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Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1985-1989

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

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April 24, 1986

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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Building campaign gets
spiritual adrenalin flowing
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1985-1986
Calendar of Activities

April 24, 1986

Arkansas Baptist
Newsmagazine

On the cover



ABN photo / J. Everett Speed

Patient development of Cord Church's leadership potential and trying to lead by example paid off, according to Pastor Jerry Kausler. This month's "Helpline" feature article (pp.10-11) relates that church's doubling in Sunday School attendance since 1979.

In this issue

6-7 update

Catch up on what's happening in Baptist churches around the state with this regular feature by ABN staffer Millie Gill.

12-15 facelift

"Helpline" articles promoting the work of the ABSC Executive Board sport a new look this week, as the Executive Board takes over responsibility for producing these pages, part of a monthly cooperative ministry between the ABN and the Executive Board.

OBU presents 'Godspell' April 24 - 29

ARKADELPHIA—The Ouachita Baptist University drama department will present the musical production of "Godspell" in OBU's Verser Drama Center on April 24, 25, 28 and 29. Curtain time for the performances will be 8 p.m. Admission is \$2.

In addition to these performances, there will be two performances on April 26 and two on May 3. These performances will be closed to the public due to the fact that approximately 1,100 church youth group members from throughout Arkansas and surrounding states will be at OBU for the third annual "Day of Play." The "Day of Play" is designed to expose the participants to Christian drama coupled with a period of recreation on the Ouachita campus. Due to the time element, the cast will perform an abridged version of the play for these performances.

Written by John-Michael Tebelak with musical arrangement by Stephen Schwartz, the musical will be directed by Scott Holsclaw, instructor of speech and drama at

OBU. The assistant director and stage manager will be Mary Davis, a junior OBU student from Nashville, Tenn. Shannon Newborn, a senior OBU student from Waldron, will be music director.

"Godspell" is a musical based upon the Gospel According to St. Matthew told in parables by the characters. "My concept of the play is that of children who are receiving stories that they don't understand," said Holsclaw. "Through their playfulness comes a reality of the truth of the gospel. It is not only a look at Christ as a man who lived with us, but a man who laughed, loved and cried; a man among children."

The powerful message of the production, according to Holsclaw, is that the truth of the gospel can only be seen through the crucifixion and the resurrection of our Lord. "The production shows us as babes in Christ maturing in the truth," said Holsclaw. "Also, 'Godspell' presents the gospel in a new and unique way to people who haven't heard it before."

1985 Lottie Moon may fall \$3.6 million short

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Southern Baptists may fall as much as \$3.6 million short of the \$70 million goal they set for their 1985 Lottie Moon offering for foreign missions.

The projected shortfall reported by Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board officials could be the biggest since 1982, when the offering fell almost \$4 million short.

The annual Lottie Moon offering supports a hefty portion of the work of more than 3,600 Southern Baptist foreign missionaries worldwide. The 1985 goal of \$70 million already has been budgeted to finance 43

percent of the Foreign Mission Board's \$162 million budget for 1986.

The increase for the 1985 total offering, if the projection proves accurate, will reach only about 2.4 percent, below the current 3.2 percent inflation rate. An 8 percent increase was needed to meet the goal.

Actual Lottie Moon receipts forwarded to Richmond, Va., at the end of March totaled about \$59.2 million, or 84.5 percent of the goal, with more money coming in from state conventions. The Foreign Mission Board calculates the final total May 31.

Cooperative Program stays ahead of U.S. inflation

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—Halfway through its fiscal year, the Southern Baptist Convention's Cooperative Program has grown more than twice as fast as the U.S. inflation rate.

After six months, 1985-86 Cooperative Program receipts total \$62,781,162, up 8.05 percent over the same period in 1984-85, reported Harold C. Bennett, president and treasurer of the SBC Executive Committee. The current total is \$4,678,205 ahead of the six-month figure for last year, which was \$58,102,957, he said.

The 8.05 percent increase for the current year compares to an inflation rate that has remained around three percent, noted Tim Hedquist, Executive Committee vice-president for business and finance.

March was the third consecutive month in which Cooperative Program receipts had surpassed \$10 million. For the Cooperative Program to reach its \$130 million goal, monthly receipts must average \$11,203,140 for the final six months of the 1985-86 fiscal year.

