

Ouachita Baptist University

Scholarly Commons @ Ouachita

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1990-1994

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

4-25-1991

April 25, 1991

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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



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

Recommended Citation

Arkansas Baptist State Convention, "April 25, 1991" (1991). *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1990-1994*. 122.

https://scholarlycommons.obu.edu/arbn_90-94/122

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

Arkansas Baptist



1991 SBC

Page 18

Vol. 90, No. 9

April 25, 1991

COVER STORY

Mission: Guatemala

Page 12

'You don't talk...'

Page 7

Trustees approve 'covenant'

Page 15

Postal rates affect papers

Page 16



Arkansas Baptist

At a glance

6 Junior high: a perilous passage

Between the ages of 13 and 15, a young teenager must make some crucial decisions about self, family, friends, and conduct. She faces serious life-changing decisions; what her needs are and how parents can help are explored in the fourth in a series on decision-making.

7 'You don't talk; you don't feel...'

Larry Pillow, pastor of Second Church, Conway, was burdened for years with pain stemming from being the son of an alcoholic father. Through his search for relief, he has developed a ministry that is aiding other adult children of alcoholics: support groups that enable ACAs to get in touch with repressed anger and other suppressed emotions.

15 Trustees approve 'covenant'

Southern Baptist Theological Seminary trustees approved April 8 a "covenant" agreement with faculty that will guide the seminary's efforts to fill faculty vacancies with "conservative evangelical scholars."

16 Postal rates affect state papers

The most recent second-class postal rate increase has seriously affected non-profit publications, including state Baptist newspapers. While the cost of printing and other factors have increased with the cost of living, postage has increased and surpassed as the highest percentage expense of production, some state editors say.

18 1991 Southern Baptist Convention

Calling a denomination and a nation to prayer for spiritual awakening will highlight the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention at the Georgia World Congress Center, June 4-6. "Jesus... There's Power in His Name" is the theme for 134th session. Interest group meetings, housing, child care, and the need for volunteers are highlighted in the pre-convention coverage.

Cover story

ABN photo / J. Everett Sneed



Mission: Guatemala . 12

The Arkansas-Guatemala Partnership has produced many fruits. One of them is a church started by Rosa Monteroso in her small home in San Marcos; Southern Baptist missionary Roger Grossman, Rosa and her youngest child stand on the porch of the house.

Also inside

Speak Up

You'll Be Glad to Know	4
Letters to the Editor	4
A Pastor's Perspective	4
Hymns Baptists Sing	5
The Golden Years	5

Local & State

Arkansas All Over	8
Carry the Torch rallies	9
Single adult conference	10
Minister/Mate conference	10
Senior adult ministry	10
35th annual deaf conference	10

Nation

Across the Country	17
--------------------	----

Lessons	21-22
---------	-------

World

Around the Globe	23
To ease the suffering	24

Next issue: May 9

Multiply their number

J. EVERETT SNEED

Southern Baptists need to more effectively express appreciation for the bi-vocational pastor. There is a tremendous need in today's Southern Baptist life for an increase in the number of bi-vocational pastors. Particularly, in pioneer areas there are many places where additional churches need to be started. The preachers are available, since today there are more than two Southern Baptist preachers for every Southern Baptist church.

There are only three possible options to account for the large number of Southern Baptist preachers who are without churches (some estimate that there are as many as 3.5 pastors for each church). First, some might say that God erred in calling so many people to the ministry. This option is totally unacceptable. God does not make a mistake in any activity. When God calls a man to the ministry, he intends for this person to be active in the proclamation of the gospel.

A second option would be that many of those who have responded to a call to ministry are mistaken. This option also is unacceptable, since many of these men have made great sacrifices in time and money to prepare themselves for service.

Finally, there is the possibility that Southern Baptists have not properly utilized those whom God has called and who have responded to God's will. If many of these men served in pioneer areas as bi-vocational pastors, the work of the Lord could be greatly enhanced. We believe that many of these men should be serving in pioneer areas as bi-vocational pastors. It is obvious that Southern Baptists will not have enough home missions money in the near future to pay pastoral salary aid in churches in all of the areas where new churches need to be started.

The question arises: How can we encourage many from this large pool of preachers to become bi-vocational pastors? First, the image of the bi-vocational pastor must be changed. A concept has been developed in Baptist life that a real preacher is serving a church which provides full support for his ministry. Both from a biblical and practical standpoint this philosophy is wrong.

Theologically, the philosophy that pastor must serve a church large enough to meet his financial needs is erroneous. The Apostle Paul, for example, was skilled at a se-



able unto any of you" (1 Th. 3:8; 2:9; 2 Co. 11:9).

Since the Apostle Paul was delighted to serve as a bi-vocational preacher, earning much of his income through a secular endeavor, contemporary preachers also should feel honored to follow the example of the great apostle.

Not only must the image of the bi-vocational pastor be changed so that he is honored among pastors, but our men must be prepared vocationally so that they can properly provide for themselves and their families. In biblical times, Jewish rabbis were required to have bi-vocational training. Rabbi Gamaliel III said, "All study of the Torah (law) which is not combined with work will ultimately be futile and lead to sin" (Bruce, *The Book of Acts*, p. 267).

The honoring of bi-vocational pastors should begin in established states such as Arkansas. Today, most, if not all, of our Arkansas churches have full-time preaching services. Yet we still have more than 800 churches averaging less than 100 in Sunday School. Many of these churches do not have enough financial resources to provide

cond occupation—tentmaking. He was pleased to have never been a burden to anyone. He said,

"Neither did we eat any man's bread for nought, but wrought with labor and travail night and day that we might not be charge-

full support for a pastor and his family. Therefore, the bi-vocational pastor still plays a vital role in the work of Arkansas Baptists. These men who serve effectively should be honored for their dedication, commitment, and service to the Lord.

Every church should provide full support for its pastor, as soon as it has adequate resources to do so. Church members need to realize that the most important person in guiding the congregation is the pastor. The Apostle Paul emphasized the obligation of the church to its pastor as he said, "Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live by the gospel" (1 Co. 9:14).

Money often is a major problem, both in the establishment of new congregations and in providing an income which will enable pastors to serve churches full time. We believe that most of our financial problems would be solved if our church members would practice New Testament stewardship.

There are numerous ways in which we can emphasize the importance of the bi-vocational pastor. Among these are: (1) place them on boards and committees of the association and the state convention; (2) commend these men for the excellent work they are doing; and (3) encourage men to equip themselves so that they can serve as bi-vocational pastors.

Finally, we should thank God for these men and their dedication. They are a mighty force in spreading the gospel throughout our land. Their number needs to be multiplied so we can go to places where the gospel is not being adequately proclaimed. If our country is to be confronted with the gospel, every God called person must be employed to this end.

Arkansas Baptist

Full-time staff

J. Everett Sneed, Ph.D. Editor
 Millie Gill Executive Assistant to the Editor
 Darrell Bartlett Operations Manager
 Colleen Backus Production Supervisor

Other staff

Diane Fowler Production Artist
 Mark Kelly Contributing Editor
 Erwin L. McDonald, Litt. D. Editor Emeritus

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

The *Arkansas Baptist* (ISSN 1040-6506) is published by the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, Inc., 601-A W. Capitol, Little Rock, AR 72201. Subscription rates are \$7.99 per year (individual), \$5.64 per year (Every Resident Family Plan), \$6.36 per year (Group Plan). Foreign address rates on request. Send correspondence and address changes to Arkansas Baptist, P. O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203; telephone 501-376-4791. Member of the Southern Baptist Press Association.

VOLUME 90

NUMBER 9

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Nelson Wilkman, Waldron, president; Lane Strother, Mountain Home; Jimmy Anderson, Leachville; Joanne Caldwell, Texarkana; Bert Thomas, Searcy; Lyndon Finney, Little Rock; Phetan Bone, El Dorado; Harold Gateley, Fayetteville; and Don Heuer, Batesville.

DON MOORE

You'll Be Glad To Know

God is blessing the Executive Board staff with many fine opportunities. The first two months' report provides us with the following data: sermons preached—169; professions of faith—82; additions to churches—78; personal consultations—953; churches visited—104.

We are grateful to you for the opportunities, and to the Lord for his blessing on what we are doing. It needs to be noted that the above, except for personal consultations, is all in addition to what we do to reach our goals in our respective areas of work.

Is the above for purposes of boasting? No! We would be the first to acknowledge that we desire far greater effectiveness. There are 30 of us who work out in the field with our churches. It is a way of giving an account to you who support us. A more complete report will be forthcoming, covering our total efforts on behalf of our churches.

The largest amount of your state Cooperative Program dollar goes to the departments that minister to the churches. You need and deserve to know what they are doing. This column will be used from time to time to keep you abreast of the Executive Board programs.

Vision, the publication that provides basic information on all that we do for the churches, becomes increasingly important to local church leaders. It is only mailed to the elected leaders of the church. Pastors, staff, and volunteer leaders need to make the widest possible use of this tool. It is the only piece which carries information on all of our meetings. Unless those who receive it give wide promotion to events that could improve their work, there will be a real void for many of our people.

Remember, we produce *Vision* to help reduce the number of pieces mailed to the churches. It pulls together information from all of our departments into one common source.

Let me also remind you to participate in the World Missions Conferences being conducted this spring.

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



Letters to the Editor

A superb choice

I am writing to publicly commend the presidential search committee and the board of trustees of Williams Baptist College for their selection of Dr. Jimmy A. Millikin as the institution's new president.

Dr. Millikin is a superb choice. His impeccable reputation and outstanding Southern Baptist credentials will foster an immediate rapport with Arkansas Baptists. The new president will particularly enjoy the respect of pastors who want to send their young people to a Baptist institution that will reinforce the authority and trustworthiness of Scripture taught them in their home churches. I am also confident that Dr. Millikin will operate the institution in a manner that will affirm the soundness of our Southern Baptist and Arkansas Baptist State conventions, our Cooperative Program, and our Foreign and Home Mission Board programs. And there can be no doubt that Dr. Millikin's heart for soul-winning and evangelism will infuse great excitement into the lives of faculty and students alike!

Arkansas Baptist churches will be pleased

to invite into their pulpits a college president who preaches God's Word with tremendous power and unction. And finally, those who have the resources to help Williams Baptist College financially will be able to do so with supreme assurance in the integrity and character of their new leader. We wholeheartedly welcome President Jimmy A. Millikin!—Michael L. Trammell, Jonesboro

Fly a Christian flag

In my Easter morning message, I commented on my joy that Americans are experiencing a resurgence of patriotism. Seeing American flags flying in yards and on front porches and yellow ribbons everywhere speaks of a new awareness of our wonderful American heritage. I mentioned that it would be great if Christians would show such visible witness of their allegiance to God. "Wouldn't it be great to see our Christian flags flying also?"

One of our fine Christian ladies came to me after services and asked if I would write this letter encouraging Christians to do just

RANDALL O'BRIEN

A Pastor's Perspective

Aesop Meets Cyclops

A story. An Old Crab said to her son, "Why do you walk sideways like that, my son? You ought to walk straight." The Young Crab replied, "Show me how, dear mother, and I'll follow your example." The Old Crab tried, but tried in vain, and then saw how foolish she had been to find fault with her child.

Aesop's fables (the above is one) are a collection of legendary tales about animals and birds, as you know, which cleverly expose our universal human weaknesses.

A Cyclops, you might recall, in Greek mythology was any of a race of giants having only one eye in the middle of the forehead.

Well... recently I have been rather overbearing with our children. Just this week, in fact, I was ranting and raving, "These rooms are a mess! Why can't you girls keep your rooms clean? This looks terrible!" "But Daddy," Alyson responded,

"remember the crab story?" "Yeah, Daddy," Shannon chimed in, "how can we walk straight if you don't show us?" "Daddy, your room is messy too," they observed in unison. (In the lingo of their Daddy's trade, this move is called "applying the text.")

Okay. Ouch. No, the truth didn't hit me between the eyes. I've only got one. Sometimes I wonder if we adults aren't like Cyclops to our children: giants with only one eye, seeing all their shortcomings. But minus the other eye to see our own.

Thanks to two wonderful little girls who love both Aesop and Cyclops, something good happened this week at 94 El Dorado. Aesop met Cyclops. And we all won.

Blessings on your home.

Randall O'Brien, is pastor of the Calvary Church in Little Rock.



that. Fly a Christian flag. I thought it was a great idea. I also would like to see Christian flags made readily available at a modest cost in order for many Christians to share in this testimony of our faith. My secretary also mentioned getting pins with the Christian flag and American flag crossed.

Old Glory and Oh Glory, long may they wave.—Bill Harris, Royal

WILLIAM J. REYNOLDS

Hymns Baptists Sing



Blest be the tie . . .

