention-sponsored orientation for furloughing missionaries. They met Huber Drumwright, the late executive secretary of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, who introduced them to Glen McGriff. Marvin and Beth began to go for counseling.

"I recall telling Dr. McGriff I didn't know how I was going to get one of the boys straightened out and graduated from high school," Marvin recalls. "His observation hauled me up short. He pointed out I could not make those decisions for him; he would have to choose to clean up his act himself."

"That lifted a tremendous burden from my shoulders," Reynolds remembers. "When I went home and told my son, he agreed the decision was indeed his. He did go on to finish high school and a few months later both he and one of his brothers made life-changing commitments to the Lord."

While the boys struggled and faltered, sometimes coming home with friends drunk and belligerent, Marvin and Beth continued counseling and grew personally. "We were asking for prayer everywhere we went, and we became more approachable," Beth notes. "So many of us try to appear perfect and cover up problems."

"If you had told us when we went to the

## National Baptists

### Cooperative ministries

Cooperative Ministries with National Baptists in Arkansas is having one of its best years in the Clinic Teaching and Extension Center Study Programs. Thirty clinics with a combined attendance of over 1,200 persons have been taught in 1986.



Ferguson

James Thrower, Gerald Parker, O. C. Jones, Robert Willingham, Mavis Posey, John Watson and myself have taught the majority of the clinics. Evangelism, Stewardship, Leadership, and Sunday School Outreach are the most popular subjects taught. Often two or three churches cooperate for a clinic and in the Regular Arkansas Baptist State Convention, mini-evangelism conferences are an annual event. Possibly this renewed interest and activity is a result of the jointly sponsored State Evangelism Conference of January 1986.

The Extension Centers are experiencing strong enrollments and attendances. A new center was opened this year at Blytheville which has enlisted 38 ministers and lay persons. Bible study is a popular program in National and Southern Baptist Churches. It is hoped that more adequate preparation by the ministers and laymen will add a dimension of depth to the program.

Our efforts at Cooperative Ministries are only surface attempts in a sea of opportunities. Most communities in Arkansas where National and Southern Baptists reside are in need of cooperative efforts for Christ. Baptists in Arkansas are capable of determining the culture in our state. We need local Baptist church leaders to commit themselves to working together across local church and associational lines to strengthen our witness and permeate the community with our programs. Everyone would benefit and churches would be revived with interest and commitment. There is a blessing from the Lord in new and needed mission efforts. If I can assist you in making your ideas into realities, please call me. We can learn together. — Robert Ferguson, Director

## Woman's Missionary Union

### "Mothers and Daughters Share"

Where could giggles, laughs, and noise be heard above the sound of rain? The place was Camp Paron during the May GA Mother/Daughter Camp. One hundred fifty-two mothers and 1st-3rd grade daughters from 17 churches throughout Arkansas shared in quiet times, mother-daughter talks, crafts, singing, and indoor recreation. One of the favorite things was listening to the missionary speakers, Evelyn Bullington, West Africa, and Lois Cox, Chile.



Glascock

One mother wrote that she appreciated being able to hear missionaries with an "UP" message. Both Evelyn and Lois shared with the mothers and daughters how they were able to witness in their various cultures. Campers learned what their Cooperative Program money and Lottie Moon Offering support in West Africa and Chile. Each missionary shared specific prayer requests. Time was given for the campers to pray for the requests and the missionaries.

In addition to praying, campers responded to the needs mentioned by the missionaries by giving to a missions offering. What would cause mothers to pay to come to spend an overnight at camp with their daughter? The necessity of building a Christian relationship, the opportunity to have uninterrupted time, the challenge of something fun, a concern for missions, and wanting to grow together are some of the reasons mothers participate in GA Mother/Daughter Camp.

Only God knows what the time taken to pray and read His Word together will mean in the future of that child. The enjoyment of God's creation, even in the rain, is a blessing He provides in the GA Mother/Daughter Camp setting. I am grateful to each mother who sacrificed the time, financial resources, and family responsibilities to participate in the May 16-17 GA Mother/Daughter Camp. I appreciate those dads who took care of things at home that allowed for those to attend.

If you would like the experience of GA Mother/Daughter Camp with your daughter, consider attending the July 11-12 camp. Information is available from the WMU Office, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203.—Pat Glascock, GA/Mission Friends director

mission field that this could happen to our sons, I would not have believed it," Marvin declares. "Many missionary kids sail right through growing up in a different culture," Beth notes.

Because the Reynolds could remain on leave of absence only two years and the boys' problems continued, they made the decision to resign from missionary appointment in 1982. Marvin already was working, because missionaries get no salary while on leave of absence. Now he had to look for a place of service for a longer term.

Reynolds recalls he explained the situation regarding problems with his sons when he was interviewed by the executive committee of Black River Association in northeast Arkansas before they hired him as director of missions.

"I felt total honesty was the best policy," he says. Many people in the association have continued to pray for the family, and Marvin says he is very thankful.

"Our sons are now maturing, responsible young men of whom we are very proud," the Reynolds say.

Not all kids go through these problems, the couple notes, but they do hope full-time church workers and laypersons will understand it is all too common among all types of families.

The Reynolds credit the prayers of others, as well as counseling, for getting them through the struggle. They also advocate "tough love" and have leaned on the support of their extended family and an abiding conviction the Lord would be with them.

"We are aware there are other families out there with similar situations," Marvin emphasizes. He thinks pastors and laypeople alike need to be open to dealing honestly with human imperfection and seek help when they need it.

Reynolds realizes one counselor cannot begin to help all the hurting families, but he says he knows there are many other Christian counselors available.

He offers hope to families in crisis, especially child-rearing difficulties. "It's not the end of the world," he proclaims, "if you deal honestly with it."

"We found out through this that Christian support is more valuable than money," Beth explains. Maybe that's why she was asked to serve on the committee that helps direct the support Arkansas Baptists provide their workers—the Ministry of Crisis Support.

Betty Kennedy is a former managing editor of the Arkansas Baptist News-magazine.

## Music Music Arkansas

Music Arkansas is an exciting week of musical training and performance for both youth and adults scheduled for July 28 to

August 1 on the beautiful campus of Ouachita Baptist University. This is the 34th consecutive year for this special week of musical activities sponsored by the Music Department of the ABSC.

Let me emphasize that it is designed for adults as well as

youth. Music training at all skill levels will be offered by a competent faculty of church staff and university faculty. Check with your music director for more complete details, which are in his minister of music handbook.

Our emphasis this year is on DRAMA. We are happy to have Reverend Everett Robertson from the Recreation Department

in Nashville as our camp pastor and drama emphasis leader. Ev is well known for his expertise in traditional and contemporary drama techniques, and we are indeed fortunate to have him lead our worship services and direct our drama activities.

Dr. Charles Wright and Theresa Trull will be our choral conductors. Senior high youth and adults will learn "Praise! Celebrating God's Greatness" under Dr. Wright's direction. Junior high youth will learn "Walk in Love" directed by Miss Trull. Both of these works will be performed on Friday afternoon.

We also have a strong instrumental emphasis at camp. The band will be directed by Craig Hamilton. Let me urge both adult and youth campers to bring their instruments and plan to be a part of the band this year. They will learn a challenging program and present it on Friday afternoon.

Plan to make Music Arkansas a part of your learning experience this summer. — **Ervin Keathley, State Music Secretary**



## Missions Who cares?

WEE care! Weekday Early Education cares about the 200,000 preschool children of Arkansas. The parents of almost 6,200



Washington

Arkansas children have entrusted 78 Southern Baptist churches with the responsibility of caring for their children through activities such as Day Care and Mothers Day Out. Thus these churches plus those who have kindergartens have had the opportunity of sharing the love and message of Christ as well as the entree into their homes.