Cooperative Program report: March

January-March gifts

	Over (under)	% increase over
	budget to date	previous year
Year		
1981	\$ 15,683.00	13.82
1982	(\$ 47,253.18)	10.29
1983	\$ 13,952.51	12.61
1984	(\$169,660.01)	0.98
1985	(\$170,696.92)	6.29
1986	(\$ 58,919.27)	11.30

Summary for March 1986	
Received	\$1,000,489.67
Budget	\$1,020,833.33
(Under)	(\$ 20,343.66)



Every Christian has an obligation to know as much as possible about government, his candidates and the major issues. Christians also have an obligation to vote and to be involved in the democratic process. Those who fail to vote have forfeited their rights as American citizens.

It has been argued by some that a Christian should not be involved in the political process in any way since "politics is dirty." One might as well argue that democracy is dirty because politics is essential to the democratic process. Politics only becomes dirty when it is controlled by people who are devoid of Christian principle and character.

Others maintain the doctrine of separation of church and state requires political neutrality for all Christians. Nothing could be further from the truth. The New Testament holds a man cannot accept the privileges which the state provides him without accepting the duties and responsibilities which are required of him.

Every Christian is related to the constituted government under which he lives (Rom.13:1-7). A good Christian will be a good citizen. Paul prided himself in his Roman citizenship and availed himself of the protection guaranteed him by the Roman government. (Acts 22:25-29; 21:39).

Jesus, a member of a subjugated people, obeyed the laws of Rome where they did not conflict with the laws of God (Luke 23:4,14; John 18:38; 19:4,6). He repeatedly refused to lead in any type of rebellion against the Roman empire.

Christ recognized the dual obligation which a citizen holds toward state and God (Matt. 22:17ff). Though Jesus' first allegiance was to his father, he recognized the right of government to levy taxes and submitted to it (Matt. 17:24ff).

The Christian citizen is to be in the world but not of it. He is to change society, not by violence, but by influence and witness (Matt. 5:13-16). For instance, Jesus never made an open onslaught against slavery. Certainly, he did not approve of it. Yet, his principles and examples broke the shackles of bondage and declared the need for the end of any activity which degrades man.

The New Testament clearly teaches every Christian has a duty to the country in which he lives. Jesus said, "Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's; and to God the things that are God's." (Matt.22:21). Paul taught those who govern the nations are sent by God, their authority comes from God and they are not a terror to those who live proper lives (Rom.13:1-7). In the pastoral epistles the apostle instructed Christians to pray for the rulers (1 Tim.2:2).

In New Testament times, the government was authoritarian or dictatorial. But since we are privileged to live in a democracy, the key word is not "subjugation" but "cooperation." Cooperation means some dedicated Christians should be candidates. It means all are to be informed and involved in the election process.

The question arises, "How can a person who is not vocationally involved in the government process be properly informed to cast a ballot?" First, we should know as much about the character of the candidates as possible. Candidates for office almost unanimously proclaim their integrity, their Christian ethics, and their commitment to the general welfare of the people. Each of these statements should be evaluated in the light of the candidate's past life. The person who is truly committed to Christ will, other things being equal, serve the public best in government.

We as Christians also have an obligation to become acquainted with the issues of the election. It is essential to learn the facts so we will understand both the pros and the cons of specific matters. It is obvious people who are not vocationally involved in government cannot know all about every issue, so we must be selective. It is likely each of us should become acquainted with such issues as disarmament, international developments, civil rights, church-state issues, the alcohol problem and mental health.

In order to be informed, it is essential to read at least one objective daily newspaper. It should be one which has a reputation for fairness and broad news coverage. The editorials also should be considered. Does it provide a balance of opinion? Does it treat issues fairly? Of course, one should read newsmagazines which provide an in-depth coverage of news events.

We should evaluate each candidate on how he stands on the important issues which are likely to confront him in the foreseeable future. The candidate's Christian character and his viewpoint will mainly determine the kind of legislator he will be.

Finally, we should seek God's will in casting our vote. Christians have a sacred obligation to cooperate in the governmental process, but such cooperation must be under the leadership of the Holy Spirit. As we seek to elect Christian legislators, our government will become more moral and just.

[Editor's Note: Next week's *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine* will carry materials on religious liberty. Churches who follow the denominational calendar will celebrate Religious Liberty Sunday on June 1.]