"Blest be the Tie that Binds"

For nine years, beginning in 1763,

John Fawcett had served as pastor of two small Baptist churches at Wainsgate and Hebdon Bridge, near Halifax in what is now West Yorkshire, England. In 1772, Fawcett was invited to preach in London in a large Baptist church as a prospective successor to the aged and ailing pastor, Dr. John Gill. Gill had ministered for 54 years.

Following Gill's death later that year, Fawcett was invited to succeed him, and after prayerful consideration he consented to do so. However, some days later, even after he had packed some of his possessions in anticipation of the move to London, he reconsidered his decision.

His meager salary at Wainsgate was inadequate for his growing family, and he asked his small congregation of farmers and shepherds if they could raise his salary. However, they declined. In spite of this, Fawcett decided to remain there and he pastored these two small churches for a total of 54 years.

This very dramatic story has existed for more than 200 years. It may be true, but in his autobiography and other writings Fawcett makes no mention of this hymn or this experience.

Fawcett established a boarding school, primarily to train young preachers. In 1782, he published a collection of 166 original hymns, one of which was "Blest be the tie that binds."

William J. Reynolds is professor of church music at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

ERWIN L. McDONALD

The Golden Years

"... Think on these things"

"Finally, brethren, whatever things are true. . . noble. . . just. . . pure. . . lovely. . . of good report, if there is any virtue and. . . anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things" (Phil. 4:8, NKJV).

The way Ralph and Blanche Douglas see it, the golden years, above everything else, are "a time for positive, Christian living."

"The longer you live, the more of your dearest friends you will have buried, and the more you will be tempted to become negative and set in your ways," said the preacher-husband, in a telephone interview from his home in Pine Bluff.

That day he and Blanche, now in their 21st year of official retirement and their 58th year of matrimony, were headed for a meeting of Blanche's Woman's Missionary Union, Pine Bluff First Church, where Ralph was to be the speaker. His topic: "What Dollars and Prayers Will Do, a Look at the Cooperative Program and Missions."

"We need to keep in mind that the people who are coming along after us need our push in the right direction. If we are going to provide that push, we've got to be positive and back it up with Christ-committed living," he said.

As senior citizens, retirees must realize "the agenda has to change, that we can't go on just doing things the way they've always been done," he concluded.

A native of Springfield (Conway County), where he was born 84 years ago (April 7, 1907), Ralph had a career in farming and the grocery business before entering the ministry at the age of 32. It was not until then he learned, in a word from his retired farmer-preacher father, R. L. Douglas, who was speaking at their home church in Springfield just ahead of Ralph's first sermon, that Ralph's parents had prayed before his birth that God would call him to preach.

Mrs. Douglas, the former Blanche Riley, "grew up in Little Rock First Baptist Church." She and Ralph are both Ouachita College graduates and she did post-graduate work at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.



Ralph and Blanche Douglas

while Ralph was earning his master of theology degree there (Class of 1945). She founded and was first president of Arkansas Baptist Ministers' Wives, the first such state organization in the Southern Baptist Convention, and has had an extensive career as writer and director of religious dramas and historical pageants.

Upon his retirement from the Baptist Building on Dec. 31, 1969, Douglas had the unique experience of having served as associate to three successive executive secretaries of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. In retirement he has been in great demand as interim pastor, serving in this capacity an even dozen churches around the state. He and Blanche continue to be active in Baptist affairs locally, statewide, and nationally. Their main hobby is loving their family, including a son, a daughter, their spouses, and a total of five grandsons.

Erwin L. McDonald is editor emeritus of the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine and a member of North Little Rock Park Hill Church.

FOURTH IN A SIX-PART SERIES

Junior high: a perilous passage

by Mark Kelly
Contributing Editor, Arkansas Baptist

The junior high school years may be the most dangerous of a child's life.

Between the ages of 13 and 15, a young teenager must make some crucial decisions about self, family, friends, and conduct. She faces serious, life-changing decisions about obeying the law, relating to the opposite sex, and experimenting with drugs and alcohol. Wrong choices can ruin her life, and others as well.

Parents who want their junior high child to make responsible decisions for herself must be especially careful. They must remember their child's needs and guide their relationship into a positive and constructive course.

A young teen's needs

The young teenager struggles with powerful forces, not the least of which is the question, "Who am I?" The child feels compelled to define herself and her place in the world. She also must contend with emerging sexual drives, and that is just one part of a broader need to see herself fitting into an adult world. Home and family, while still important, fade into the background of a bigger picture.

A junior high child finds herself torn between a craving for independence and a compulsion to be accepted. She wants to be free from her family and to fit in with her peers. Unfortunately, fitting in often requires her to give up her freedom and conform to peer expectations. Parents have a hard time understanding how someone who demands to be treated as an adult can so childishly imitate the actions of others.

The situation is compounded by the youngster's tendency to leap without looking. A young teenager demands immediate satisfaction. She finds it hard to look into the future for negative consequences when an action yields something immediately valuable, like popularity. Because she acts impulsively without thinking carefully, she stands in danger of making a serious mistake.

How parents can help

Parents can help their junior high child cope successfully with these tension-filled years, says Gordon Miller, author of *Teaching Your Child to Make Decisions*.

Miller advises parents to remember that their long-term goal is helping the child achieve responsible independence, not forcing the child to do what they want, the way they want.



The junior high child needs guidance from her parents, not lectures or commands, Miller says. Parents who make obedience the issue pit themselves against the powerful drive toward independence. The result usually is distrust and rebellion, a situation in which no one wins.

Instead of confrontation, parents should focus on communication. By working to build trust and demonstrate concern for their child, parents stand a far better chance of being able to influence her decisions. By reinforcing her self-image with recognition and encouragement, they give her the strength to act independently of her peers, as well as her family.

Parents must get involved in their child's life, Miller says. Informal family discussions allow everyone to listen to each other and share ideas and opinions. Instead of making dogmatic assertions, parents can draw a child out with sincere questions about her thinking, her choices, and the results. All the while, they can keep a watchful eye for dangerous situations that might develop. If necessary, they can intervene to protect her without taking over her life.

Parents can help a child by showing her the connection between what she wants and what she does, Miller says. A young teenager often cannot see how doing what her parents want will result in something she wants. Many times, all she needs is help in identifying what is important to her and how to achieve those goals. When she can see the payoff, she will work hard to earn it, even if it takes a long time.

A junior high child also needs her parents' assistance in identifying the risks involved in a decision, Miller says. Because she has not yet learned to carefully think through the potential consequences of a choice, the child may grab a short-term payoff without seeing the long-term drawbacks. By teaching a child to look for the impact of a decision on herself and others, parents can help her avoid the pitfalls of a hasty, ill-advised choice.

Parents also can help their junior high child by teaching her to look for other choices. Miller points out that a young teenager often is tempted to go along with the crowd simply because she doesn't know how to discover alternatives. She takes "the easy way out," only to discover later she had other choices that would have been less painful.

Parents are making great progress if they can get their junior high child to think before she acts, Miller says. Responsible parents teach a child to consider other choices she might have—and about what might happen later if she does what her friends want her to do.

'You don't talk; you don't feel; you don't listen'

by Lynda Hollenbeck
Special to the Arkansas Baptist

According to Larry Pillow, pastor of Second Church, Conway, these three "don'ts" are the classic rules found in the home of every alcoholic. While un-written, they are nevertheless present and become a way of life for those raised in that kind of setting.

Pillow, the son of an alcoholic father, was burdened with years of pain resulting from his family situation. In an effort to obtain personal healing, he began searching for help from existing professionals in the field. But that quest brought much more than relief for himself alone: through it, he has developed a ministry that is aiding other adult children of alcoholics. And nothing he has done thus far in his ministry has brought him so much satisfaction, Pillow says.

He began this ministry through an initial series of four sermons, which were taped and made available to others upon request. The response he received exceeded all of his expectations, he said. Even though he considered his preaching in those sermons to be no better than "mediocre," the messages they contained spoke to others with needs similar to his own.

Growing out of the series was a support group that ultimately led to others, and the enthusiasm is still growing: Because of one woman's participation, she was able to re-establish a relationship with a brother from whom she had been estranged for many years, Pillow noted.

Ironically, he felt inspired to begin his program by listening to a tape of a secular psychologist who had some good things to say about the problem, but did so in a manner he found profane and offensive. Hearing that presentation while driving to lead a

revival in another city, Pillow said he pulled off the roadway and promised God he would start a Christian program to help persons suffering because of the years they had lived with alcoholic parents. He believes God called him into this venture, which has become the basis for a primary project connected to his doctor of ministry program at Midwestern Baptist Seminary in Kansas City.

Seminary officials approved the project, which centers on a retreat designed to help adult children of alcoholics rebuild and recover. Referring to them simply as "ACAs," he pointed out that many were raised in homes where they experienced physical or sexual abuse. While he himself was not the victim of abuse, Pillow said his father was an absent parent "who was very hard when he was there, but usually not there at all." He said he had an intense longing for his father to express love

teristics and typically turn out to be "super responsible" or "super irresponsible," Pillow said. "They're motivated to win the whole world or to be a bum—one of those extremes." There can be "an insatiable need to be in control because life was so out of control" while they were growing up.

According to Pillow, other common traits often found in ACAs are: low self-esteem; a drive to please; inner fears and anxieties; repressed feelings; an absence of intimacy; over-reactions to rejection and criticism; difficulty in enjoying life; a constant desire for parental blessing; a feeling of not fitting in; difficulty in completing projects; taking themselves too seriously; a fierce loyalty, even when not merited; impulsive behavior; an addiction to crisis; a hunger for love; an absence of knowledge of normal behavior; critical self-judgment; and a tendency to lie when it would be as easy to tell the truth.

In Pillow's support groups, it normally takes four to five weeks for members to become comfortable with each other and begin to break down barriers, he said. "You can't just jump in and do it," he said. "A person's got to get to the place where they say, 'I want to deal with my anger. . . .'"

A primary goal of the program is to help people get in touch with repressed anger and other emotions that have been buried since childhood, Pillow said. In attempting to do this, "they go through a lot of pain and work. But after they have finished going through the pain, then we express love and affirmation and support for them and (provide) information that will help them process what they have been going through."

Additional goals are: to help members get in touch with their feelings; to help them see how the past is affecting them today, and to look at the pain of the past in order to find healing and hope in the present.

For information about the upcoming ACA retreat scheduled for May 17-19 or information on how your church can organize an ACA support group, contact Larry Pillow at 327-6565.



ABN photo / J. Everett Sneed

Larry Pillow meets with an ACA support group.

for him and is grateful that this happened shortly before his death three years ago. In coming to terms with this relationship, Pillow wrote a poem about his father, entitled "That Dad I Never Knew."

By way of contrast, Pillow's relationship with his mother was stable, and he credits her and his grandmother with bringing him into the Christian faith. "She and my grandmother, I think, probably prayed me into the Kingdom," he said.

ACAs have many similar charac-

LOCAL & STATE

Arkansas All Over

MILLIE GILL

People

Chaille Caraway of Eudora, a former teacher with Eudora Public Schools, will observe her 100th birthday this month. Friends and former students will be special guests when a birthday tea is given April 28 at Eudora Church, where she has been a member for 68 years.



Caraway

Brad Sneed has joined the staff of Second Church in Conway as youth minister.

Steve Burtrum joined the staff of Springdale First Church April 16 as business administrator, coming there from First Southern Church of Del City, Okla. He is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma in Norman.

Tracy Watson has resigned from the staff of First Southern Church in Bryant to join the staff of Immanuel Church in El Dorado.

Gretchen Morehart is serving as children's coordinator for South Side Church in Fort Smith.

Richard Stipe has joined the staff of Springdale First Church as music intern. He is a student at the University of Arkansas.

Phil Potter has resigned as minister of education for First Church in Siloam Springs, effective June 30.

Kenneth Wayne Clawson of El Dorado, a retired mechanical engineer for Phillips Petroleum Company, died March 28 at age 60. He was a member of Second Church in El Dorado, a member of Nalibenders for Jesus, and a Korean war veteran. Survivors include his wife, Mary Dell Clawson; a son, Michael Wayne Clawson of El Dorado; a daughter, Martha Jane Dumas of El Dorado; two brothers; and two grandchildren.

John Sammons has resigned as pastor of Calvary Church in Ward.

Art Cutshall is serving as pastor of Rehobeth Church, Moorefield. He will graduate in May from Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.

Bernard Ford is serving as pastor of Mount Tabor Church, Hot Springs. He recently returned to Arkansas after serving with the Home Mission Board in Indiana.

Brad Johnson, a member of Lepanto First Church, has been selected for the Baptist Young Men's All-Star Baseball Team that will tour Guatemala on a summer mission trip. He is the son of Anita Johnson.

Tom Deere is serving as pastor of Mountain Home Church, going there from First Church, Plainview.

Bill and Becky Christian have joined the staff of First Church in Emmet as youth directors.

Wade E. Hansford of Little Rock died April 8 at age 84. His funeral services were held April 10 at Second Church in Little Rock, where he had been a member for more than 50 years. He was the retired chief auditor for the state Department of Finance and Administration's income tax division. Survivors include his wife, Ora G. Hansford; a daughter, Bobbie L. Lowry of Little Rock; a brother; four sisters; a grandchild; and four great-grandchildren.