The WEE Workshop is scheduled for July 31-August 1 at Lifeline Baptist Church in Little Rock. In addition to training, workers will be challenged to look at Weekday Early Education as a ministry of the church and as means to the end desire of being the church. The 1986 workshop will offer three additional features. A panel of preschool workers will discuss issues and concerns WEE workers encounter daily. The Idea Fair will give individual churches an opportunity to brag about their programs. The directors conference will separate workers into two groups — one for experienced workers and one for inexperienced workers.

Pastors, these WEE workers come in contact with more lost or unchurched parents and children than any other group in your church. Please make it possible for your WEE workers to be trained and motivated. If your church does not have a WEE ministry this workshop would be an excellent way of learning its potential in ministry to children and their parents. Registration procedures and cost is available through the Missions Department or the Sunday School Department [376-4791]. — **Jack Washington, Church and Community Ministries Director**

## Christian Life Council The Christian Civic Foundation of Arkansas, Inc.

It isn't too early to put the Christian Civic Foundation in your church or associational budget if this has not already been done.



Parker

Many among Arkansas Baptists have done so. Along with Methodists, Assemblies of God, Nazarenes, Freewill Baptists and other churches and individuals, Arkansas Baptists are a vital part of this important needed organization.

The director of the Christian Life Council serves as liaison between the Arkansas Baptist State Convention and the Christian Civic Foundation. There has always been a close effective working relationship between the two. A good illustration of this would be the successful effort in defeating the casino gambling effort. The issue of state operated lottery/gambling looms large as an issue in the future. Pastors and teachers in all our churches should begin now teaching about the deadly efforts of gambling. Though not mentioned as such in the Bible, indirectly

such unnecessary risks are opposed in principle because of the especially tragic effects on the poor, widows, orphans and the oppressed of society. The Christian Life Council and all thinking and compassionate Christians of Arkansas are urged to begin studying and praying for wisdom and power to defeat any extension of gambling in the "natural state."

The Christian Civic Foundation under the able leadership of John Finn, the Executive Secretary, has been especially effective in combating the menace of pornography in Little Rock and Arkansas. He has written a booklet, THE SMUT BUSTERS, that has helped a number of communities in dealing with a problem which like alcohol and other dangerous drugs contributes to such tragic problems as wife and child abuse.

Dr. Don Moore, the Executive Director of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, along with several other Arkansas denominational leaders, is on the executive committee of the Christian Civic Foundation. He gives strong support to it. — **Robert Parker, Director**



## Student ministries

### Summer missionaries, Going and Growing

The 1986 Summer Missionaries have been selected, appointed, and are on their way to their assignments. Some are assigned



Sims

to serve here in Arkansas, just a few miles from their home towns. Others will travel hundreds or thousands of miles to assignments in states across the country, in Alaska and Hawaii and overseas to Brazil. Dozens of others will serve in Home Mission Board areas. Whether near or far, these young people are giving a portion of their life in dedicated service to the Lord.

The sacrifice of those who go and serve is obvious. They have given up opportunities for lucrative summer jobs. They are

sacrificing time that may have been spent in family vacations and in fellowship with friends. But there has been other sacrifice involved in their going to serve.

BSUers all over Arkansas have given money saved from their allowances or earned in low-paying part time jobs so that others might go and serve. Students have sacrificed time from busy schedules to wash cars, rake yards, and do other menial tasks to earn money for Summer Missions. Donations have also come from music and drama teams who gave of their talents in support of those who go out this summer.

Much sacrifice has been invested, but the dividends will be great as well. Over the years, students who served in Summer Missions have planted seeds of the gospel in communities where there are no evangelical churches and in lives where Jesus has never been known. They have been hands and feet as well as voices to go and tell. They

have brought new energy to exhausted pastors and missionaries and eyes with new vision to analyze the tasks.

Returns from sacrificial investment are not all to be seen on the mission field. What about the students who find God's call to church vocations or a life of mission service while serving as summer missionaries? Committed laymen have discovered talents and skills for the Lord's service in their home community as a result of a summer of going and giving. Sacrificial giving has taught lessons in stewardship that will last for a lifetime. There is no way to estimate the growth in the faith of those who have prayed for students and seen their prayers fulfilled.

Student summer missionaries are going, and they are growing. Pray that God's blessings will fall on all who are involved in Summer Missions. — **George E. Sims, Associate BSU Director**

## Missions

### Day camp for

### International children

"Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world..." On Monday, July 28, children representing nations from

around the globe will converge on Lake Nixon for a week of day camping and Bible study. Children of Internationals, age 8-13, are invited to participate during this week of swimming, outdoor games, singing, Bible stories, crafts, refreshments and fun! There are

only fifty spaces and they will fill quickly. The registration fee of \$5 is due upon registration. For more information, contact Randal Cash, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203 (376-4791), or the Friendship International Program, Pulaski Heights Baptist Church, 2200 Kavanaugh Boulevard, Little Rock, AR 72205 (662-1129).

In addition to the children's camp, "Friendship" will hold their annual picnic at the same time (Friday, August 1, 5:00-7:30) at Lake Nixon. Each family will need to bring its own food. Drinks are to be provided. Come and plan to swim or just visit. — **Randal Cash**

## Stewardship/Annuity

### Money management seminars

The Stewardship/Annuity Department is sponsoring two money management seminars, July 14-15.



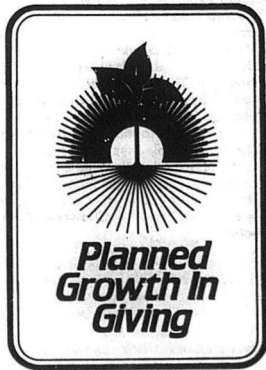
Walker

Grand Avenue Baptist Church, Fort Smith, will host the first seminar on July 14. The second seminar is set for the Baptist Building in Little Rock on July 15. Both seminars will start at 9:30 a.m.

Dr. John Morgan, pastor of the Sagemont Baptist Church in Houston, Texas, will direct the seminars. Dr. Morgan has developed materials on Financial Freedom and is in demand as a conference leader.

The seminars are designed for pastors, ministers of education and other staff members. Participants in the seminars will experience a sharpening of skills in personal money management. The seminars will model local church seminars conducted by pastors and other staff members. Concepts shared at the seminars will deepen stewardship convictions and assist in planning for the future.

There are no registration fees and reservations are not necessary. — **James A. Walker, director**



## Evangelism Growing in Christ

We have had a large number of people come to know Jesus as a result of the Good News America Revivals. They have followed the pattern of the New Testament found in Acts 2:41, "they gladly received the word". The new Christian is exhorted to grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus.



Shell

This poses the question, "How did Jesus grow?" In Luke 2:52, he stated, "And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man". Jesus grew intellectually as stated by the word wisdom. Jesus grew physically as is expressed by stature. Jesus grew spiritually as He was consistently in favor with God. Jesus grew socially as he found favor with man. This is a beautiful pattern for Christians today.

The New Testament Christians were consistent in unity. They were together. They physically came together to share with one another and share with God. They were in one accord. They were together mentally, emotionally and spiritually. There is tremendous strength in unity.

The New Testament Christians were committed to worship. They were in the temple praising God. Worship is our response to God's revelation of himself. Worship is the conscious outgoing of our soul in spiritual fellowship with God. Every born again believer needs to come to God's house to meet God and share in the beautiful experience of worship.

The New Testament Christians were also concerned for the lost. The Bible says they had favor with all people. They were very much concerned about building witnessing relationships. This is critically important for our new Christians to build relationships with family, friends and fellow citizens that they might be able to share the Good News of Christ. The Bible says, "The Lord added to the church daily". What a beautiful success story to see people coming to Jesus day by day. Our prayer is, "Oh God, may it be so in our day". — Clarence Shell, director

## Postlude to MOM

Reports coming in from those who participated in our "Musicians on Mission" project in April are full of excitement. More than forty Music Men and Singing Women traveled to Wichita for the presentation of "2000 A.D.: A Challenge to Witness" to open the workshop there. Reports indicate that every part of the workshop was helpful, but I think Greg Buchanan, a harpist from California, was everyone's favorite. So much so that five of our men got together and invited him to their churches for concerts later that month.