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The true church

The question before the government and our church is not religion. Religion is defined in the dictionaries as the spirit of man questing for a supernatural being to worship.

Now for the real question: what constitutes a church? When Jesus asked his disciples, "Whom do ye say that I am?" Peter answered for all of them, when he said "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God."

Jesus said that it was not flesh and blood that revealed that to him but his Father in Heaven. Jesus said that on Peter's confession he would build his church and the gates of hell would not prevail against it. The gates of hell have attacked the church in many guises and still are at it.

Jesus did go on that cross. He did fight all the forces of evil that had been committed or would be committed. He won that battle. He did die and was buried. He is resurrected and alive forever. A church then is a body of people who have the same realization that Peter had. We are given his Holy Spirit. And the church lives! She moves within the structure and commands of her Lord. The church will continue to live and work in the power of her Lord until he comes (Rev. 19: 6,9).

All heaven is rejoicing. It sounds like the ocean's roar. It sounds like mighty thundering. Let us be glad and rejoice and give honor to God. For the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife has made herself ready. One word wells from the Christian heart: Hallelujah! This is the true church. — **Vivian M. Stone, Mayflower**

Please pray

The Billy Graham Evangelistic Association is preparing to hold a meeting at Washington, D.C., April 27 through May 4, 1986. Since the place is the Capitol of the U.S.A. this meeting is very important and could be more important than just any other place. Please let us Baptists pray for our revivals and also this one in Washington, D.C.

It is a glorious thing and wonderful to have a revival to help and honor our blessed Savior Jesus Christ. If others can win the lost, we should rejoice also the same as we are or can.

Also pray for the Amsterdam 86 Conference for Itinerant Evangelists which will be held July 12 - 21, 1986. This will help our cause also, for many of the evangelists of the world will be there. — **F. W. Finch, Monticello**

Have you ever wondered?

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to need a kidney or another organ to live and to be dependent on machines and doctors until an organ was available? There are many, many people who are in

exactly that position. They might need a kidney or cornea or other organs.

Did you realize you could help these people by donating your organs? You could really make a difference in someone's life.

April 20-26, 1986 is Organ Donor Awareness Week. The National Kidney Foundation of Arkansas is trying to reach as many people as possible to make people aware. Aware that you can donate your organs by signing the back of your driver's license or filling out a donor card. Aware of the need for organs for transplantation. Aware that there are hundreds and thousands of people needing a kidney or other organs. In fact, right here in Arkansas, there are around 45 people who need a kidney now! Some of these people have been waiting several years.

Have you ever wanted to do something special for someone? Do you realize what a difference you could make to someone else's life? I cannot think of any greater gift

than the gift of your organs to others.

Take time to think about this. Fill out a donor card or the back of your driver's license. Talk to others about donating organs and being aware of the need for organs. Help us spread the word. The more people we can reach and make aware of the need for donor organs, the more people needing organs we can help.

Please help us. Remember Organ Donor Awareness Week, April 20 - 26, 1986. — **Sherry Wylie, Leola**

What is at stake?

President Reagan is one of our most popular presidents. Why? Is it not because he takes the moral stand on issues important to Americans and decent people everywhere?

The most immoral political, social and religious system in our world is communism. Yet it continues to expand. How? In the



One layman's opinion

Daniel R. Grant

Why the decline of confidence in leadership?

The Harris Survey has been measuring the confidence of the American people in the leadership of major institutions for some 20 years. It recently reported sharply declining confidence level in both the public and private sectors of American life. For example, lawyers, labor leaders and newspaper reporters are held in high confidence by only 12, 13 and 16 percent of the people, respectively, and rank at the bottom for the 15 institutions tested.

Although medical doctors rank considerably higher, with 39 percent of the public expressing high confidence, this is far below the high-water mark of 73 percent for doctors in 1966. Leaders of colleges and universities fared relatively well, with 35 percent saying they have high confidence in them, but this is also a sharp drop from the 61 percent level in 1966. Only 32 percent expressed high confidence in military leadership, 30 percent in those "running the White House." President Reagan is down 12 points from 1984, but still has the second highest rating ever recorded by the Harris Survey for a President. The U.S. Supreme Court received a high confidence rating of 28 percent, down from 35 percent the previous year.