Gary Cresswell has resigned as pastor of Pleasant Ridge Church, Greens Ferry.

Kelly Kimber has resigned as youth pastor of South Side Church, Heber Springs, effective April 30.

W.W. Dishongh of Little Rock began service April 14 as pastor of First Church, El Paso. He will continue his chaplaincy ministry at Pulaski County Jail, a work jointly sponsored by the Home Mission Board and the ABCS Missions Department.

Guy Marvin Whitney of Manila died April 13 at age 64. His funeral services were held April 15 at Blackwater Church, where he was member. Whitney had pastored churches in Harrisburg, Greenfield, Jonesboro, and Rector, as well as serving as director of missions for Current-Gains Association. He also had served in various associational and state leadership positions, including serving on the ABCS Executive Board. He was a Navy veteran of World War II. Survivors include his wife, Willie Whitney; two sons, Guy Whitney Jr. of Bentonville, and Marv Whitney of St. Louis; a daughter, Judith Pohlod of Tulsa, Okla.; a brother; two sisters; and four grandchildren.

Charles Womack has resigned as pastor of First Church in Pea Ridge, effective April 28 to move to Pawnee, Okla.

Briefly

Pea Ridge First Church spring revival, conducted March 17-20, resulted in three professions of faith and five rededications. Mike Huckabee, pastor of Beech Street First Church in Texarkana, was evangelist. Jeff Bennett of Fayetteville conducted music.

Brinkley First Church recently held its first choir banquet in recognition of accompanists, choir workers and coordinators, and choir members. Daniel Humble is minister of music.

Lakeside Church in Daisy recently hosted a group of Oklahoma Campers on Mission, who constructed an addition to the present church building for Sunday School classrooms. Wayne Loftin, Sunday School director, served as construction coordinator. Lynn Chiles is pastor.

Pleasant Grove Church at Conway mission team recently assisted Cotter First Church in constructing an educational building addition.

Life Line Church in Little Rock has organized an alcohol and drug support group.

Rogers Immanuel Church recently honored Billie Roberts, who is moving to Alabama, for 14 years of service as secretary.

Park Hill Church in North Little Rock mission team returned April 20 from Guatemala, where they assisted with construction projects at Palestine Church, conducted craft classes and worship services, and provided medical assistance.

Farmington First Church held a groundbreaking service April 7 for a 29,200 square foot multi-purpose facility that will be used for worship, education, recreation, and fellowship.

Natural Steps Church in Roland has launched a \$300,000 "Challenge to Build" building program. Harry Black is pastor. Chap Harper is fund raising chairman. Jim Goodson is chairman of the building committee.

Little Rock First Church observed John and Jeanne Wright Appreciation Day April 7, in recognition of his resignation as pastor following 19 years of service. Traditional

morning services were followed by an afternoon reception. The evening service included testimonies by the Wright's son, Phillip Wright of Springfield, Mo., and their sons-in-law, Stephen Davis of Russellville, and Mark Lashley of West Memphis. Presentations also were made.

Forty-Seventh Street Church in North Little Rock held a Bible dedication service April 7, when 82 memorial pew Bibles were placed in the sanctuary and choir loft by members of the congregation. Dennis Turner is pastor.

Brookwood Church in Little Rock will celebrate Homegathering Sunday May 5. Jim Black, pastor of Ruddell Hill Church of Batesville, will be guest speaker. A traditional potluck meal will be followed by testimonies and music.

Concord First Church was damaged March 22 when a tornado touched down in the community.

Bakers Creek Church at Russellville recently ordained Ralph Mulder and Glen Rigdon to the deacon ministry. Don Hankins delivered the ordination message, and David Miller led in prayer.

Broadmoor Church in Brinkley recently ordained Chuck Butcher and Steve Henry to the deacon ministry. Jim Haynes, chairman of deacons, led in the questioning, and Pastor Bryan Webb delivered the charge. Carl Fawcett, director of missions for Arkansas Valley Association, was a special guest.

Antioch Church at Flippin will observe its centennial with homecoming May 19.

Photo / Debbie Dillon



Young people participating in a Carry the Torch evangelism training session.

Carry the Torch rallies

Arkansas Baptist junior and senior high school students and youth leaders are better equipped to share their faith in Jesus Christ after attending one of four regional Carry the Torch Youth Evangelism Training Days. The theme for the training was "Every Locker for Christ!"

The Carry the Torch Rally was an event coordinated by Randy Brantley, associate in the Evangelism Department of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, in cooperation with youth ministers in four regions of the state. The day began and ended with high energy rallies led by Rick Caldwell; Nancy Pruitt; the Praise Singers; and Tiffany Thompson, Miss Teenage Arkansas 1990. Sing alongs, testimonies, and a Christian concert were followed by a challenging message by Rick Caldwell to carry the torch of the gospel to lost students who desperately need personal relationships with Jesus Christ.

After the morning youth rally, students were taught by youth ministers from each

region of the state in the "how-to's" of personal evangelism. Pastors, youth ministers and other adult youth leaders were trained in an eight week follow-up strategy to be implemented in the local church after the rally.

The Carry the Torch rallies have registered 48 professions of faith and more than 1,300 commitments to become personal witnesses. Students making a commitment to personal evangelism were given a wristband with Romans 1:16 imprinted on it. The wristband is to serve as a 60 day reminder to share Christ regularly.

The training has mobilized Arkansas Baptist teens to become more aggressive witnesses. One Texarkana student wrote, "I have been sharing my faith with two to three of my friends each week, since the February rally; as a result I have led four of my classmates to faith in Christ."

Next year's Carry the Torch rallies will be held in El Dorado, Jonesboro, Russellville and Pine Bluff.

G♥A♥P♥

Needs Glasses

Guatemala/Arkansas Partnership medical teams need usable old glasses for free distribution. If you would like to make used glasses available for meeting physical needs and opening doors to meet spiritual needs in Guatemala, please deliver them to: **G.A.P. Glasses**

Attn.: Glendon Grober
525 W. Capitol
Little Rock, AR 72201
or mail to:
P.O. Box 552
Little Rock, AR 72203



Buses! Van! People Movers!
New and Used—Champion
Call American TransCoach today
1-817-458-4844

Correction

Jonathan Payne is serving as pastor of South Side Church in Booneville, rather than South Side Chapel in Alma, as reported in the April 11 issue of the ABN. Tom Steward is pastor of Alma South Side Chapel.

BOLD MISSION THRUST



Prayer requests

"For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers." (1 P. 3:12).

Thanks and praise for the many volunteers from several areas across Arkansas who have committed themselves to minister to migrant seasonal farmworkers through literacy classes and Bible studies. These have the potential for reaching hundreds of Hispanic persons for Christian witness and fellowship.

Please pray for a team of eight Baptist Young Women who will serve in Eureka Springs, May 3-5. Pray that the Lord will use them to present a clear gospel witness as they are involved in resort ministries.

Ask the Lord to use the Baptist Women's team to make a dramatic difference in the lives of migrants as they serve at the Hope Migrant Mission Center May 5-11. Pray that God will enable them to overcome obstacles of language, culture, and religion as they share the love of Christ with these people. Continue to pray that a new director can be found to direct this vital mission outreach in our state.

—Continue to pray that all Arkansas requests for student summer missionaries will be filled. Pray for SSMs who will serve in Arkansas through resort missions, in associations, and with migrant missions. Pray for student summer missionaries from Arkansas as they prepare to minister throughout the United States, in Guatemala, and in Taiwan.

—Pray for two used vans to be donated or loaned to two mission churches for outreach.

—Pray for our Arkansas-Guatemala partnership teams going to Guatemala.

—Pray for black Southern Baptist pastors to minister to unchurched black communities.

—Pray for 25 Arkansas Southern Baptist churches to provide primary or partial sponsorship for 10 new church starts.

Single adult conference

A spring single adult conference will be held Friday and Saturday, May 3-4, at Immanuel Church in Little Rock.

"Around the World in 8 Days" is the theme for the conference, which will begin with a carnival featuring the Ouachita Baptist University Jazz Band at 5:45 p.m. May 3.

Ken Brumley, minister of single adults at Green Acres Church in Tyler, Texas, will be key speaker for the conference. Danny Wolfe, a contemporary Christian artist, will present a concert to conclude the Friday evening session.

A middle school guidance counselor and single mother, Carol Beasley, will lead two classes on both Friday evening and Saturday morning geared to the needs of children in single parent homes. Child care for birth through sixth grade will be provided throughout the conference.

Saturday activities will include seminars and a lunch of barbecue and cashfish.

Further information may be obtained by contacting Dianne Swaim, single adult director, at Immanuel Church; telephone 501-376-3071.

Minister/Mate conference

The Church Leadership Support Department will host a special conference to provide a shared personal growth experience for ministers and their mates on June 24-25. Most training and growth opportunities are designed only for ministers or for workers in church program organizations.

Many problems and much stress confront ministers and their families. The minister who wants to be effective in his position needs to utilize every opportunity for personal growth and strengthening his or her marriage.

Noris Smith, consultant from the Baptist Sunday School Board, will lead the conference. He will guide participants in understanding of self, relationships, support needs and role expectations.

The conference will be held at Immanuel Baptist Church, 1000 Bishop Street, Little Rock. There will be morning, afternoon and evening sessions beginning at 10:30 a.m. and concluding at 8:30 p.m. on Monday, June 24 and a morning and afternoon session beginning at 9:00 a.m. and concluding at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 25. Out of town participants will make their own room reservations by contacting Radisson Legacy Hotel, 625 West Capitol,

Little Rock, AR 72201; telephone 374-0100 or 1-800-333-3333.

To register for the conference, send your name, address, church, position and \$20 for conference materials to: Church Leadership Support Department, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203.

For more information call L.B. Jordan at 376-4791, ext. 5148.

Senior adult ministry

Senior adult ministry is becoming one of the most exciting and rewarding areas of ministry in our churches today. People are living longer and enjoying better health than ever before and they have the time and resources to participate in many different activities. This was seen in the two area Golden Age Evangelism Conferences with a total of 391 participants.

As senior adults ministry grows, there is also an increase in musical involvement, evidenced by the 11 choirs that participated in the conferences.

A survey of the Unified Church Letter Supplement revealed that there are 143 senior adults choirs in the state with an enrollment of 3,106. Five churches report over 50 in their senior adult choir: Jonesboro Central Church, Magnolia Central Church, Crossett First Church, Siloam Springs Harvest Church, and Stuttgart First Church.

Senior adults have the opportunity to participate in a full week of music, crafts, Bible study, and recreation at SummerSing IV, on the OBU campus, July 22-25. For more information or a video of the 1990 activities, contact the ABCS Church Music Department, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203; telephone 376-4791, ext. 5121.

35th annual deaf conference

The Arkansas Baptist Conference of the Deaf will hold its 35th annual meeting May 3-5 at Camp Paron. This year's theme is "Deaf and Committed to Serve." The guest speaker will be Larry White, pastor of First Church of the Deaf, Del City, Okla. David Solis, deaf pastor in Sherman, Texas, will lead the youth.

The conference features three worship services, workshops for youth, adults and interpreters, and children's classes.

Deaf persons, regardless of church affiliations, and persons who work with deaf groups are invited to attend. For more information, contact Elias Pantoja at the Arkansas Baptist Conference, 376-4791.

Missionary Notes

David and Janene Ford, missionaries to Argentina, are on the field (address: Casillo 633, 1706 Haedo, Buenos Aires, Argentina). He is a native of Missouri. The former Janene Wilson, she was born in West Helena and also lived in Arkadelphia. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1978.

Russell and Veda Locke, missionaries to Nigeria, are in the States (address: 12212 E. 57th St., Kansas City, MO 64133). Helived in Polk County, Mo., while growing up. The former Veda Williams, she was born in Shirley, and also lived in Alton, Mo. They were appointed in 1955.

Charles and Audrey Morris, missionaries to Kenya, are on the field (address: P.O. Box 32, Limuru, Kenya). They are natives of Arkansas. He is from Parkin. The former Audrey Dulin, she was born in Earle and considers Memphis her hometown. They began serving with the Foreign Mission Board in 1986.

Gerald and Barbara Schleiff, missionaries to Zimbabwe, are on the field (ad-

dress: Box 657, Gweru, Zimbabwe). They are natives of Arkansas. He was born in Fort Smith and lived in nearby Charleston while growing up. She is the former Barbara Robertson of Monette. They were appointed in 1967.

Billy and Judith Sutton, missionaries to the Philippines, are on the field (address: Box 1355, Pagadian City, 7016, Philippines). He was born in McGehee and grew up in Baton Rouge, La. She is the former Judith Blackburn of Baton Rouge. They were appointed in 1983.