Typical of the reports I am receiving about the revivals which followed the workshop is this excerpt from Eloise Grimes and Laura Collier from Newport. They served at Calvary Baptist Church, Ellinwood, Kansas, where Casey Borger pastors a congregation of forty to fifty people.

Eloise wrote, "The highlight of the ministry in which Laura and I were involved at Calvary Baptist would have to be the six professions of faith and the rededications made." She went on to say, "One nine-year-old girl sang a solo for the first time at the revival. They plan to get a children's choir started soon with the materials we left them."

Musicians on Mission will be a major emphasis for us through the 1990's. I would encourage every church to discover how they might get involved by sharing their musical talents with some struggling congregation or some new work in their association, state, or even beyond. — Ervin Keathley, State Music Secretary

## Musicians on Mission



-That All May Hear  
1985-1990

## "Share Time"

The Associational "Share Time", for volunteer/part time music directors, is a new program of the Church Music Department that is geared to bring the Church Music Department staff to your association for an evening of unstructured discussion and fellowship. The "Share Time" is scheduled in cooperation with the Associational Director of Missions and Music Director and offers opportunities for "viewing helps from BTN, listening to new music, individual helps, approaches to worship and program materials. The fellowship provides for a stronger bond of relationships with other church music leaders in the association.

A "Share Time" has been held in the following associations: Delta, White River and Little River. A total of 25 leaders have participated, representing twelve churches.

If you are a volunteer/part time music leader, plan to attend when a "Share Time" is scheduled in your association. It will be rewarding. — Glen Ennes, Music Department Associate

## Celebrate!



Today's children...  
tomorrow's leaders.

"And a little child shall lead them" (Isa. 11:6).

PRECIOUS IN HIS SIGHT!

CELEBRATE LANGUAGE MISSIONS DAY - AUGUST 10, 1986



**July 1-3, Girls in Action Mini Camp.** Camp Paron. Missions education, challenge and inspiration for girls in grades one through four and their leaders and mothers. New alternative to longer resident camping. Arkansas WMU sponsors the camp.

## Next month in Arkansas: July

**July 7-11, Girls in Action Camp.** Paron. Annual event to educate, inspire and challenge girls in grades four through six about missions. Former state GA director Debbie Moore will be the missionary speaker.

**July 7-11, Arkansas Baptist Assembly, Siloam Springs.** Fourth week of camping for older children, youth and adults.

**July 9-11, GA Mini Camp, Paron.** Second of two shortened sessions for GAs in grades one through four and their leaders and/or mothers.

**July 11-12, GA Mother-Daughter**

**Camp, Paron.** Missions education, inspiration and challenge plus enhancement of mother-daughter relationships. Arkansas WMU sponsors the camp for girls in grades one through three and their mothers.

**July 13-23, Pioneer RA Mission Action Project.** Grayling, Mich. Boys in grades 10 through 12 will work with a pastor at a state RA Camp. Brotherhood Department is the sponsor.

**July 14, Money Management for Ministers.** Concord Association office, Fort Smith. Pastors and church staff members will be trained in principles of money management so they can lead seminars in their churches. Related to SBC emphasis on strengthening families by helping to avoid financial problems. Annuity / Stewardship Department is the sponsor of this first-time event.

**July 15, Money Management for Ministers.** Baptist Building, Little Rock. Second of two seminars.

**July 14-18, Super Summer '86.** Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia. State Evangelism Department sponsors this first-time event for senior and college age youth and

leaders. The event provides intensive evangelism / discipleship training.

**July 14-18, Girls in Action Camp.** Paron. Second of two camps for fourth through six grade girls.

**July 14-18, Arkansas Baptist Assembly, Siloam Springs.** Fifth of seven weeks of camping for older children, youth and adults.

**July 21-25, Arkansas Baptist Assembly, Siloam Springs.** Sixth of seven weeks of camping.

**July 28-August 1, Arkansas Baptist Assembly, Siloam Springs.** Last of seven weeks of camping.

**July 28-August 1, Music Arkansas.** Ouachita Baptist University at Arkadelphia. Annual event for youth and adults, providing training in choral and instrumental music, plus drama. The state Church Music Department sponsors the camp.

**July 31-August 1, Weekday Early Education Workshop, Little Rock, Lifeline Church.** Annual training event for workers in church day care and mothers' day out centers. State Sunday School and Missions Departments are the sponsors.

## August

**August 3, On To College Day**

**August 4-7, RA Pioneer National Congress, Memphis, Tenn.**

**August 8-9, Church Training Pastor-Director Retreat, Camp Paron**

**August 9, Volunteer/Part-time Music Leader Retreat, First Church, Smackover**

**August 14-15, Children's Choir**

**Leader Workshop, Geyer Springs First Church, Little Rock**

**August 15-16, DiscipleYouth I & II.** Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia

**August 15-16, Associational WMU Officers' Retreat, Camp Paron**

**August 22-23, Volunteer/Part-time Music Leader Retreat, Southern Baptist**

**College, Walnut Ridge**

**August 22-23, Associational Church Training Leadership Conference, Park Hill Church, North Little Rock**

**August 26, Worship Planning Seminar, Calvary Church, Little Rock**

**August 29-September 1, Single Adult Labor Day Weekend, Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, North Carolina**

## September

**September 4, Church WMU Training Day, Immanuel Church, Little Rock**

**September 4-5, Furloughing Missionaries Orientation, Baptist Building, Little Rock**

**September 5-7, Fall Arkansas Campers on Mission Rally**

**September 6, Baptist Youth Day, Magic Springs, Hot Springs**

**September 8, Bi-vocational and Small Church Evangelism Conference, Union Ave. Church, Wynne**

**September 8, College Concern Conference, Henderson State University, Arkadelphia**

**September 8, WMU, Brotherhood, Annuity/Stewardship Area Conferences, First Church, Monticello**

**September 9, Bi-vocational and Small Church Evangelism Conference, First Church, Mt. Ida**

**September 9, College Concern Conference, Arkansas State University,**

**Jonesboro**

**September 9-10, WMU, Brotherhood, Annuity/Stewardship Area Conferences, First Church, Hope**

**September 11, Bi-vocational and Small Church Evangelism Conference, East Side Church, Mt. Home**

**September 11, College Concern Conference, University of Central Arkansas, Conway**

**September 11, WMU, Brotherhood, Annuity/Stewardship Area Conferences, First Church, Mena**

**September 15, WMU, Brotherhood, Annuity/Stewardship Area Conferences, Eastside Church, Ft. Smith**

**September 16-17, WMU, Brotherhood, Annuity/Stewardship Area Conferences, First Church, Bentonville**

**September 18, WMU, Brotherhood, Annuity/Stewardship Area Conferences, First Church, Mt. Home**

**September 19-20, CPA Pastors/Wives**

**Retreat, Petit Jean State Park**

**September 19-20, Small Sunday School Workshop, Arkansas Assembly, Siloam Springs**

**September 21-28, Season of Prayer for State Missions and Dixie Jackson Offering**

**September 22, Music Men Concert, Second Church, Monticello**

**September 22-26, Senior Adult Chautauqua, Glorieta Baptist Conference Center, New Mexico**

**September 26-27, State Sunday School Conference, North Little Rock**

**September 29, WMU, Brotherhood, Annuity/Stewardship Area Conferences, East Side Church, Paragould**

**September 30, WMU, Brotherhood, Annuity/Stewardship Area Conferences, First Church, West Memphis**



# Arkansans elected to offices during pre-convention meetings

## Pastors

ATLANTA (BP)—Some 20,000 preachers from across the Southern Baptist Convention heard messages exploring dimensions of the nature of Jesus Christ and elected Georgia pastor Nelson Price as president at the two-day Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference, June 8-9.