It was particularly discouraging that only 21 percent of the American people hold leaders of organized religion in high esteem, down from 23 percent the previous year, and from 41 percent in 1966. Religious leaders,

in fact, ranked below television newscasters, who made 23 points on the confidence scale. The television margin is nothing to brag about, but why should those who preach the Word of God rank lower than those who make no claim to be speaking for God?

Why has the public confidence in its leaders declined so sharply, and why do some rank so low on the confidence scale? I don't pretend to have the answer, and even hesitate to speculate. I do have one hunch in the "for-whatever-it's-worth" category. I suspect that, even in an increasingly secular and selfish society, the one quality we find most repugnant in our leaders is personal and group selfishness to the exclusion of the welfare of the whole. A close second in those qualities that turn the people off is arrogance, giving the strong impression the leader knows all the answers and there is little room for disagreement or the possibility that someone else may be right.

Jesus had a lot to say about selfishness and arrogance throughout his earthly ministry, especially in the Sermon on the Mount. We should do well to study these works regularly, whether or not we are interested in building the confidence level in our leadership.

Daniel R. Grant is president of Ouachita Baptist University.

You'll be glad to know...

... You have friends you may not see or hear a lot. They are people whose work, by its very nature, must be done one on one. They do not conduct conventions or rallies. They do not have associational or church counterparts, and therefore do not hold regular training sessions for local leaders. Consequently, it is easy for you to miss these vital servants.



... James Walker Moore is one of two I will mention as a friend you have. Last month, on your behalf, he made 100 phone calls to help you with retirement and insurance. You called him 84 times, 48 times about your retirement and 36 times about your insurance. He assisted 15 of you as you made the wise decision to begin your retirement or insurance program. Nineteen times during March individuals consulted with him in the office. Seventeen times he went into the state where you are. He works for you as the Annuity Board representative.

I thought you'd be glad to know something of how much this friend does for individuals over the state. Oh, by the way, he is also our Stewardship Director. What I have just mentioned is only half his job. I know you are thankful for him. Call on him if you are interested in a retirement or insurance plan. Telephone 376-4791.

Warning: From time to time some well meaning investment person advises church workers to develop their own program. You need to know that there are two if not three sacrifices you will make if this is your choice. The state convention shares in your program, paying your long term disability and survivor benefit coverage. This will be forfeited. No fees are built into the cost of your annuity programs. Their costs are covered by the Cooperative Program. You may also lose some advantages in retirement.

Harry Trulove, and his assistant Larry Page, are helpers who work one to one. They conduct an average of one estate planning seminar every five days. Those who want to go on supporting solid Christian causes after their death (mainly Arkansas Baptist) have committed \$12 million to the Foundation. This has grown from \$700,000 in recent years. They can help you with your planning. It is the ministry of the Arkansas Baptist Foundation.

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

name of human rights. Yet, communists are the biggest violators of human rights in the world.

Wherever there is unrest and then revolution, the Soviets are there to pick up the pieces, promise peace and offer stability. Inevitably, the Soviets are the winners. Multiple examples include Vietnam, Laos, Cuba and now Nicaragua.

"The Reagan administration has estimated that the Soviet Union has supplied over \$500 million in military hardware, with over \$100 million in 1985 alone" (Defense Watch, Vol. 5 No. 1 Jan.-Feb. 1986).

President Reagan knows the Soviet strategy, according to Ambassador Charles Lichenstein of the National Center for Policy Research: (1) The Soviets plan to use Nicaragua to build a canal to link the Atlantic and Pacific oceans for use by Soviet ships. (2) A communist Nicaragua would provoke a war with the Honduras. Soviets would attack terrorist attack against Costa Rica and

Panama. (3) Defectors reveal big goals are to seize the Panama Canal and cause a communist revolution in Mexico. (4) If Central America falls, the U.S. may face over 10 million fleeing refugees. (We would support them and/or pay an estimated \$50 billion a year to fortify and garrison our southern border) (5) If the communist strategy works, the U.S. may face Soviet-backed troops along our border as early as 1988.

"The national security of all the Americans is at stake in Central America. If we cannot defend ourselves there, we cannot expect to prevail elsewhere. Our credibility will collapse, our alliances will crumble and the safety of our homeland will be in jeopardy" (Pres. Reagan).

"Today the fate of democratic civilization is being decided in Nicaragua..." (Vladimir Maximov, Soviet exile writer).