Lee and Phyllis Walker, missionaries to Chile, are on the field (address: Casilla 4-T, Santiago, Chile). Born in Texarkana, he considers Little Rock his hometown. She is the former Phyllis Orr of Louisiana. They were appointed in 1982.

Craig and Melissa Bird, missionaries to Kenya, are on the field (address: P.O. Box 39974, Nairobi, Kenya). He considers Camden, Ark., his hometown, and she is the former Melissa Jackson of Deer Park, Texas. They were appointed in 1986.

Russell and Vicky Fox, missionary associates to Honduras, are in the States (address: 1723 N. Fillmore, Little Rock, Ark. 72207). He considers Little Rock his hometown. She is the former Victoria Hagan of Stuttgart. They were employed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1982.

Looking Ahead

April

26-27 RA Congress, *Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia (Bbd)*

28-5/5 Simultaneous World Missions Conference (*Bbd*)

May

3-5 Arkansas Baptist Conference for the Deaf, *Camp Paron (Mn)*

4 Backyard Bible Club/Mission Vacation Bible School Clinic, *North Little Rock Levy Church (SS)*

6-7 Chaplaincy Awareness Conference, *Camp Paron (Mn)*

9 Mastersingers/Singing Women Concert, *El Dorado First Church (M)*

11 Youth Music Festival, *North Little Rock Baring Cross Church (M)*

12-19 Simultaneous World Missions Conferences (*Bbd*)

16-19 Campers on Missions Rally, *Maumelle Park (Ms)*

16-19 National Brotherhood Certification, *Camp Linden, Tenn. (Bbd)*

17-18 State DiscipleYouth Workshop, *Fayetteville University Church (DT)*

20-21 Church Planting Conference, *Camp Paron (Ms)*

20 Adult Choir Festivals, *Alma First Church, Clinton First Church, North Little Rock Park Hill Church (M)*

20-22 Senior Adult Celebration, *Ouachita Baptist University (DT)*

21 Adult Choir Festivals, *Springdale Elmdale Church, Pine Bluff Watson Chapel, Little Rock Olive Church (M)*

23 Adult Choir Festivals, *Jonesboro Walnut Street Church, Magnolia Central Church (M)*

28-31 Student Summer Missionary Orientation, *North Pulaski Association Camp, Mills Valley (Ms)*

30-31 Student Summer Missionary Supervisors Meeting, *North Pulaski Association Camps, Mills Valley (Ms)*

Abbreviations:

Ad - Administration; Bbd - Brotherhood; CL - Church Leadership; DT - Discipleship Training; Ev - Evangelism; M - Music; Mn - Missions; SS - Sunday School; SA - Stewardship/Annually; Stu - Student; WMU - Woman's Missionary Union

Criswell holds news conference

"Biblical preaching is the secret of growing a church," declared W.A. Criswell, senior pastor of First Church, Dallas. Dr. Criswell was at Little Rock Immanuel Church April 14-15 conducting a mini- revival.

Following a noon day service April 15, Criswell held a press conference in which he dealt with a variety of subjects. Among these were: the use of media, church growth, social problems, and the churches of the future.

Criswell believes that radio and television, properly used, hold the key to proclaiming the gospel in every country. He said, "We simply don't have enough people who can get into areas which are closed to the gospel for everyone to hear God's message of salvation."

Many main line churches are not growing because their services are staid and uninteresting. Criswell said, "People will come for miles when the Bible is preached in a warm and interesting manner."

Criswell believes that the megachurch

is the church of the future. He said that small churches will gradually diminish because they are unable to minister to a diverse people and many of them have only one or two young people in each age group. "The megachurch can provide ministries for all kinds of people. They also can meet the social needs in the community because of their resources."

In listing social issues with which the gospel must come to grips, Criswell listed the demise of the family as the number one issue. He said, "Today, there are more children in First Church, Dallas, who attend with a single parent than there are those who come with a traditional father and mother." Other social issues with which churches must come to grips are: the increased crime on the streets, poverty, violence, and rape.

Criswell concluded by discussing the wide diversity in his church. He said, "We have some extremely wealthy people, but our main support comes from middle class individuals who tithe."

Mission: Guatemala

Arkansas-Guatemala Partnership exceeds expectations

by J. Everett Sneed
Editor, Arkansas Baptist

The Arkansas/Guatemala Partnership has exceeded expectations in every way. Glendon Grober, director of the partnership, observes, "This has shown Arkansas Baptists how they can work together. Perhaps the best contribution the partnership has made is not in just starting new works in Guatemala, but in getting the Guatemalans excited about their own potential. Louis Galeno, president of the Guatemalan Convention, said that new works are being started that are not directly tied to the partnership. People are saying, 'Let's do it now.'"

ABN photo / J. Everett Sneed



Guatemala: rich landscape, many needs.

It appears that the partnership will surpass the goals that were set in almost every area. For example, in Guatemala City 17 new churches beginnings have already been approved. There are two others that are to be added in the near future. Grober feels that there is little doubt that there will be 25 new congregations developed in Guatemala City.

The goal to develop 10 new congregations in the outlying areas of Guatemala has already been met, if we count the buildings that have been erected. New buildings are

being erected in Retalhuleu, Jutiapa, Chicua 2, San Lucas, Toninchun, San Marcos, La Plazuela, San Pablo, and Jocotenango. Several Arkansas churches are assisting in various types of witnessing projects to assist in developing the congregations.

Several groups have gone to Guatemala to participate in door to door evangelism. These individuals have their testimonies written in both English and Spanish so that they can be read to those to whom they have opportunity to share the gospel. Other churches are conducting health clinics, where the gospel is shared with individuals who come.

In 1990, there were 448 people from 173 Arkansas churches who participated in the Arkansas/Guatemala Partnership. Arkansas volunteers doing construction work have completed the Arkansas House. The original missionary home, containing four bedrooms, has had a conference room added. A new facility nearby, containing nine more bedrooms, has been completed, making a total of 13 bedrooms. The facility can now care for 52 people at one time. The new facility will be used by the Guatemalan Baptists as a training center, a conference center, and a place where missionaries can have a retreat and rest.

Evangelistically the partnership already has produced excellent results. Last year, baptisms were up 125 percent over the previous year. In 1991-92 there will be five evangelistic crusades. Grober observes that there will be more than 50 churches and missions in Guatemala by the time of the last crusade.

The doubling of the number of congregations is remarkable. Guatemala had developed 23 churches in 43 years. Grober said, "The goal of 25 new congregations was unrealistic. But it now appears that we will surpass our goal."

A personal testimony

Rosa Moterroso became a Christian as a child, but as a young person she only attended church periodically. She said, "I knew the way of the Lord, but was not living for him." As an adult she moved to Pepan and began attending a Baptist church. After a brief period of time, she followed the Lord in baptism. She said, "While living in Pepan I experienced a closer walk with the Lord and growth in my life."

ABN photo / J. Everett Sneed



Missionary Roger Grossman with Rosa Moterroso and her son.

From Pepan she moved to San Marcos, where she now lives. She soon discovered that San Marcos was without a Baptist church. She found that the closest Baptist church was in San Pedro. She went to San Pedro and visited with Rudy Lopez, temporary pastor of the congregation.

Lopez encouraged her to start a Baptist church in San Marcos. Moterroso said, "Although my home was extremely humble, I found some believers and we started a worship service. I didn't want to be a believer only. I wanted my life to truly count for my Lord."

Moterroso observed that the second greatest joy in her life was the privilege of starting a church. A Catholic friend of Moterroso's has opened her home for the Baptist church services.

The testimony of Moterroso is even more impressive because she was deserted by her husband and is the sole source of support for her five children.

El Dorado church contributes

Immanuel Church, El Dorado, has completed three mission trips as a part of the Guatemala partnership. The first was in



Nurse Kim White (left), assisted by George Peters, checks a young Guatemalan girl.

February of 1990, when six members of the congregation made an eight day medical mission trip. Medical clinics were conducted in four different cities.

While on this trip, Pastor Tommy Kimball preached in the church which convened in the home of Rosa Moterroso. The first public profession of faith was registered in that service. During the day, the six conducted a medical clinic in the home across the street from Moterroso. Those participating in this clinic were Dr. and Mrs. Jim Weedman, Mr. and Mrs. Billy Ponder, Steve Bowen, and Pastor Kimball. On this trip, more than 500 patients were given medical care.

On this first trip, Dr. and Mrs. Weedman discovered a little boy, Amalio Mendoza, who had a severe hearing problem. The Weedmans brought the little boy to Arkansas. He currently is attending school, where he is learning sign language. He is slated for surgery in the not-too-distant future. The Weedmans took Amalio back home to visit with his mother on the most recent mission trip, April 13-22, 1991, in which the Immanuel Church participated.

The second trip conducted by Immanuel was in November of 1990, when a construction team erected the first floor of a church building in Chicua. The congregation has now laid a floor for the second story of the building. On the most recent trip, April 13-22, a team from the El Dorado church conducted a clinic to assist in establishing a congregation.

Pastor Kimball has been successful in winning people to the Lord on each of

these trips. He said, "Each time that I have presented the gospel, someone has accepted Christ as Savior." Kimball uses the Roman Road plan of salvation to present the gospel.

The mayor of Santaria accepted Christ as Kimball presented the gospel. His wife walked away and refused to hear the entire presentation, but the mayor made a profession of faith. That evening, the mayor started a Bible study in his home.



Nurse Frankie Falkner (right) gets a lot of help as she checks a Guatemalan baby.

Little Rock church holds clinic

Second Church, Little Rock, conducted a clinic in Retalhuleu Feb. 23-March 4. The 10 people from Second Church held the clinic in a building that had been constructed by a group of churches from Pulaski Association. This is the first Southern Baptist work in this town of more than 50,000.

The medical team consisted of a physician, a dentist, and two nurses. The team was able to minister to 777 patients in the three days in which the clinic was open.

Pastor Billy White believes that they were able to discover a core group around which the congregation can be started. On the first evening, Dr. White preached in Spanish. He had studied Spanish three years in an Arizona high school and had two years in college.

In other services, the nurses gave their testimonies and a national Baptist pastor preached. On most evenings, Spanish language evangelistic films were shown. The nationals responded well to these evangelistic films.

The days were long. Each day started with breakfast in a restaurant at 7 a.m. The clinic was opened by 8 o'clock and continued to approximately 5 p.m. The team would return to their hotel for debriefing and eat the evening meal about 7 p.m. Most evenings a national pastor conducted the evening evangelistic service.

White believes that the experience not only was helpful in the Arkansas/Guatemala Partnership, but also was extremely



Pulaski Association building team and Guatemalan workers.

beneficial to the members of Second Church. He said, "It was a great experience. We were able to meet both physical and spiritual needs, and we believe that this will be extremely beneficial to the development of a new congregation in Retalahuleu."

Pulaski Association constructs building

Pulaski Association took a building team to Retalahuleu Jan. 30-Feb. 9. The 13 member construction team came from eight different congregations. Director of Missions Glenn Hickey, a former foreign missionary to Brazil, was able to assist in communication because of the similarity of Spanish to Portuguese.

The team constructed a 2,080 square foot facility and provided \$9,000 for materials. The sponsoring church, located in Mazatenango, provided \$1,000 toward material costs. This money provided for the concrete blocks and the roof. The concrete floor will be added at a later date. Many of the churches in Guatemala have dirt floors.

Dr. Hickey is optimistic about the future of the congregation. There are several reasons for this optimism: (1) a number of Baptists were discovered during the church construction; (2) the volunteers had a profound impact on many people in the area; and (3) a very positive impact was made by the medical clinic that was conducted by Second Church, Little Rock.

The trip had a very positive impact on the volunteers. Hickey observed that those

who were on the trip were extremely proud of what Southern Baptists are doing on the mission field. It also strengthened the commitment for mission work, both in prayer and in giving.

Hickey said, "The volunteers were impressed with both the commitment and lifestyle of the Guatemalan Baptists, as well as that of our foreign missionaries."

The volunteers were exceedingly impressed with one 80-year-old Guatemalan who worked everyday alongside them. The pastor of the sponsoring church also worked everyday. There also were six to 12

Guatemalans who worked each day as their schedules would permit.

Hickey said, "From every standpoint, this was the most successful mission trip in which I have ever participated. I believe that it will strengthen the commitment of the people from our association, as well as assist the Guatemalan Baptists in evangelizing their country."

Hickey encouraged other Arkansas Baptists to be a part of the Arkansas/Guatemala Partnership. Those who are interested in participating should contact Dr. Glendon Grober, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203.



Jay Pratt, Little Rock, visits with a Guatemalan worker.

ABN / J. Everett Speed



Guatemala is a land of striking contrasts, from rich plazas to shabby hovels.

SOUTHERN SEMINARY

Trustees approve 'covenant'

by Pat Cole
Southern Seminary

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)—Southern Baptist Theological Seminary trustees approved April 8 a "covenant" agreement with faculty that will guide the seminary's efforts to fill faculty vacancies with "conservative evangelical scholars."