Adrian Rogers of Memphis, Tenn., emphasized at the opening session of the Pastors' Conference that the house of Christianity stands firmly on the virgin birth of Jesus Christ.

"If you do not accept the virgin birth of Jesus Christ, you have some real problems," declared Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Church. "If you don't believe in the virgin birth, then you will have difficulty with Mary, Jesus Christ, the Word of God and your own character. I wouldn't give you half a hallelujah for your chances in heaven if you don't believe in the virgin birth."

Price, who preached on "The Name of

from Baptist Press sources

should be concerned with the person of Christ, not the event of the second coming: "The one who invaded history 2,000 years ago will conclude history some day. We have the promise of a literal second coming because he had a literal birth, life, death and resurrection."

Speakers throughout the conference, including former SBC President Bailey Smith of Oklahoma City, emphasized the validity of the Bible as the Word of God and urged pastors to apply its teachings to their lives and ministries.

David Ring, evangelist from St. Charles, Mo., who has cerebral palsy, challenged the crowd to make themselves available to Jesus, without concern for the abilities they may or may not possess. "Don't whine, but shine for Jesus," he urged. "Don't tell me God can't change lives. I have cerebral palsy. What's your problem?"

## R.E.

ATLANTA (BP)—About 600 religious educators tackled the issue of how to handle diversity, examined the model of servant leadership and rallied around the theme, "It Takes Us All," at the 31st annual meeting of the 1,700-member Southern Baptist Religious Education Association June 7-9.

Diversity in the Southern Baptist Convention is nothing new, and only those who do not know Baptist history say the opposite, Walter Shurden, professor at Mercer University in Macon, Ga., told the religious educators.

"The Peace Committee told us what we already knew and have known for years—that there is theological diversity in the Southern Baptist Convention," said Shurden. He said diversity in theological emphases and in worship styles is part of Southern Baptists' heritage.

Looking at "the risks of servant leadership," Robert Fulbright, minister of Christian education at Kirkwood Church in Kirkwood, Mo., noted risks of shared responsibility, vulnerability and maintaining a balance between a healthy self-concept and a humble servant position.

Joel Gregory, pastor of Travis Avenue Church in Fort Worth, Texas, reminded religious educators that while they live in an age of religious superstars and a time that places emphasis on highly visible gifts, the New Testament says the long march of persevering service is the larger gift.

During the business session, the religious educators elected as president Lloyd Householder, communications director for the Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn. They chose as president-elect Irena Bennett, minister of education and youth; Evans Church, Evans, Ga.

Other officers chosen were vice-president,

Jerry Chiles, minister of education, First Church, Carrollton, Ga.; western vice-president, David Strawn, minister of education, Plymouth Park Church, Irving, Texas; central vice-president, Willard Zeiser, program coordinator, Missouri Baptist Convention, Jefferson City, Mo.; eastern vice-president, Diane Smith, consultant, Virginia Baptist Board, Richmond, Va.; and assistant secretary, Bob Thompson, church development consultant, St. Louis Metro Associations, St. Louis, Mo.

Re-elected were secretary-treasurer, Joe Haynes, consultant, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.; and executive director, Elaine Dickson, president, Life Transitions Inc., Brentwood, Tenn.

## Church music

ATLANTA, June 9—Members of the Southern Baptist Church Music Conference celebrated their 30th anniversary, took special note of the 100th anniversary of Baptist songwriter B.B. McKinney and heard a series of challenges regarding the personal development and enrichment of the church musician.

Almost 700 church musicians registered for the three-day conference held at Wieuca Road Church preceding the Southern Baptist Convention.

W. Hines Sims, retired secretary of the

(BP) photo by John Swain



SBC ATLANTA

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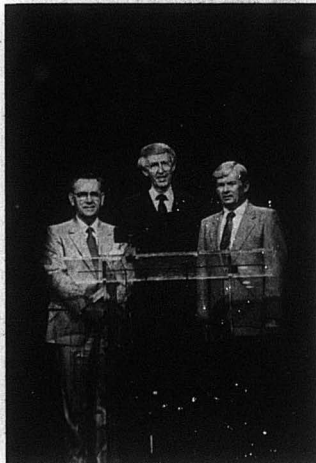
Jesus," was elected without opposition to succeed Morris Chapman, pastor of First Church of Wichita Falls, Texas, as president. Price is pastor of Roswell Street Church, Marietta, Ga.

Thomas A. Hinson, pastor of First Church of West Memphis, Ark., was elected vice-president. Richard Blair, pastor of Trinity Church in Fort Worth, Texas, was elected secretary-treasurer.

Only passing reference was made during the two-day conference to the strife Southern Baptists have undergone in the debate between "fundamental-conservatives" and "moderate-conservatives."

"Many of you may have come to Atlanta with the cry down deep in your hearts, 'Is there any hope for my convention, for my church, for my ministry, for my marriage, for me?'" said James Reimer, pastor of Second Church, Springfield, Mo.

Jerry Vines, co-pastor of First Church of Jacksonville, Fla., preached on the literal return of Jesus Christ. He said Christians



Thomas A. Hinson (left), pastor of West Memphis First Church, was elected vice-president of the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference.

church music department of the Baptist Sunday School Board, called McKinney, who died in a 1952 automobile accident, "the greatest Christian I have ever known."

Sims said McKinney "had a burning desire to give the churches he loved a song of love, hope and peace" which "constituted a legacy that will live in the lives of thousands who knew him, who sang under his direction, who sing his songs today and who, because he lived, have the eternal song of redemption in their hearts."

McKinney also was remembered by Robert Hastings, editor emeritus of the *Illinois Baptist*, Springfield, Ill., and William J. Reynolds, associate professor of church music at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

Donald Winters, dean emeritus of the School of Music at William Carey College, Hattiesburg, Miss., was honored with the W. Hines Sims Award, the organization's highest award honoring one "who exemplifies the church musician in every area."

The 1987 officers include Hugh T. McElrath, professor of church music, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., president; Nancy Blair, assistant to the minister of music and organist, Briarlake Church, Decatur, Ga., vice-president, local church division; Don McCall, associate, church music department, Baptist General Convention of Texas, Dallas, vice-president, denominational division; A. Joseph King, professor of music, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, vice-president, educational division; Mary June Tabor, assistant, department of church music, Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City, secretary-treasurer, and Paul Hammond, School of Music, Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Ark., editor of publications.

## Forum

ATLANTA (BP)—The third annual SBC Forum began and ended June 9 with appeals for a return to the "Baptist hallmark" of freedom of biblical interpretation.

Norman Cavender, a Georgia layman, opened the meeting at the Omni in Atlanta with a promise that Southern Baptists will never abandon their hard-won liberty to read and interpret the Bible for themselves, despite the efforts of "fundamental-conservative" leaders.

"The sad truth is the bell of liberty in the Baptist Hall has been broken," he said. "We're drifting toward authoritarianism over the total of the Southern Baptist faith."

Later closing speaker James Flammig of Richmond, Va., urged Baptists not to make claims about the Bible that the Bible does not claim for itself.

In recent years, Flammig said, Baptists have become "divided over words never

found in the Bible. Our attitudes do not mirror the attitudes of our Lord. We give little indication that we will return to the basic biblical principles of repentance, forgiveness, trust and love."

Other speakers at the Forum were R. Keith Parks, president of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Richmond; Bill Sherman, pastor of Woodmont Church, Nashville, Tenn.; and Carolyn Weatherford, executive director of Woman's Missionary Union, Birmingham, Ala.; Herbert R. Reynolds, president of Baylor University, was unable to speak due to illness.

Charles Wade, pastor of First Church, Arlington, Texas, and Forum chairman, said he was "elated" with the attendance and with the themes addressed by the five speakers to the crowd of an estimated 5,000.

"I've heard themes I haven't heard in Baptist pulpits since I was a boy," Wade said. One of those themes, he said, was "Baptists as a people of freedom. You can put a Baptist and a Bible together and build a church as long as you trust that Baptist as a priest before God. But you have to trust, and that's what we've been missing in recent years in Baptist life."

In a standing vote, the audience asked the Forum's program committee to bring a plan to next year's meeting to perpetuate the meeting on an annual basis.

## Ministers' wives

ATLANTA (BP)—Being physically fit is "the second most important thing in the world," Millie Cooper of Dallas told more than 600 ministers' wives June 10 at their annual luncheon in Atlanta.

1987 officers of the SBC Ministers' Wives Conference include Corresponding Secretary Shirley Moore of Little Rock (right), wife of Arkansas Baptist State Convention Executive Director Don Moore.



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Cooper is the wife of Kenneth Cooper, founder of the Aerobic Center in Dallas, a noted author and lecturer on physical fitness.

Although relationship to Jesus Christ is primary, fitness is essential for sustaining ministry, she said. "We cannot be indifferent about either one. It is time American women get out of the leg warmer and leotard mentality. Aerobics is not just putting on leotards and working out to music."

The purpose of exercising, she said, is "not getting over the finish line first but stopping to pick someone up. You get fit so you can get up and serve."

Officers for 1987 who were elected last year were Mrs. Ted Sisk, Lexington, Ky., president; Mrs. Steve Bonenberger, St. Louis, Mo., vice president; Mrs. Jerry Hayner, Cary, N.C., secretary-treasurer; and Mrs. Don Moore, Little Rock, Ark., corresponding secretary.

## DOMS

ATLANTA (BP)—Ministry without vision never accomplishes all God has intended.

That was the message members of the Southern Baptist Convention of Directors of Missions heard throughout their two-day annual meeting in Atlanta June 8-9.

A vision of God embracing all the people of the world will make a church what it was intended to be, said Keith Parks, president of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

"You have a responsibility heavier than any other single group I know in the Southern Baptist Convention to keep before the churches this vision of reaching out, whether it is next door or around the world," Parks said.

Urging associational leaders to grasp God's vision, Parks warned God never wastes spiritual visions. He explained one reason some people never see visions from God is because God senses their unwillingness to accept those visions.

A vision also will provide a sense of direction, said Frank Pollard, pastor of First Church of Jackson, Miss. "There has never been a denomination that has gone down because of false doctrine," he said, "but rather because of lost purpose." Without that sense of purpose, ministers can become guilty of "the sin of our age," which he described as a "mild, lifeless kind of religion."

A vision also may result in ridicule from others, a director of missions told his

Photo by Stanley Leary



Among officers elected for the Association of Southern Baptist Campus Ministers was (second from left) Arliss Dickerson, Arkansas State University, Jonesboro, president-elect.

colleagues.

"There can be a great deal of pain," said Everett Anthony of the Chicago Metro Association. "They can ridicule you by saying, 'He really isn't Southern Baptist because he doesn't do things the way we always have.' The ridicule and pressure can be tremendous."

New officers for the conference are Carl Duck, Nashville, Tenn., president; Mack Smoke, Baytown, Texas, first vice-president; Paul Camp, Macon, Ga., second vice-president; Maurice Flowers, Laurel, Miss., secretary; Robert Wainwright, Oxford, N.C., treasurer; Everett Anthony, Oak Park, Ill., editor; and Preston Denton, St. Louis, host.

## Baptist Peace Fellowship

ATLANTA, June 9—People of God who justify military might against those of different race and religion are not new, the pastor of one of America's foremost "peace" churches said Monday.

Joseph Roberts, pastor of Ebenezer Church in Atlanta, told 200 gathered for the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America that Jesus had to rebuke his disciples for wanting to call down fire on a village that had refused them hospitality.

The same "naked prejudice" that "justified" the disciples wanting to destroy a village "justifies" America's spending \$1.6 trillion on arms, said Roberts, pastor of the church where Martin Luther King Jr. was pastor during his efforts to integrate America in the 1960s.

Ken Stehsted, executive director of the BPFNA, demonstrated the ambiguity of working for peace and justice in a world that misinterprets motives. He quoted a retired Brazilian cardinal who said, "When I give food to the poor, they call me a saint. When I ask how come the poor have no food, they call me a communist."

Workers for justice will be few, Roberts said. "But there will be a few and the world is waiting... for the sons and daughters of peace to rise up and manifest the spirit of God. And when it's over the people will say 'what took you so long to get here' and God will say 'Well done.'"

Roberts pointed out the willingness of the disciples to call down fire on "someone else's village." He compared that to Americans' willingness to call down fire on "other" villages like Grenada and Nicaragua.

While many fear international terrorism, Roberts said blacks must fear "domestic terror."

"I must worry about the Order of God, the New Nazis and the Ku Klux Klan made up of men who wear Brooks Brothers suits by day and sheets by night," he said.

## Evangelists

ATLANTA, June 11—SBC President Charles Stanley thanked Southern Baptist evangelists Wednesday for "hanging in there and punching their ballots" during Tuesday's elec-

tions at the Southern Baptist Convention and urged attendance at the Wednesday night session of the annual meeting of the 14.4-million-member denomination.

Stanley reminded evangelists attending the Conference of Southern Baptist Evangelists at First Church they "helped turn the tide last year (at the SBC in Dallas).

"It got us in a big lawsuit, but so what?"

Stanley, who was given two standing ovations before and after his brief speech, encouraged evangelists to keep at the center of their preaching "the atoning death of Jesus Christ."

He called the atoning death of Jesus "the heart, core and foundation of everything we believe and preach.

"No denomination ever drifted (from Christ) which held to the belief of the cross," he declared.



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Larry Taylor, an evangelist from San Antonio, Texas, and president of the CSBE, reinforced Stanley's plea to be at Wednesday night's session while encouraging them to be "Christlike" in the coming days and weeks.

"God has given us some sweet victories at this convention. Conservative leadership has assured me it won't be long, through the convention process, before any embarrassing errors in the SBC are gone."

When interviewed later about the "embarrassing errors," Taylor said he referred to any professor that does not teach within the framework of the Baptist Faith and Message.

Taylor said he "personally believes that as our convention, schools and agencies become more conservative, evangelism, Bold Mission Thrust and Cooperative Program giving will flourish like never before in our history."

Officers for the 1987 Conference of Southern Baptist Evangelists include Rudy Hernandez of San Antonio, president; Henry Linginfelter of Alcoa, Tenn., vice-president; Jackson Cox of Milledgeville, Ga., secretary-treasurer; Dick Barrett, Bremen, Ga., music director; Jerry Swimmer, Iuka, Miss., assistant music director, and Ted Moody, Griffin, Ga., pastor advisor.



*J.R. DeBusk, pastor of Augusta First Church, and his wife, Bobbi, arrived early on Monday to register their children, Holly, Rachel and Matt for Day Camp activities sponsored by the SBC Brotherhood Commission.*

## Campus ministers

ATLANTA (BP)—Campus ministers must find the hope of their calling and transmit that hope to students, speakers told about 100 people attending the annual meeting of the Association of Southern Baptist Campus Ministers at Wieuca Road Church.

From the keynote address by seminarian Bill Clemmons to the final message by pastor Peter Rhea Jones, campus ministers were encouraged to celebrate the good things happening in Baptist student work.

Clemmons, professor of spiritual formation at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, told the group to look beyond their busy schedules to find the "deep center" of ministry. He credited student ministries with being on the "cutting edge" of Southern Baptist work, especially in world hunger.