The covenant, approved by a 49-7 margin following more than two hours of debate, effectively will replace controversial new guidelines for faculty employment adopted last September by trustees at the Louisville, Ky., school. The six-page covenant was hammered out in a series of meetings over the past four months between two seven-member trustee and faculty ad hoc committees. The faculty approved the document March 28 by a vote of 38-5.

The covenant pledges the seminary will seek "balanced representation" on the faculty through "intentional employment of conservative evangelical scholars for future openings." Under the covenant's terms, the seminary will hire only professors who "reflect a clear evangelical orientation" in their view of the Bible's authority and inspiration. The covenant contains a seven-paragraph statement on biblical authority that new faculty members and those seeking tenure must affirm.

In its statement on Scripture, the covenant maintains that divine inspiration is

"guaranteed true and trustworthy utterances on all matters on which the biblical authors were moved to speak and write." It describes the Bible as "true and reliable in all the matters it addresses, whatever the subject matter." The Bible, it adds, serves as the "ultimate standard of authority for God's people, transcending both temporal and cultural contexts."

The covenant states it will remain an employment guideline until trustees "in consultation with the administration and faculty determine that the seminary has achieved faculty balance."

Adoption of the covenant served to amend action taken last September which added the 1987 Southern Baptist Peace Committee Report as a guideline for employment, promotion and tenure of all faculty. The action stipulated the entire report—"both findings and recommendations"—be used as a guideline in addition to existing academic personnel policies and the Abstract of Principles, the confessional statement that has governed the school since its founding as the convention's first seminary in 1859.

In the findings section, the Peace Committee report declared "most Southern Baptists believe" people who say the Bible is true believe that "Adam and Eve were real persons"; "named authors did indeed write the biblical books attributed to them," miracles "did indeed occur as supernatural events in history" and the "historical nar-

atives given by biblical authors were indeed accurate and reliable."

In response, Southern's faculty voted unanimously to ask the board to rescind its action. They were joined in their appeal by officers of the seminary's alumni association. Faculty argued in a statement that the trustee decision created "significant problems" in the faculty's relationship with the board, missed the Peace Committee report and introduced "ambiguity and confusion" into the seminary's instructional process. It also expressed concerns about implications for accreditation and recruitment of faculty and students.

Faculty and alumni leaders noted the seminary already had agreed in 1988 to implement recommendation five of the Peace Committee report which specifically addressed the convention's six seminaries.

In addition to its statement on Scripture, the covenant commits trustees, administration and faculty to "a system of seminary governance which maintains in the operation of the institution the distinct and separate functions of trustees, administration and faculty." The covenant also promises trustees, administration and faculty will seek an "inclusive ministry to all Southern Baptists in a period of transition in denominational leadership and theological interpretation within the Southern Baptist Convention."

Trustee Executive Committee Chairman Wayne Allen, said the covenant is a step toward building trust between faculty and trustees and could help "avoid a head-on collision" between the two groups.

Trustees quiz new profs

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)—The first professors elected at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary under terms of the school's new employment guidelines were closely scrutinized by trustees during their annual meeting April 8-10 in Louisville, Ky. (See story above.)

Prospective professors were questioned by the trustees' academic personnel committee about various theological and social issues, committee members told the full board. They reported all candidates for faculty positions or tenure gave satisfactory answers to specific questions from the findings section of the 1987 Southern Baptist Convention Peace Committee report. Despite questions from some trustees, all applicants were elected without opposition.

During discussion of personnel recommendations, David Miller, an associa-

tional director of missions from Heber Springs, Ark., quizzed the academic personnel committee about two applicants' views on abortion and homosexuality. Committee members answered both were opposed to homosexuality. One candidate voiced opposition to abortion while the other was not asked about the issue, they said.

Those seeking election to the faculty should be asked about these issues in detail, said Miller. People can be personally opposed to abortion and still believe that "other folks ought to have the legal right to decide whether their unborn child lives or dies," he said.

There are some who believe homosexual behavior is wrong but do not consider homosexual "orientation" sinful, Miller noted. "It is not enough to say they are against the act of homosexuality."



A Symbol
To Depend On.

Griffin Leggett
Healy & Roth

Forest Hills
Memorial Park

Griffin Leggett / Rest Hills

GROSS
FUNERAL HOME

PEOPLE TO DEPEND ON

Postal rates up

Increases dramatically affect state Baptist paper

by Marla Sykes
Baptist Press

NASHVILLE (BP)—The most recent second-class postal rate increase has seriously affected non-profit publications, including state Baptist newspapers.

The U.S. Postal Service Board of Governors approved the rate increase effective Feb. 3, 1991. The increase is about 22 to 25 percent, said Al Ogelton of U.S. Postal Services in Nashville.

While the cost of printing and other factors have increased with the cost of living, "... Postage has grossly increased and surpassed as the highest percentage expense of production," said Theo Sommerkamp, editor of the *Ohio Baptist Messenger*, newsjournal of the Ohio Baptist Convention, who struggles to produce 24 issues yearly.

"We are watching it closely. We do not know if we will have to take remedial action this year or not," continued Sommerkamp, whose publication postage cost was increased by 25 percent, from \$2,800 to \$3,500 per week.

R.G. Puckett, editor of the *Biblical Recorder*, newsjournal of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina said, "This is grossly unfair. The postage increases (over the past few years) have been inconsistent in what has happened in the economy," explained Puckett. "The (postal) increases prove to be more than 1,000 percent compared to the economy."

The *Biblical Recorder*, with a postage increase of \$1000 per week, raised subscription rates \$1 and skipped the first issue of April to help recover from the budget crunch. The North Carolina paper also is receiving more state Cooperative Program assistance.

"Postal services could eventually price non-profit organizations out of business," said Presnall Wood, editor of the *Baptist Standard*, newsjournal of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, the largest circulation Southern Baptist newspaper publication. "I'm not sure they (postal services) understand our constituency," Wood continued. He recalled a 50-year period for the *Baptist Standard* without one increase in subscription prices.

"It's a different philosophy now," he explained. The publication has had to resort to an increase in subscription rates. The postal rate increase has elevated postage for the Texas paper 23 percent, which translates to a weekly average of \$25,000. About \$1 million will be paid for postal services this year by the *Baptist Standard*.

Jack Brymer, editor of the *Florida Baptist*

Witness, newsjournal of the Florida Baptist Convention, said the rate change will increase his publication's mailing costs by 22 percent. "We anticipated the increase, but not the size of it," said Brymer.

While the postage increase has significantly affected most state Baptist newspapers, the effect may be a bit more dramatic for the *Witness*. In addition to raising subscription rates, Brymer may propose cutting two staff positions, due to increasing postage and declining circulation.

When asked how this action might affect quality of the newsjournal and how it would relate to its readers, Brymer said, "It will hurt. Ultimately, with 20 percent less staff it will affect quality and quick response and coverage. Sure it will hurt."

For Marv Knox, editor of the *Western Recorder*, Kentucky Baptist Convention's newsjournal, the increase was not quite as devastating.

"Because we anticipated the increase and shared that increase with our readers in subscription costs last February (1990), we were able to build up for this," Knox continued, "We have about broken even. We weren't as badly hit as others."

To help recover the postage increase, the majority of state Baptist newspaper editors are increasing their subscription rates. However, Jim Watters, editor of the *Northwest Baptist Witness*, newsjournal of the Northwest Baptist Convention, which includes Washington and Oregon, utilizes a unique plan.

The Northwest Cooperative Program funds the production cost of the *Witness*. There are no subscription costs. The *Northwest* paper is mailed to every family in every church. However, churches are billed to cover the postage cost for their members.

"There are no penalties for churches or members receiving the paper if churches choose not to respond to the statement," said Watters. "This is completely voluntary."

The postage increase has boosted *Northwest Baptist Witness* costs 25 percent. "This plan has cushioned us from immediate shock," said Watters who reports close to 100 percent involvement from churches in reimbursement of postage.

The rate hike increased postage costs for the *Baptist and Reflector*, newsjournal of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, 29 percent. "I don't want to cut issues or lose readers. People need this information. We can't afford to cut," explained Fletcher Allen, editor.

"The feeling from the state editors is mixed. Most think we should pay our fair share if we in turn receive service due," said Allen, who is also president of the Southern Baptist Press Association, organization of state Baptist newspaper editors.

"Some editors may choose to ask for more state Cooperative Program money or more support from their state conventions," explained Allen. "Others may choose to cut down on issues or pages, while most will raise subscription rates, which will run a high risk of losing subscriptions."

Asked by Baptist Press why such a large increase in second class postage rates was needed, Leslie Clark, attorney for the U.S. Postal Service in Washington, who handled the second-class rate design, said, "There were no specific reasons stated, though there is lots of speculation. ... Legally, rate increases can be proposed only when there is an increase in cost."

Presnall Wood seemed to sum up the overall feelings of state Baptist editors: "This is not good. It hurts. It hurts because it means fewer people will receive Baptist news. It's a serious thing."



(A Victorian Inn)

Eureka Springs, Arkansas

- * We Cater to Church Groups
- * Convenient to Restaurants
- * Next Door to Pine Mtn. Jamboree and Village Shopping
- * Trolley Stop
- * Passion Play Reservations
- * Honeymoon Accommodations
- * CALL EARLY FOR RESERVATIONS *
501-253-7171

Rt. 1 Box 286, Eureka Springs, AR 72632



"The family of Mrs. Dorothy L. Oakley wishes to express our deep gratitude for every expression of your love and support from so many pastors and laypersons among Arkansas Baptists. Thank you so much for your attendance at the funeral, the flowers, cards, telephone calls and other acts of your sweet concern. We love and appreciate you so much."

W.B. Oakley, William P. Oakley and Family

Across the Country

Hunger gifts spiral downward

NASHVILLE—Southern Baptists' hunger gifts in 1990 continued the downward spiral begun 1985, according to figures released by the Southern Baptist Foreign and Home Mission Boards.

Southern Baptist contributions for domestic and foreign hunger in 1990 totaled \$7,780,072. This represents a decrease of 1.6 percent over similar giving in 1989.

In 1985, Southern Baptists gave \$11,830,146 to hunger ministries. That mark shattered the previous record high in 1984 of \$7,166,772.

Hunger gifts in 1986 dropped to \$9,089,279. Hunger contributions totaled \$8,931,339 in 1987, \$9,009,764 in 1988 and \$7,905,322 in 1989.

The Foreign Mission Board reported receipts of \$6,478,844, a decrease from \$6,613,785 in 1989. Receipts for domestic hunger through the Home Mission Board were \$1,301,228, a slight increase over \$1,291,537 in 1989.

John Cheyne, director of the human needs program at the Foreign Mission Board, stated that the FMB had more human needs projects in more nations in 1990 than ever before, but had few funds with which to work.

RTVC begins FamilyNet operation

FORT WORTH, Texas—The Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission began operation of FamilyNet, a broadcast television faith and family network April 1. The network previously was owned by Old Time Gospel Hour and Liberty Broadcast Network of Lynchburg, Va. Both entities are a part of the ministry of Jerry Falwell.

The purchase was authorized by RTVC trustees in January.

The purchase will multiply the outreach of commission programming, said RTVC President Jack Johnson. "FamilyNet is accessible to some 10 to 12 million not now being reached by the RTVC's ACTS network," Johnson said. "That means we can more than double the potential for preaching the gospel to the people of America."

Lee Porter looks at re-election possibility

NASHVILLE—Lee Porter has not ruled out the possibility of allowing his nomination in Atlanta for a 15th term as Southern Baptist Convention registration secretary.

"If I am still employed by the Sunday School Board, I will not allow my name to be presented to the convention for re-election. But, if the Lord should lead me to another position of service and God reveals to me and the messengers of the Southern Baptist Convention that the cause of Christ, denominational harmony, and confidence in the registration and balloting process could be extended with my serving as registration secretary, then I would allow my nomination," said Porter.

Following the convention in New Orleans last year, Porter was told by Sunday School Board officials it was "unwise" for him to serve as registration secretary again. Porter was said to have made disparaging remarks about Southern Baptist "conservatives" to a seminary class visiting the convention.

Associated Baptist Press selects editor

WASHINGTON—Greg Warner, 36, associate editor of the *Florida Baptist Witness*, has been named the first full-time editor of Associated Baptist Press.

Warner will assume his new duties May 1 and maintain his headquarters in Jacksonville, Fla. There is no structural connection between ABP and the Southern Baptist Press Association, Baptist Press or any Southern Baptist agency.

Brotherhood/WMU name coed youth missions task force

NASHVILLE—A six-point statement affirming coeducational missions options for youth emerged from a meeting of Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission leaders and Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union leaders April 1-2.

The adoption of the statement led to the appointment of a task force charged with developing coed missions options for youth.