Such good news "may be the best-kept secret in the Southern Baptist Convention," said Frank Cofer, outgoing association president and director of Metro Chicago Student ministries.

The campus minister's mission is to help local churches perceive the campus ministry in a good light, Cofer said. And as more people move into the Southern Baptist Convention from other backgrounds, "we're going to find more people unfamiliar with what BSU is."

Officers elected include Robert Ford, Jr., of Jacksonville, Ala., president; **Arless Dickerson, Jonesboro, Ark.**, president-elect; Sylvan Knobloch, Charleston, Ill., administration vice-president; Adam Hall, Martin, Tenn., membership vice-president; Pam Taylor, Denton, Texas, program vice-president; and Stephen Holloway, New York City, publications vice-president.

## Research Fellowship

ATLANTA (BP)—The Southern Baptist Research Fellowship elected a new slate of officers for two-year terms June 7 in Atlanta.

Donald F. Mabry, Louisiana Baptist Convention missions director, Alexandria, was elected president. Lewis Wingo, research analyst for the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville, Tenn., was named program vice-president and president-elect.

Re-elected as membership chairman was James A. Lowry, denominational statistics specialist with the Sunday School Board. Carol Childress, planning and research consultant for the Baptist General Convention of Texas, Dallas, was named to a second term as awards chairperson.

Chester Davidson, research and planning consultant with the Baptist Association Correlating Committee for the Houston Region, was re-elected secretary-treasurer. Rudy Devon Boan, associate director of the planning and services research department of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board in Atlanta, was named newsletter editor.

## WMU

ATLANTA (BP)—The Woman's Missionary Union refused to become entangled in Southern Baptist Convention politics during its 98th annual meeting here, but the incoming president of the 1.2-million-member organization suggested missionaries as a cure for the denomination's seemingly endless controversies.

"Southern Baptists began because of missions," said former missionary Marjorie Jones McCullough of Alexandria, La., at a press conference following her election as national WMU president. "Any time we get away from missions and the Cooperative Program, then we've hurt ourselves."

The 5,000 participants also celebrated the 150th anniversary of Baptist missions in China and prepared for the 100th anniversary of Southern Baptist missions education for children in 1988. The meeting theme, "What We Yet May Be," called on women to study their heritage as a guide for the future.

The organization elected McCullough as its new president to succeed Sample, who has completed a maximum of five one-year terms. Pattie Dent of Holly Springs, Miss., was elected recording secretary, succeeding Betty Gilreath of Charlotte, N.C.

McCullough, the 14th president of WMU, worked as a Southern Baptist missionary in Nigeria, Ghana and Brazil. She is the widow of Glendon McCullough, the late Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission leader.



*An unused corner in the display center was used by (left to right) Joe Stacker, BSSB Director of Church Administration, James Barry, BSSB consultant in Church Administration, Julius Thompson, Mississippi Baptist State Convention church administration consultant, and Bob Holley, Arkansas Baptist State Convention Church Training director and church administration consultant, to continue preparation plans for a Mid-South Conference for Preaching to be held in Memphis May 11-13, 1987.*

## Adapting ministries reaches commuter students

PORTLAND, Ore. (BP)—Cooperation between church and campus ministers is crucial for reaching college students in an area with multiple campuses, leaders of Portland (Ore.) Baptist Student Ministries have found.

With 17 campuses in the Portland area, student ministers have found success by focusing on reaching students through the churches as well as on the campuses.

The design for a church-based ministry to students as a way to reach commuting students living in a metropolitan area was written by Sam Fort, Northwest Baptist Convention student director.

"Saying you are church-based helps focus on the church. The cooperation and planning will help diminish the friction between churches and campus organizations," explained Otey Enoch, director of Baptist Student Ministries for the Greater Portland Baptist Association.

The Portland program has been singled out as a model by national student ministries of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board for involving churches and campuses together in student ministries.

The plan focuses on area-wide activities that can be promoted on each campus and in all area churches involving students from all campuses even though many of the campuses do not have Baptist Student Unions.

Students identify with the student ministries organization and local churches. They remain involved when they move from community colleges to larger campuses in the same area, said Lynn Bright, who has been involved in Portland student ministries while attending a community college and

now at Portland State University.

A Baptist student ministries council plans activities and serves many of the functions of a traditional Baptist Student Union council, Enoch said.

The Portland plan is not unique, Enoch added. It is a church-based ministry to students not unlike what he saw as a student at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater.

Enoch works with pastors in the association as well as with students—often spending more time with pastors than with students. Meanwhile, Skip Wallace, assistant student ministries director, works with students, leading MasterLife discipleship groups and Bible studies and coordinating other activities.

While Enoch said he would like to spend more time with students, working with pastors helps them know the objectives of student ministries: "I listen to pastors and what they want to do. Right now I'm helping pastors understand what students can do for their ministry—how they can help students and how students can help them."

Students have assisted in church planting and survey work. Leaders hope they will be involved in teaching and leading in new churches later, he said.

The student ministries council tries to develop activities to help developing churches, said council member Lisa Bateman, adding, "Opportunities to help churches get established are a challenge—it's real mission involvement."

Enoch emphasized the need for students to be involved in a local church: "A student needs to know how to be part of a church."

## missionary notes

**Mr. and Mrs. Jim C. Dillard**, missionaries to Kenya, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: P.O. Box 895, Nyeri, Kenya). He is a native of Tyrone, and she is the former Janet Davis of Owensboro, Ky. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1969.

**Mr. and Mrs. Calvin L. Fox**, missionaries to the Philippines, report a change of address (Box 134, Baguio City 0201, Philippines). He is a native of Gentry, and she is the former Margaret Cotton of Paris. They were appointed to the Foreign Mission Board in 1967.

**Mr. and Mrs. Albert R. Hodges**, missionaries to Burkina Faso, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: Delmar Rt., Harrison, AR 72601). Born in Texas, he lived in Alpena while growing up. The former Karen Atwood, she was born in Paragould. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1978.

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# First-time messenger recommends meeting to all Southern Baptists

by Ray Furr

ATLANTA (BP)—“Every Southern Baptist ought to go to the Southern Baptist Convention at least once,” said a layman attending his first SBC annual meeting in Atlanta this June.

Alan Lyons, a 26-year-old messenger from First Baptist Church of Decatur, Ala., said he came expecting “. . . a knock-down fight, but after being around so many enthusiastic Christians, I came away with my Christian faith renewed.”

“I was amused though, by the nomination speeches. They sounded like announcements at a boxing match. I expected any minute for someone to come to the platform and announce, ‘Here’s Rocky Balboa,’” he smiled.

Lyons admits his mind wasn’t changed by

the speeches: “I read alot about both candidates before the convention and made up my mind to vote for Winfred Moore. But Adrian Rogers is a good man, too. He said he would be fair, and after hearing him preach I believe he is a man of integrity.”

Lyons said he “pulled into Atlanta” prepared to endure long lines and be bombarded with political campaign propaganda. But neither materialized.

He and two friends arrived June 9 expecting to spend six hours in registration, which to his amazement took 10 minutes.

The Alabama layman and his friends decided to capitalize on the time saved at registration by mapping their route through the Georgia World Congress Center to their seats.

“We found the seats we wanted and figured out the fastest way to get to them, he said.

But again the crowd wasn’t as bad as he anticipated. “We arrived at 7:15 on Tuesday morning (June 10), expecting the crowd to be massive. And it was. But everything was so well organized that we were in our seats by 8:30.”

Lyons said he was most impressed with the cordiality of the people. “People I had never seen were introducing themselves to me. We were talking to one another like we had been friends for years,” he said.

Lyons admitted he didn’t know much about the denomination before the convention, and that he still doesn’t know as much as he should. But he feels the convention was very informative.

“I had no idea we were doing so much ministry as a denomination,” he said. “I had never heard of the Christian Life Commission or the Executive Committee. I figure I knew about 20 percent of what the denomination is doing. I think I increased that about 10 percent listening to all the reports.”

But some of the business sessions were confusing, he admitted.

“There were resolutions and motions that I never did understand. Maybe I will have a better understanding after I return home and read the *Alabama Baptist*,” he said.

He noted his favorite parts of the program were the music and the mission reports: “My church is a strong supporter of missions. It is exciting to see how our mission offerings are spent for the glory of God.”

Lyons revealed he was raised a Southern Baptist but it wasn’t until this year that he decided to become involved in the convention. And it took some real desire on his part to leave his wife and two-week-old son for four days.

“It was worth coming to the convention. I’m going home determined to learn more about the Southern Baptist Convention and I’m coming back as a veteran messenger,” he insisted.

“No matter what they heard, every Southern Baptist, especially laypeople, ought to come to the Southern Baptist Convention at least once.”

Ray Furr is communications manager for the SBC Annuity Board.

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Sponsored by  
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Morgan

**July 14  
9:30 a.m.  
Grand Avenue Church  
Fort Smith**

**July 15  
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Baptist Building  
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## International

*God's tests of a true prophet*

by S. Mikael Carrier, Nettleton Church, Jonesboro

Basic passage: Jeremiah 23:9-40; 27-28

Focal passage: Jeremiah 23:16-17, 21-22; 28:5-9, 15-16

**Central truth:** A genuine message from God proclaims God's righteous demands, is in harmony with God's revelation, and actually comes to pass.

These passages deal with Jeremiah's intense conflicts with his contemporaries among the prophets. Hananiah was the chief representative of the false prophets who were using God for personal gain and to win favor with the people. Hananiah and his group were masters at reading the times and giving the people what they wanted to hear (28:5-9, 15).

Though the Scripture does not refer to them as such, the "false prophets" with whom Jeremiah was in conflict, claimed that they had heard the word of the Lord when in reality they had not (23:16). Their message was that peace and prosperity were just around the corner, but Jeremiah knew differently (23:17; 28:15).

In our day as in the day of Jeremiah, there is a great deal more to a genuine message from God than simply claiming it to be so.

The criteria for testing the truth claims of both the message and the messenger from God are basically three-fold according to this passage of Scripture. Firstly, the genuine message from God proclaims God's righteous demands. The true prophet possesses and proclaims the highest of moral standards (23:10-11, 14).

Secondly, a genuine message from God is in harmony with God's revelation. Jeremiah reminded the people of the consistency of his message and ministry when compared to previous revelations from God (28:7 & 8). Jeremiah was in good company in proclaiming a message that held the people accountable for their sins (23:23-24, 29-32).

Lastly, a genuine message from God actually comes to pass (see Deuteronomy 13:1-5; 18:20-22 for background). In Jeremiah, we learn that the true prophet of God announces predictions that stand the test of time. The ultimate test of the truthfulness of a prophet's messages that are true and that come true (28:5-9). As with Jeremiah, God always vindicates the true messenger and he always validates the true message whether in time or eternity (28:15-17).

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## Life and Work

*'Victory in Jesus'*

by Bert Thomas, Valley Church, Searcy  
Basic passage: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-17

Focal passage: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-8, 13-15

**Central truth:** Through Jesus believers are assured of victory over evil.

Paul wrote 2 Thessalonians to correct a misunderstanding that still existed about Jesus' Second Coming. Some believers heard that Jesus had returned and were concerned that they and their loved ones had missed it. Naturally they were disturbed. Paul assured them the Lord had not returned, reviewed with them what he taught them concerning the Second Coming, and gave them additional information about it. The passages in 2 Thessalonians 2:3-12 contains this information and are some of the most difficult in the Bible to understand.

The reason for the difficulty is that we do not know all that Paul taught these believers (2 Thessalonians 2:5-6). We do know that Jesus will return, believers will be raptured, and that we will have victory in Jesus.

There is a world of difference between defeat and victory. There is as much difference as light from darkness. They are as opposite from each other as the north pole is from the south pole. What is the difference between defeat and victory? The question should be who is the difference. There can be only one answer. Jesus!

Defeat! This word has haunted mankind since Adam and Eve were driven from the Garden of Eden. Who among us has not felt the full weight of a crushing defeat at one time in our lives? Defeat has many faces. Defeat. What a terrible word! What a hopeless feeling! What a miserable state!

Victory! How sweet his word is to believers! This word has encouraged mankind since God promised victory through the seed of Eve (Gen. 3:15). Victory is the weight of sin lifted from the heart. Victory is the knowledge that the hand of God is moving to correct hopeless conditions. Victory is a broken heart that has been mended by Jesus. Victory is the comfort of knowing ones who died in Jesus are safe with him in his father's house. Victory is knowing Jesus will return for us. Victory! What a wonderful word! What a happy state!

Believers will be safe from the wrath of God on the wicked and are encouraged to stand firm in sound doctrine (vv. 13-15). "This is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith (1 John 5:4).

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## Bible Book

*The Feast of Purim*

by Roy A. Fowler, First Church, Mountain Home

Basic passage: Esther 8:1 to 10:3

Focal passage: Esther 8:4-6a, 10-12; 9:20-23, 26a

**Central truth:** The events that caused the Feast of Purim to be established highlight God's providential care for his people.

We began this last lesson in Esther with the right man in and the wrong man out. Haman the enemy of the Jews has been removed from office and executed. Mordecai has been put in charge of the king's servants and the king's signet ring placed on his finger (8:2).

Haman the enemy was gone, however, his decree had been written in the laws of the Medes and Persians. It could not be retracted. Esther and her people were delivered from the enemy, but they still had the responsibility of petitioning the king to do something about the Jews' death decree. It could not be done away with or changed, however, a new decree could override the first. The king gave Esther and Mordecai permission to write their decree of defense (8:8). The new decree allowed the Jews to band together and defend themselves against anyone that might attack them (8:11). Haman's plan has now reversed.

The date of the Jews' execution had been determined by the casting of Pur (lot or something similar to a dice, 3:7). The lot had fallen on the twelfth month and the thirteenth day (9:1). With the new decree the Jews faced this day with a completely new outlook. They defended themselves, killed their attackers and on the fourteenth day they rested and celebrated with gladness (9:7).

Mordecai then sent letters to the Jews in all the provinces of the king that this was to be a holiday celebrated every year on the fourteenth and fifteenth days of the month Adar (9:20-21). The name of the holiday was called Purim, after the name Pur (9:26). Purim then was the day when death became life, when sorrow was turned to joy, fasting to feasting, and a day of mourning to a holiday. The day of our salvation is our Feast of Purim. It should be celebrated with great joy.

Again, I suggest that the experiences of Esther, Mordecai and their brethren should be a real source of encouragement. Read the book of Esther through completely and remember that the same godly care is being expressed to his children today.

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## International

### Hope for the future

by S. Mikael Carrier, Nettleton Church, Jonesboro

Basic passage: Jeremiah 31

Focal passage: Jeremiah 31:2-6,31-34

**Central truth:** Because of his love, God forgives people who repent of their sins and restores them to a personal relationship with him.

Some scholars have said that this passage in Jeremiah is the single most important teaching in the entire Old Testament. Indeed, it is the central truth of the whole Bible.

This passage had a profound influence on the New Testament writers. It is quoted directly in the Epistle to the Hebrews (He. 8:8-12). It forms the backdrop to Jesus' words when he sat down with his disciples in the Upper Room the night before the crucifixion and said, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you" (Lu. 22:20; see also He. 12:24).

In speaking on the subject of the new covenant that God would "cut" with Israel (31:31-34, see also Ex. 34), Jeremiah paints for us one of the great portraits of the love of God available in the divine revelation. The announcement of the new covenant is found in the larger context of material known by some interpreters as a "Book of Consolation" (chapters 30-33).