Although the group, consisting of 90 state and national leaders did not have the authority to make decisions for the two organizations, they agreed to present a six-point statement affirming the need to work together to develop World Changers. World Changers is a coeducational missions program sponsored by Brotherhood for youth in grades 9-12. It consists of 11 training sessions and culminates in a 7-day missions project.

The Arkansas Baptist's CHURCH SERVICES DIRECTORY

Accounting & Tax Service

General Ledger Company, Inc.
1501 N. University Ave., Suite 330
Little Rock, AR 72207
501-864-5344

Air Conditioning

Grisham Air Conditioning
505 Sixth Street
Hot Springs, AR 71913
Dale Kemp, Owner; 501-623-1202

Book Stores

Baptist Book Store (SBC)
9101 W. Markham
Little Rock, AR 72205
501-250-6009

Electrical Contractors

Concord Electric Co.
6114 Alma Highway
Van Buren, AR 72956
Hm: 501-474-9232; Off: 474-3792

Flowers

Frances Flower Shop
1222 West Capitol
Little Rock, AR 72201
501-372-2203

Heating & Air Conditioning

Cox Heating & Air Conditioning
1612 Park Avenue
Stuttgart, AR 72160
673-2081

Insurance

Bob Stender - State Farm Ins.
Auto - Life - Home - Health - Boat - Aviation
800 N. James, Jacksonville, Ark.
982-9456 or 835-8150

Mailing and Addressing Eqpmnt.

Crockett Business Machines
1900 West Third
Little Rock, AR 72205
501-372-7455

Music & Sound

Sigler Music Co.
Fort Smith, Ark.; 501-783-1131
Springdale, Ark.; 501-751-5961
Sound Equip. Sold & Installed Yamaha,
Peavey, Baldwin & Roland



Focus on spiritual awakening

ATLANTA (BP)—Calling a denomination and a nation to prayer for spiritual awakening will highlight the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention at the Georgia World Congress Center, June 4-6.

"Jesus... There's Power in His Name" is the theme for the 134th session. All the business, reports and sermons of the annual meeting are planned but also a special session designed as a call to prayer for spiritual awakening in America.

"(The program) is one of the best in a long time," said Danny Watters, pastor of Beulah Baptist Church in Douglasville, Georgia, and chairman of the SBC Committee on Order of Business.

The Wednesday evening session will be an emphasis on the spiritual, Watters said, with President Morris H. Chapman calling the denomination and America to special prayer for an "encounter with God."

Last year Chapman, pastor of First Baptist Church of Wichita Falls, Texas, appointed a 10-member spiritual awakening committee that will coordinate the two-and-a-half hour period. The Home Mission Board relinquished its slot on the program for the emphasis.

"This has been on (Chapman's) heart for a long time," said Jim Henry, pastor of First Baptist Church, Orlando, Florida, and chairman of the spiritual awakening committee. "This will be an evening the Holy Spirit moves in his people to launch a spiritual awakening both in the Southern Baptist Convention and across America."

The session will feature calls "to a fresh encounter with God, to confession and humility, to the cross and sacrifice, to celebration and to renew our covenant with God. It includes prayer groups, scripture readings, presentations of banners and crowns, special music and messages.

A concert by a Patriotic Festival Choir, representing three Georgia churches, will begin the special evening session.

Keynote speeches during the three-day meeting will be Chapman's presidential address at the conclusion of the first session Tuesday morning and Tom D. Elliff, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church, Del City, Okla., will bring the annual convention sermon Wednesday morning.

Elections for officers will begin Tuesday afternoon. Unlike recent conventions, there does not appear to be opposition to Chapman, who is eligible for another single year term. Most observers speculate the attendance may be down from the recent record numbers attending the annual meeting, primarily because of diminishing public confrontations between "moderates" and "conservatives" in the convention.

The Foreign Mission Board will close the Tuesday evening session while a special "Baptist Hour" 50th anniversary presentation by the Radio and Television Commission will close the annual meeting Thursday morning.

About four hours of business will be spread across the three days beginning Tuesday afternoon. Messengers will vote on a proposed \$140,710,282 1991-92 Southern Baptist Convention Cooperative Program Allocation Budget, a 2.46 percent increase over the current year.

Votes also will be taken on a proposed merger of the convention's Public Affairs Committee and the Christian Life Commission, bylaw changes and elimination of at-large and local trustee slots for three agencies.

Mike Huckabee, Arkansas Baptist State Convention president and pastor Beech Street First Church in Texarkana will bring the "Call to Celebration" in th special Wednesday evening session.

Pastors' Conference

The 1991 meeting of the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference will focus on revival—in the home, heart, land and church—June 2-3 at Atlanta's World Congress Center, according to Richard G. Lee, conference president.

The theme, "Lord, Send Revival," will be the focus of 14 messages by pastors, evangelists and others during four sessions, said Lee, pastor of Rehoboth Baptist Church, Tucker, Ga.

Speakers for the conference, one of more than a dozen meetings scheduled in advance of the annual meeting of the SBC, include a number of familiar pastors as well as an evangelist, a college president, and three nationally recognized author-speakers.

W.A. Criswell, senior pastor of First Baptist Church of Dallas and former SBC president, will conclude the conference Monday evening with his message.

Other pastors scheduled are Jerry Vines, First Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Fla.; Ed Young, Second Baptist Church, Houston; Adrian Rogers, Bellevue Baptist Church, suburban Memphis, Tenn.; Jimmy Draper, First Baptist Church, Euless, Texas; Darrell Gilyard, Victory Baptist Church, Richardson, Texas; and Jack Graham, Prestonwood Baptist Church, Dallas. Vines, Rogers and Draper are former SBC presidents.

Lt. Col. Oliver North, central figure in congressional hearings several years ago on aid to contras in Central America; Tim LaHaye, author-speaker; and Chuck Colson,

author-speaker on prison ministries, will bring messages Monday afternoon.

Other speakers include: Tony Evans, Oak Cliff Bible Church, Dallas; Bailey Smith, evangelist from Atlanta; Bill Stafford, evangelist from Chattanooga, Tenn.; and Paige Patterson, president, Criswell Bible College, Dallas.

In addition to Lee, officers of the 1991 conference are Ruffin Snow, pastor of Eastwood Baptist Church, Tulsa, Okla., vice president, and David Hankins, pastor of Trinity Baptist Church, Lake Charles, La., secretary-treasurer.

Ministers' Wives

"Heart of the Hearth" will be the theme of the SBC Ministers' Wives luncheon, held in Atlanta on Tuesday, June 4, at 12:15 p.m. at the Omni International Ballroom in the Omni Hotel-CNN Center.

Charles Petty, "America's Family Humorist" who is internationally known as an author and speaker, will speak at the luncheon, which is held between sessions of the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Atlanta.

Advance tickets to the luncheon, which is open to the public, are \$17 if ordered before May 20, and may be ordered from Margaret Marchison, 3235 Ramsgate, Augusta, GA 30909. Ticket price at the convention booth will be \$19.

DOMs

Fellowship, support, learning and an interaction forum are descriptions of the 30th annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Conference of Associational Directors of Missions June 2-3 at the Hyatt Airport Hotel, Atlanta.

"Seeing the Invisible" will be the theme, according to Russell Bennett, president and executive director of the Long Run Baptist Association, Louisville, Ky.

The gathering of directors of missions has been a "supporting and learning time," said Bennett. "It meets the needs of DOMs and serves as a forum for interaction with SBC agency officials."

Bennett will address the group Sunday afternoon followed by a banquet hosted by the SBC Annuity Board. Also bringing a featured address will be Milton Ferguson, president, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo.; Dennis Swenberg, director of missions, Hot Springs, Ark.; and theme interpretation, Henry Blackaby, director of spiritual awakening, SBC Home Mission Board.

Floyd Collins, director of missions, Kingstown, R.I., will preach in the Sunday morning worship service.



Day camp

A missions/sports day camp will be provided for boys and girls who have completed grades 1-6 and whose parents are attending the Southern Baptist Convention in Atlanta in June.

The missions day camp will provide a missions education program and sports activities for the children of messengers during all daytime sessions of the convention as follows: Tuesday 8:15 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Wednesday 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., and Thursday 8:00 a.m.-11:20 a.m.

The cost is \$8.00 per day per child. This covers a lunch for Tuesday and refreshments each day, as well as accident insurance and transportation.

All registration must be done at the missions day camp booth near the messenger registration area in the Georgia World Congress Center. Registration will be from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Monday, June 3, and during daytime convention sessions on Tuesday and Wednesday.

It is sponsored by the children and youth division of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission, the Georgia Baptist Brotherhood department, the Atlanta Baptist Association, and Second Ponce de Leon Baptist Church.

The buses will leave the Georgia World Congress Center between 7:45 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 4; between 8:00 a.m. and 8:15 a.m. Wednesday, June 5; and between 7:30 a.m. and 7:45 a.m. on Thursday, June 6.

Church dress codes must be met in order to board the bus: no short shorts, no tank tops, and only soft-soled recreational shoes—with socks.

Parents will pick their children up promptly at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday; 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday; and 11:20 a.m. on Thursday.

Church music

"Turning Our Hearts" will be the theme for the 1991 Southern Baptist Church Music Conference annual meeting June 2-3 in Atlanta, according to Mark Edwards, conference president.

A unique organization of local church ministers of music, college and seminary music faculty and denominational church music workers, the conference's annual meeting is primarily a time of fellowship, musical inspiration and an interchange of ideas, said Edwards, minister of music at First Baptist Church, Nashville.

The two-day meeting is split between Wieuca Road Baptist Church in suburban Atlanta and the Ritz-Carlton (Buckhead) Hotel. A banquet Monday evening with an

awards presentation concludes the conference.

Conference participants will join the Wieuca congregation Sunday night in worship with Allen Walworth, pastor of First Baptist Church, Huntsville, Ala., as speaker and Edwards leading the music.

Concerts will be provided by South Carolina Honor Children's Choir; First Light of First Baptist Church, Nashville; choir and orchestra of First Baptist Church, Augusta, Ga.; Georgia Sons of Jubal and Jubalheirs; youth choir of Providence Baptist Church, Opelika, Ala.; Brewton-Parker College Choir, Mount Vernon, Ga.; and Im-age of Palm Beach Atlanta College, West Palm Beach, Fla.

In addition to Edwards, 1991 conference officers include: Bob Hatfield, Dawson Memorial Baptist Church, Birmingham, Ala., president-elect; Dot Pray, keyboard consultant for the Mississippi Baptist Convention, vice president of the denominational division; Lynn Madden, minister of music, Immanuel Baptist Church, Little Rock, Ark., vice president of local church division; and Betty Bedsole, professor of music, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., vice president of music educators division.

WMU

An address by a former hostage in the American Embassy in Kuwait, the only full Home Mission Board report to be given during the Southern Baptist Convention, and the election of a new national president will highlight the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union annual meeting June 2-3.

The five sessions of the meeting will be held in the Ballroom of the Georgia World Congress Center beginning Sunday afternoon at 2:30. The Sunday evening session begins at 7:00 p.m. Monday sessions begin at 9:30 a.m., 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Theme of the meeting is "Called to Mission."

Maurice Graham, a Southern Baptist missionary to Kuwait, will speak during the Sunday afternoon session. He was one of several Americans held hostage at the American Embassy after the Iraqi invasion last August. His release came on Dec. 9, the day Southern Baptists had been asked to pray specifically for Graham's release.

Larry Lewis, president of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, will bring the full home missions report he usually gives to the entire Southern Baptist Convention, during the Monday evening session of the WMU meeting. Normally a one-hour presentation to the convention, the home missions report time this year has been

reduced to 10 minutes to make room on the SBC schedule for an emphasis on spiritual awakening.

During the report, five home missionaries will talk about the work each is doing: Mickey Mayfield, Lawrenceville, Ga.; Larry Martin, Newton, Mass.; Patty Lane, Dallas; Herminio Riots, Duncan, Okla.; and Shella Black, Charlotte, N.C.

A new WMU national president will be elected during the Monday morning session to succeed Marjorie J. McCullough, the current WMU president. McCullough is in her fifth year as national president. WMU bylaws allow the president to serve five consecutive one-year terms.

Other features of the WMU meeting: — Foreign missions will be the emphasis of the first session of the annual meeting. Highlighting the work of the Southern Baptists around the world will be R. Keith Parks, Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board president.

Describing what it is like to experience God's call will be people from four different walks of missions life: Allison Lee, a teen-ager from Columbus, Ga.; Dixie Hunke of Fresno, Calif., a recent foreign missions appointee; Robert and Diana Clark, missionaries who have worked in the Philippines a short time; and Laura Frances Snow, a veteran missionary to Chile.

— Clayton Gilbert of Alexander City, Ala., will bring the message during the Monday afternoon session. Gilbert is the father of Mary Anna Gilbert, the FMB journeyman teacher who was killed in a plane crash in China last October.

— A service of missions-centered musical for Sunday evening. Four choirs from the Atlanta area will bring special music in addition to congregational singing.