These chapters constitute a trumpet note of hope and certainty arising out of the midst of deepest despair and distress. The key verse in the passage is 31:3 where God says, "... I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you." Behind the darkness and the distress is the everlasting love of God.

This everlasting love, which is the ultimate basis of the New Covenant is much greater than we can imagine (Ep. 3:17b-19a). The message of the new covenant is that because of this vast love which is beyond dimension, God forgives people who will turn from their sins to trust the one who has made the necessary arrangements and he restores them to a personal relationship with him (Jer. 31:34b; Heb. 12:23b-24).

That is the new covenant. The writer of the book of Hebrews calls it "the new and living way" (Heb. 10:19-20). It is something that God does—something that he does for us, something that he does inside of us in our hearts, one by one, in the forgiveness of sins.

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## Life and Work

### Christians and government

by Sid Carswell, Crystal Hill Church, Little Rock

Basic passage: Matthew 22:15-22; 1 Peter 2:13-17; Acts 4:1-31; Romans 13:1-7

Focal passage: Matthew 22:17-21; 1 Peter 2:13-17; Acts 4:18-20

**Central truth:** Christians are responsible both to God and to government and may have to decide between these two allegiances.

Taxation without representation was a major issue in the American revolution. Most of the people never seemed to question the wisdom of paying taxes. The question revolved around who had the right to collect taxes. Who had the right to spend them?

The Bible has a clear answer to both questions. Jesus told the Pharisees that the money made by Caesar belonged to Caesar. He told the Pharisees Caesar had a right to collect taxes. The people had an obligation to pay them. Paul tells us the government is the minister of God. When we support the government we support God (Rom. 13:6-7).

Paul was not naive. He knew all was not right in the Roman system. It approved the death of Jesus. They wasted much of the income with wasteful lifestyles. But Paul knew poor government is better than no government. If there were no government we would have no rights.

The Bible teaches obedience to civil laws. It further teaches obedience to God's law. God's law is superior to the laws of men. Peter knew this. He was ordered not to speak or teach in the name of Jesus. He refused to obey the order. He knew it might cost his life. He was willing to take the risk.

There will be times in every nation when the laws of men come into conflict with our understanding of the Word of God. Christians in totalitarian countries have given their lives in support of their faith.

We have a unique privilege in our country. We choose the people who make the laws. At times we even vote on the laws. Responsible citizens participate in the law-making process. This may be done by voting, by picketing, by writing letters to law-makers and providing information to voters.

The question arises, can we be responsible citizens of the United States and the Kingdom of God? The Bible answer to this is "yes" most of the time. It clearly teaches, however, that when the laws of the nation conflict with the laws of God we must obey God.

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## Bible Book

### Judgment on Edom

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

Basic passage: Obadiah 1:21

Focal passage: Obadiah 1-4,8-10,13-17

**Central truth:** God holds us responsible for our attitudes and actions toward others.

Does where you live cause you to look down on others? Does your family heritage cause you to have hard feelings toward distant relatives? Do you do things to hurt people you don't like? Do you have an idea you can keep feeling and doing as you do without any severe consequences? If you should see yourself in the Bible, would you make any changes?

The shortest book of the Old Testament, Obadiah, carries a knock-out blow to pride and arrogance. It is addressed to Edom, the descendants of Esau. They lived high on a mountain of rock that they felt to be impregnable. So they felt safe and secure.

Where we live and the conditions under which we live can give us a sense of pride. This may bring self-deception. We begin to believe we are more powerful and important than others. This becomes very dangerous.

Our beliefs begin to reflect themselves in our actions toward other people. Edom took sides with the enemies of Judah and aided in their defeat. They ignored the fact that they are not only fellow human beings but they were also relatives.

Because God is good and requires us to do good to others, he has no choice but bring judgment upon sin. For that reason he declared the destruction of Edom through his prophet Obadiah. No one can escape God.

Sin has a built in consequence (v. 15). When we do things to get even with others we hurt ourselves more than anyone.

On the other hand God will defend and deliver his people. Those who commit their lives to him and his purpose for them can rest assured of his deliverance. God will bring victory to his people through all circumstances. We must continue to trust him and live in his will.

The great challenge of this short book seems to be for us to refrain from evil toward others and to submit our way to God. As with Edom, so with us. We must love and relate properly to others, relatives included. Our behavior should result from a proper relationship to God. It is more than an escape from judgment. It is a positive force of good will toward all people. It stands as a testimony of our faith in God.

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## Proposed bill would counter religious violence

WASHINGTON (BP)—A bill recently introduced before the U.S. House of Representatives would impose criminal penalties for damage to religious property and for injury to persons in the free exercise of religious beliefs.

Rep. Dan Glickman, D-Kan., introduced the bill on behalf of himself and 31 co-sponsors, representing a diversity of political, religious and geographic interests.

"In spite of our nation's willingness to accept and embrace various religions and forms of worship, there remains a minority within our population who see fit to vandalize and destroy religious property and, in the process, to jeopardize the freedom of others to safely practice their religious beliefs," Glickman earlier testified before the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Criminal Justice.

The bill, H.R. 4980, would amend the U.S. Code to impose federal penalties—including

fines up to \$15,000 and prison sentences up to life—on persons who "deface, damage or destroy any religious real property, because of the religious character of that property" or "obstruct, by force or threat of force, any person in the enjoyment of that person's free exercise of religious beliefs."

Glickman said such crimes endanger the ability of Americans freely and safely to practice their religions. He added while such crimes are serious in and of themselves, their infringements on the constitutional right of free exercise of religion makes them even more grievous.

"There have been many reports of acts of vandalism tied to anti-Semitism in this country, but such attacks have not been limited to the Jewish faith," he said. "In fact, a whole range of faiths—including Baptist, Catholic and Episcopal—have been the targets of such vandalism. It is, therefore, not a narrow, sectarian problem."

## Baptist philanthropist Crowley dies in Dallas

DALLAS (BP)—Mary Crowley, 71, internationally-known businesswoman and Baptist philanthropist, died June 18 at Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas.

Crowley was founder of Home Interiors and Gifts, Inc., one of the largest direct-sales corporations in the nation.

She had been a member of First Church of Dallas since 1939. In the mid-1970s, she donated \$250,000 toward the building of a six-story complex to house the church's music department and daycare center. The "Mary C Building" at First Church was dedicated debt-free in 1977 and named in her honor.

In 1980, Crowley was instrumental in foun-

ding the STEP (Strategies To Elevate People) Foundation, an organization committed to fighting poverty whose programs are operated in cooperation with the City of Dallas Department of Housing and Neighborhood Services.

When Dallas Baptist University faced financial difficulties in 1982, Crowley pledged \$1 million to the Texas Baptist school over a five-year period. She also made other gifts to the university. She was the first woman named to the board of directors of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association.

She is survived by her husband, Dave; her son, Don Carter; and her daughter, Ruth Shanahan.

## Reed joins foreign board to enlist volunteers

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Former missionary Don Reed, 46, is joining the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board staff as associate director for evangelism and project management in the volunteer enlistment department.

Reed, a native of Post, Texas, will enlist volunteers for overseas evangelism and partnership missions projects, promote volunteer opportunities and develop volunteer information and enlistment materials.

A Southern Baptist missionary to Peru from 1971 to 1975, Reed has been director of missions for the Union Baptist Association in Oklahoma for the past eight years. He also has been pastor of churches in Oklahoma,

Texas and Arkansas.

He is married to the former Wanda Stephens of Elizabeth, Ark. They have three grown children. He received the bachelor of arts degree from Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, Ark.; the master of divinity degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas; and the doctor of ministry degree from Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in Mill Valley, Calif.

Reed succeeds Wayne Bristow, who recently resigned from the Foreign Mission Board staff to become director of evangelism for the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma.

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