— Dellanna W. O'Brien, national WMU executive director, will present her report during the Monday morning session. The president's address by McCullough is scheduled for Monday afternoon.

— Theme interpretations will be presented by The Company, a dramatic group from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

— A fashion show featuring children's clothing from mission areas around the world will be the highlight of a luncheon Monday. Children from the Atlanta area will model national dress from every continent where Southern Baptists have work.

The luncheon will be held in the Georgia World Congress Center. Tickets are \$18 and must be ordered by May 1 from: Annual Meeting Meal Tickets, Order Accounting, Woman's Missionary Union, P.O. Box 830010, Birmingham, Ala. 35283-0010.



SBC housing still available

ATLANTA (BP)—Housing for the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in Atlanta, June 4-6, is still available throughout the city, according to convention housing officials. Six weeks before the convention, 7,700 rooms have been reserved but there are still plenty of rooms available.

Atlanta is considered one of the best "convention cities" in the U.S. for large meetings, officials said. In various locations of the metropolitan area, a good selection of hotel and motel rooms is available for the SBC meeting. For information about

rooms and a housing form, call (615) 244-2355. After May 14 persons seeking room reservations will need to contact motels/hotels directly, said housing officials.

In addition, Atlanta's public transportation system is very good, convention officials said, making rooms anywhere in the city easily accessible from the Georgia World Congress Center in the downtown. The Center is the site of the SBC meeting.

In fact, messengers and visitors are being encouraged to leave their automobiles at their hotels and ride the MARTA rail and bus system. Transportation information will be available at the World Congress Center, the airport and all hotels. Visitor passes giving unlimited daily bus and train rides have been reduced (5-day pass is \$7.00 and 1-day is \$3.00).

There will be no convention-operated shuttle service available, officials said, from motels and hotels to the World Congress Center.

There will be ample parking for motorhomes, campers and RVs but convention officials are still working on the details which will be released soon.

Care is also being taken to make the convention site convenient for persons with physical disabilities. A special block of rooms for the disabled has been reserved through the Atlanta Housing Bureau. For information about these rooms call the Executive Committee's office at (615) 244-2355.

As previously announced, childcare is available for children ages birth through

kindergarten. Space is limited and registration will be available at the World Congress Center, Room 363 on the West Concourse.

The preschool registration table will be open Monday, June 3, from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. for those who have not pre-registered their children. Cost is \$8.25 per session with a \$10 deposit, required at registration. Childcare is available only during the sessions of the SBC annual meeting.

World Congress Center regulations prohibit bringing food and/or drinks into the convention center. Convention officials said there would be ample food facilities in the convention center, including a large food court.

Distributing materials inside the World Congress Center during the convention will also be restricted. Organizations holding meetings inside the center may distribute materials in their meeting rooms, exhibitors in the SBC Exhibit Hall may distribute materials around their booths as long as it is not disruptive, and materials of a helpful nature to messengers may be made available at the SBC Information Booth.

Any material to be placed on the distribution tables near the entrances must first be authorized in writing by the convention manager. Although SBC entities may elect to enlist individuals to hand out their material at entries to the meeting halls in lieu of placing it on the distribution tables, no ushers will be permitted to hand out materials.

No material will be allowed on the seats in the meeting halls.

Materials distributed outside the Convention Center are subject to local laws and regulations, officials added.

Attendance forecast

NASHVILLE (BP)—Attendance at the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 4-6, in Atlanta may be down from recent record registrations if the predictions by Lee Porter, SBC registration secretary, are accurate.

Registration will open in the Georgia World Congress Center Sunday at 4 p.m. and each day of the convention thereafter at 8 a.m. Porter said the registration office would close "a little after 9 p.m." each day.

Porter's forecast of 20,000 to 22,500 messengers would be larger than any previous convention prior to 1985, except Atlanta in 1978 when 22,872 registered. Dallas, in 1985, is still the record with 45,519, followed by Atlanta, 1986, with 40,987 and last year's convention in New Orleans, which registered 38,403.

With about 7,000 visitors expected, the June convention could still attract near 30,000, Porter said.

Some observers have speculated the diminishing controversy in the convention, a presidential incumbent apparently uncontested for reelection, a May meeting in Atlanta by a Southern Baptist "moderate" group, and holding the convention a week earlier in June, all may contribute to a smaller attendance.

Registration will be located on the main floor of the World Congress Center, right inside the major entrance.

Churches having questions about the registration process can contact Porter at (615) 251-2181.

Volunteers urgently needed

ATLANTA (BP)—Volunteers are urgently needed for witnessing and ministry projects related to Crossover Atlanta, the evangelistic emphasis prior to this year's Southern Baptist Convention.

Local churches are willing to host more volunteers than there are volunteers committed to help with door-to-door visitation, said Bobby Sunderland, Crossover Atlanta coordinator.

"I'm afraid too many Southern Baptists think Atlanta is the heart of the Bible Belt and doesn't need help with evangelism," Sunderland said. "But the truth is that Atlanta really is a modern mission field."

"In Atlanta Baptist Association, 67 percent of the population doesn't attend any church. Our local churches need help taking the gospel to these residents."

A one-day Soul Winning Encounter is planned for Saturday, June 1. Volunteers do not have to commit to the three-day evangelism project announced earlier to participate in this event, he said.

Other projects planned as part of Crossover Atlanta include street witnessing, construction of a Habitat for Humanity home, feeding the homeless and telemarketing to start a new church.

To sign up for any of these activities, volunteers should contact Sunderland at the Home Mission Board, 1350 Spring St. NW, Atlanta 30367, (404) 898-7687.

Also, volunteers for the one-day witnessing project may sign up at the Friday night kick-off rally at Tabernacle Baptist Church in downtown Atlanta. The rally begins at 6:30 p.m.

LESSONS FOR LIVING

Convention Uniform

We must forgive

by Bob Parker, Interim director, Christian Civic Foundation

Basic passage: 2 Corinthians 1:23-2:11

Focal passage: 2 Corinthians 2:10-11

Central truth: Christians should be people who forgive.

To see Zach Dayot, a native of the Philippines, and Reji Hoshizaki, a Japanese American, praying together was not unusual since both were my seminary class mates. What was unusual, however, was to hear Zach bear witness to the fact that he had forgiveness for the Japanese people though he had seen their soldiers behead his wife and daughter during World War II. Now that's forgiveness.

Recorded in Matthew 18:21-22 are words of Jesus regarding forgiveness. Peter said, "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times." Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven." Jesus also taught forgiveness in the model prayer (Mt. 6:12).

With such from the Lord himself, it's no wonder that the one he forgave on the road to Damascus taught forgiveness in this second letter to the church at Corinth.

The main truth in the basic passage is that Christians must forgive. First of all, fellow believers are to be forgiven. Paul called on the people to forgive one of their own number instead of expelling him from their fellowship.

How spiritually immature it is not to forgive as taught by the Holy Spirit through Paul in this lesson's basic passage. How sad that there are some today who will not forgive even "small" wrongs.

Two main points should be noted. In verse 8 of chapter 2 there is a call for reaffirmation of *agape* love for the one forgiven. Too often there is a tendency to forgive and "forget," not displaying love. Some of the most effective Christians are those who, though having sinned, accomplish the Master's purpose in unusual ways.

One of Satan's devices is to promote unforgiving hearts. As Paul warns in verse 11, we must beware of that trick.

A personal question—Do you have unforgiveness in your heart against anyone? Why have you not forgiven them? Have you stopped to consider that until you do you're being a spiritual stumbling block? Forgive today—right now—make that call or write that letter.

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

Life and Work

By grace and not by works

by Joseph Jones, First Church, Prairie Grove

Basic passage: Ephesians 2:1-10

Focal passage: Ephesians 2:1

Central truth: Salvation is a passage from death to life.

Have you ever watched on television or seen in a magazine, testimonies of people who have lost weight using some diet system? The people would tell how much weight they had lost and how easy it was to follow that particular diet plan. The most convincing part of the testimonies are the before and after pictures of the person which reveal substantial weight loss. This is similar to what we have in our text for this week.

Paul, in verse 2, is telling us to go back in our past to the time when we were without hope and dead in trespasses and sin. When we walked according to the ways of the world. The world of which Paul speaks is not people nor the earth, but is the world system which Satan controls. Most of the world's thinking today is influenced by the media. Through television, newspapers, and magazines we are told how to act, what to wear, what to drive, what's in and what's not. It is most disturbing when we realize that Satan, who is called the prince and the power of the air, dominates much of the media. Paul is telling the Ephesian believers (and us today) to remember when we fell prey to the Devil through the lust and desires of our flesh.

In verse 4, Paul takes us to the point of our salvation and quickly we note that it is God who has done all the work for us. It was he who initiated a great love for us even when we were dead in sins. The death that Paul speaks of in verse 5 is a spiritual death which is separation from God. Just as a physically dead person can do nothing for himself, a spiritually dead person can't either. Paul is reminding us that God has done for us what we could not do for ourselves.

Although salvation is by grace and not by any works (vv. 8-9), it should be noted that verse 10 tells us what works are a result of our salvation. Once we are saved, we then have the freedom and joy to do works of righteousness under the leadership of the Holy Spirit. Paul's teaching, which is the same as James', is that salvation is by grace and that our salvation will lead us to do good works.

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

Bible Book

A greathearted conqueror

by J. Troy Prince, First Chapel, Jonesboro

Basic passage: 2 Samuel 8:1, 13-15; 9:1-8

Focal passage: 2 Samuel 9:1-8

Central truth: David's benevolent attitude reminds us of the grace of God shown through Christ Jesus.

The military prowess of King David is without question; his army was invincible. Among the nations subdued were Philistia, Moab, Zobah, Hamath, Edom, and Damascus. His kingdom stretched from the desert on the east to the sea on the West; from Kadesh on the north to Ezion-Geber on the south.

There is an abrupt change in emphasis, beginning with the 9th chapter of 2 Samuel. There is a move from listing his exploits that made him a great king to an act of kindness toward the house of Saul. Customarily, when a new king came into power, all members of the family of the preceding monarch were slain and their property confiscated.

David's search for surviving members of the family of Saul turned up Mephibosheth, crippled son of Jonathan. He was brought into David's presence. Magnanimous David assured the son of his old friend that no harm would come to him, for he would always eat at the king's table. In addition, all the property of Saul would be restored to him.

David's surface reason for his benevolent attitude appears in the words "for Jonathan's sake." A covenant had been made between David and Jonathan that was to extend to their offspring. Because of this friendship, Mephibosheth received kindness that he did not anticipate. Perhaps David felt more comfortable observing the son of his friend daily.

If there were subtle reasons for David's hospitality, the fact remains that Mephibosheth enjoyed royal privileges. The only thing David expected in return was loyalty and gratitude. At a time when he needed these, Mephibosheth seemingly had become a traitor.

The sweet singer of Israel, powerful king and warrior, continues to reveal his character. He has a gentle side. Mephibosheth could have been slain, but for a friendship begun in youth. David's "soft" side does not detract from his greatness!

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

Lesson
Date:
May 12

LESSONS FOR LIVING

Convention Uniform

Our ministry fulfilled

by Bob Parker, interim director, Christian Civic Foundation

Basic passage: 2 Corinthians 4:1-2, 7-18

Focal passage: 2 Corinthians 4:7

Central truth: We are to fulfill God's purpose of preaching the gospel, despite our human frailty.

Sadly there are still Christians who don't fulfill God's purpose in preaching the good news of Jesus Christ. They excuse themselves because of human frailty.

In the first verse of the focal passages, Paul indicated that one must not lose heart in facing his divine task. In the next verse, he likely was referring to his own past. Before his conversion, he did misuse Scripture. Eventually, though, he found truth in Christ, which gave godly commendation for his ministry.

Several truths are noted in verses 7 through 18 of chapter 4: First, though hard pressed, perplexed, persecuted, and struck down, like Paul, we must remember that, having died to sin, new life in Christ must be promoted. That is one of our main Christian ministries, taught and lived!

Secondly, we must reflect that, like Christ, we too one day will be raised up. We shall be raised up with Christ. This grace will be spread to many and our thanksgiving for it will abound to the glory of God.

Finally, in facing eventual physical death, we must remember that, though physically perishing, our inward man, our soul and spirit is being daily renewed. Consequently, despite our afflictions in our fulfilling the ministry of Christ, we must major on the eternal, rather than the temporal.

Doing that will surely increase the eternal weight of glory referred in verse 17.

The Apostle Paul was a good model of one who fulfilled his ministry. The best example for us is Jesus, our Savior and Lord of life. Paul's example or model was not perfect. He never claimed that it was. The model our Master sets for us, however, is perfect and we have the leadership and power of the Holy Spirit to direct us.

Pray always that you shall, regardless of age, continue the fulfillment of God's purpose for his church in carrying out the Great Commission.

As soldiers of the cross, we must seek in every way possible to have victory in Jesus as our ministry is fulfilled. Pray, but also work that this might be done.

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

Life and Work

God's construction

by Joseph Jones, First Church, Prairie Grove

Basic passage: Ephesians 2:11-22

Focal passage: Ephesians 2:20-22

Central truth: God is in the process of building his church.

There is an important construction project going on in the world today. No heavy machinery or hammers can be heard nor can you pinpoint an exact location of this project on earth. This project has been going on since the days of Christ and the completion of this project has been kept a secret. Only the master builder knows when the project will be finished. The name of the project is called "The Church."

The building materials for this project are all who are "in Christ." This includes both Jews and Gentiles. While this is news that should make us shout for joy, we need to take it one step further. Not only did God break down the barrier of nationalities, but he also broke down the wall of race. When we become one in Christ Jesus, it doesn't matter what color our skin is nor what flag we live under. We are now living materials for that glorious building called the church.

Now let's consider the foundation of this project. Notice first, the labors of this foundation (Ep. 2:20). While the apostles and prophets were not the foundation, they were the ones who by inspiration of the Holy Spirit, laid the foundation. The early church followed the doctrines of the apostles. "And they continued steadfastly in the apostles doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers" (Ac. 2:42). Now the foundation that has been laid is Jesus Christ. Paul says in his letter to the Corinthians, "For other foundation can no man lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ" (1 Co. 3:11).

Finally, let's look at the building itself. First, it is a living building that is still growing (Ep. 2:21). This building is not yet complete and won't be until the rapture of the church. Second, it is a holy building. The church has been cleansed and made holy by the blood of Christ. Thirdly, it's God's home. God doesn't live in our church buildings, but in the hearts of every believer. He has never dwelt in any building made with hands. This project (his church) is a result of his work and not the work of men.

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

Bible Book

The perils of middle age

by J. Troy Prince, First Baptist Chapel, Jonesboro

Basic passage: 2 Samuel 11:1-5, 15; 12:4-7a, 10

Focal passage: 2 Samuel 11:1-5, 15; 12:4-7a, 10

Central truth: Personal moral and spiritual deficiencies contribute to our failures.

The sin of David and Bathsheba is one of the better known events described in the Old Testament. A close reading of the passage in today's lesson will provide details of a sordid story of lust and adultery, followed by a clumsy attempt to cover these escapades by plotting the death of Uriah, husband of Bathsheba.

His sin came at a time of inactivity. The military had resumed its siege of Rabbah, modern Amman. David remained in Jerusalem with only routine matters to occupy his time. The sin occurred at a time of success, ease, and power. Power and comfort have a way of corrupting good people. His sin came in mid-life. The king was about 50 years of age. Sin is no respecter of individuals. When it strikes, sin aims high! In this case, it piled up fast. First, a forbidden look, followed by an unholy desire, then adultery, breaking up of a home, and finally murder.

David tried to keep his "indiscretions" secret. Messengers knew about the problem, Joab was party to the indirect murder. At this point, David's conscience did not condemn him. Although he had committed adultery and murder, he had no inclination to confess his sin.

Nathan, God's prophet and David's friend, went to David with a classic story (2 Sa. 12:1-6) that brought the king to his knees in humble confession. He cried out, "I have sinned against the Lord." Nathan countered with the "good news-bad news" approach. He assured David that "the Lord had taken away his sin," but there would be other results which would be both immediate and far-reaching.

Members of David's family would be slain by the sword. His wives would be taken from him and ravished. The public would know. The enemies of the Lord would lose all their respect of him. The son of Bathsheba, conceived out of wedlock, would die. David learned that forgiveness does not obliterate the consequences of sin.

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

Around the Globe

FMB trustees re-elect chairman, hear reports

BALTIMORE—Trustees of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board re-elected Bill Hancock, pastor of Highview Baptist Church in Louisville, Ky., to a second one-year term as chairman of the 89-member board at their April 8-10 meeting. They also appointed 31 missionaries and heard a report on efforts to aid Kurds and other refugees of the Persian Gulf war.

In other action, trustees heard a progress report on a study of the board's facilities and location and held a memorial service in honor of Foreign Mission Board personnel who have died.

The appointments, including 25 new missionaries and six reappointees, bring the total force to 3,880 missionaries assigned to 121 countries.

Tim Brendle, the board staff member named to head up the board's response to the crisis in the Persian Gulf, told trustees in an interim report that strategies already are under way to aid thousands of refugees in cooperation with Southern Baptist personnel and other Christians. Brendle said the board already has released an initial \$130,000 for immediate needs in the Gulf region.

Don Kammerdener, the board's executive vice president, led the service in memory of 11 people related to foreign missions who have died in the past six months.

On another matter, the trustee committee for Europe, the Middle East and North Africa asked staff to study overall theological needs in Eastern Europe through their normal process, including needs of the Baptist seminary in Oradea, Romania, and report back as soon as possible.

Moss named to fill Bill O'Brien's job at FMB

BALTIMORE—Zeb Moss, 61, a missions veteran whose work has ranged from media consultation to mission administration, will succeed Bill O'Brien as executive director of public affairs at the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

The appointment will become effective July 1 or earlier if a replacement for Moss in his current assignment is named.

Moss, a North Carolina native, brings 32 years of missions experience to his new role. Since August 1987 he has been the Richmond-based associate area director for eastern and southern Africa.

'PrayerLine' gets new number

RICHMOND, Va.—The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's toll-free "PrayerLine" is getting a new number: 1-800-395-PRAY.

Thousands of Southern Baptists call the PrayerLine regularly for specific missions prayer requests and news updates. The recorded messages change twice each week.

The new number, effective May 1, is 1-800-395-PRAY (or 1-800-395-7729). It will replace 1-800-ALL SEEK. Use of a different phone company will enable the mission board to save money on billings for the toll-free calls, said Minette Drumwright, director of the prayer strategy office. Local callers in the Richmond, Va., area will continue to dial 355-6581.

The PrayerLine has received more than half a million calls since it was begun in January 1987. Calls averaged about 12,000 to 13,000 per month for most of 1990, but topped 20,000 in December and 22,000 in January of this year. Calls always increase during the weeks leading up to the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions, Drumwright said, but callers also were concerned about Southern Baptist workers in the Middle East because of the Persian Gulf crisis.

Betha family returns to Oklahoma for burial

MOMBASA, Kenya—Southern Baptist missionary Ralph Betha and his four children left Kenya April 3 for the United States, where his murdered wife, Lynda, was to be buried later in the week.

Funeral services are scheduled for April 5 at First Baptist Church in Tulsa, Okla., with a sunrise burial service in Tulsa tentatively scheduled for April 6. The Betha family also plans to attend a memorial service later that day at First Baptist Church in Euless, Texas. Additional memorial services are scheduled for April 12 at First Baptist Church in Jackson, Miss., and April 13 at Highview Baptist Church in Louisville, Ky.

Available—Hospitalization plan pays out-patient and prescription benefits. Coverage is available for most pre-existing conditions. Coverage also available for Medicare supplement insurance. Phone Mr. Stewart at 501-664-0511 between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.—Reserve National Insurance Company (closed Wednesdays). 125

Available—Atlanta Convention arrangements: hotel rooms, discount airfares, complete packages, 1-800-624-2947. 425

For Sale—Tape ministry envelopes, bubble lined, self seal, \$40/500 minimum. Call Charlotte 758-2130 or send check or M.O. to C. Pack, POB 898, Cabot, AR 72023. 425

Needed—Minister of Music/Youth, full-time position. Send resume to Concord Baptist Church, Rt. 1 Box 503, Van Buren, AR 72956. Attn.: Tim Prock. 59

Needed—Florentine Pattern Obscure glass for Tillar Baptist Church. Call 392-2609. 425

Classified ads must be submitted in writing to the ABN office no less than 10 days prior to the date of publication desired. A check or money order in the proper amount, figured at 80 cents per word, must be included. Multiple insertions of the same ad must be paid for in advance. The ABN reserves the right to reject any ad because of unsuitable subject matter. Classified ads will be inserted on a space-available basis. No endorsement by the ABN is implied.

For \$25 see the Great Passion Play & stay at Keller's Country Dorm Resort for GROUPS of 12-160, in Eureka Springs, Ark. Air-conditioned lodging, swimming. \$9 tickets, cheeseburger cooked, dessert and breakfast. All included! Call 501-253-8418 today!



Quality
Van Sales

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

WHY PAY MORE FOR LIFE INSURANCE?

VERY LOW NON-SMOKER MONTHLY COSTS

Age	\$100,000	\$250,000
30	8.30	14.30
40	10.30	18.80
50	14.30	24.30
60	20.30	41.80
70	34.30	121.80

PLEASE CALL ROY HAPNER, KNOXVILLE, TENN. TOLL FREE 1-800-374-6779 9-4 Mon.-Sat. Kentucky Central Life, Lexington, KY. Nonlife graded premium life insurance from #76232. Above premiums are first year only. Premiums increase annually to age 85 and then remain level. Female rates illustrated above.

Subscriber Services

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

Every Resident Family Plan gives churches a premium-rate when they send the *Newsmagazine* to all their resident households. Resident families are calculated to be at least one-fourth of the church's Sunday School enrollment. Churches who send only to members who request a subscription do not qualify for this lower rate of \$5.64 per year for each subscription.

A **Group Plan** (formerly called the Club Plan) allows church members to get a better than individual rate when 10 or more of them send their subscriptions together through their church.

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

Non-profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Little Rock, AR
Permit No. 2005

CAR-T SORT
1
*CR39

2230

017577 COMP
HISTORICAL COMMISSION

901 COMMERCE ST #400

NASHVILLE TN 37203

Subscribers through the group plan pay \$6.36 per year.

Individual subscriptions may be purchased by anyone at the rate of \$7.99 per year. These subscriptions are more costly because they require individual attention for address changes and renewal notices.

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

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

WORLD

To ease the suffering

(BP) photo

by Art Toalston
SBC Foreign Mission Board

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Joining worldwide efforts to ease suffering in the Middle East, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board is sending \$130,000 in relief funds to the region.

Hungry families in Iraq will receive food purchased with \$105,000 in Southern Baptist funds. And \$25,000 has been set aside for suffering Kurdish refugees at Iraq's border with Turkey. Additional relief allocations are likely, according to Tim Brendle, who heads the Foreign Mission Board's Persian Gulf Response unit.

"The doors of opportunity are opening in the Gulf region," Brendle told the agency's trustees April 10 during their meeting in Baltimore.

But Brendle urged trustees to pray evangelicals of all persuasions will be "willing to pay the price without getting the glory for it so that God might accomplish what he wants to do in the Middle East." He noted the Foreign Mission Board has become a partner in an interdenominational effort to coordinate outreach in the postwar Middle East.

The board is exploring ways to enable Baptists from throughout Asia to travel to the Persian Gulf for ministry, Brendle said. Particularly in Iraq and Jordan, Asian Baptists likely will find greater openness than Baptists from countries that warred with Iraq over its invasion of Kuwait, he said.

Meanwhile, in Bahrain, a Christian survey team continues to seek visas to enter Kuwait, Brendle reported.

The initial \$105,000 hunger relief allocation for Iraq will provide food for some 1,000 families for two weeks. Each food package will contain milk, eggs, flour, rice, sugar and tea.

The \$25,000 in relief funds for Kurdish refugees along the Iraq-Turkey border will be used to meet needs signaled by a Christian survey team scheduled to visit the region about April 17.

Southern Baptists who want to participate with special donations above their regular church giving may send funds to: Middle East Relief, Foreign Mission Board, P.O. Box 6767, Richmond, Va. 23230.

Foreign Mission Board involvement in



4.5 million Kurds lived in Iraq before civil war broke out.

the region "is not simply a relief effort," Brendle told trustees. "It's an effort to walk through the doors that are open and to do whatever God wants to do in this area." The Persian Gulf Response unit is exploring a range of ways Southern Baptists may help meet physical and emotional needs in the wake of war.

Needs in Iraq alone are so great that the United Nations and Red Cross estimate \$280 million will be needed to care for hundreds of thousands of refugees for the next three months. International pledges, however, currently total only \$124 million of that amount, according to news reports.

Cooperative efforts among evangelicals for Persian Gulf outreach began taking shape during an April 8-9 consultation in Atlanta sponsored by the Evangelical Foreign Missions Association and Open Doors. Representatives of 50 Christian organizations were present, including Brendle and Jimmy Maroney, assistant director of the FMB's Global Desk.

Adopting a statement of cooperation, the consultation called for worldwide prayer for the Middle East, short-term relief, long-term relationship building with the people of the region, and support for human rights and religious freedom.

All ministry in the Middle East, the statement noted, should "enhance the ministry effectiveness of the church in the Middle East." Small evangelical congregations exist in Iraq and most Muslim countries of the Persian Gulf.

"A tremendous spirit of cooperation—remarkably little turf protection" characterized the consultation, Brendle said. He is one of six members of a follow-up committee to continue building cooperation among evangelicals as they broaden their work in the Middle East.