What is at stake in the war on the American? Just everything we hold dear.—Mrs. W. C. Carpenter, Magnolia



The Southern accent

D. Jack Nicholas

Regaining the prophetic voice

Dostoevsky said, "The West has lost Christ. That is why it is dying. That is the only reason it is dying."

There are many reasons why the West has lost Christ and is dying, but the primary reason is that the modern church has lost its prophetic voice.

Several decades ago, liberal church intellectuals became enamored with the novel notions being promoted by the secular, intellectual elite and began clamoring for the most recent tidbits from the table of secular thought. Many churches, in the name of relevancy, rushed to amalgamate the notions of the secular culture with the gospel of Christ and wound up with an ineffectual and grotesque distortion of the Christian gospel.

This grotesque amalgamation minimized the lostness of man, de-emphasized the gospel on personal salvation and morality and became altogether non-judgmental concerning individual behavior.

Modern mainline churches, having drifted from biblical authority, became uncertain of their mission. When a church loses its vision of mission, it tends to mimic and imitate the world. Therefore, in the 60's when the major emphasis of secular thinkers was on the social activism, those churches who had departed from their biblical foundation forsook the central purpose of winning lost men to Jesus Christ and became preoccupied with social justice and individual rights.

In the 1970's when the focus of secular thinkers turned to the psychological—to self-actualization and inter-personal relations—those churches which had lost the prophetic voice could find nothing better to do than to imitate that trend.

The most popular secular fads for the 1980's are feminism and peace and these themes have today become the preoccupation of those churches that have forsaken their biblical foundations.

Of course, the church needs to attend to social justice, psychological health, feminism and peace and many other equally important concerns, but it is a tragedy of colossal proportion when these issues become a substitute for and effectively obscure the primary mission of the church.

It is a painful experience to observe the pitiful spectacle of the church, with the great mission that she has, reducing herself to the role of imitating the changing ideologies of the secular culture.

Let us Southern Baptists remain bound to our biblical foundations and maintain our prophetic voice, for unless we do so, the controversies that currently grip our denomination may be compared to deck hands on the Titanic arguing about how the deck chairs should be arranged as the Titanic speeds toward the iceberg.

D. Jack Nicholas is president of Southern Baptist College.

people



Linderman

holds a bachelor of music degree from Samford University and a masters of church music degree from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Carolyn, are parents of three children, Laura, Lana and Gary.

Loren Douglas Pederson Jr. is serving as pastor of Viola First Church. He formerly served as associate pastor of Rivercrest Church in Fort Worth, Texas. A native of northwest Arkansas, Pederson is a graduate of the University of Arkansas and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is married to the former Patricia O'Brian. They have two children, Michelle and Jeffery.

Bill Fleming began serving April 20 as pastor of Cross Road Church in Little Rock where he has previously served as pastor. He has served for 23 years in both Arkansas and Texas.

Joe Wofford has joined the staff of Marianna First Church as minister of music and youth. A native of Mississippi, he lived in Helena for several years. Wofford attended Phillips County Community College and Mississippi State University. He has served on the staff of West Helena Second Church and Barton Church and came to Marianna from Olivet Church in Gulfport, Miss. He and his wife, Shirley, have three children, Joe III, Callie and Josh.

F. Tanner Riley has resigned as minister of music and media ministries at University Church in Fayetteville to serve as minister of music at First Church in Starkville, Miss. His wife, **Thelma C. Riley**, has resigned as director of preschool ministries and Wee Care Christian School, which she founded in 1977.

Juanes Clark Stokes of North Little Rock died April 4 at age 60. She was the retired circulation manager and bookkeeper of the *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine* and a member of Baring

Cross Church in North Little Rock. Survivors include her husband, E.F. Stokes; her mother, Mary Johnson Jackson of North Little Rock; and a half-brother.

Ed Farmer died April 1 in Dallas, Texas, at age 61 of leukemia. A native of Arkansas, he had served as a Broadman trade sales representative for the Sunday School Board since 1977. He is survived by his wife and three children.

T. Shad Medlin of El Dorado was recently honored by Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in recognition of his 10 years of service as a member of the seminary's board of trustees.

Bob Stagg and **Jim Berryman** have been elected to offices in the Association of Baptist Teachers of Religion. Stagg was elected to the position of secretary-treasurer, while Berryman was elected as president-elect for the 1986-87 academic year. Both serve as religion professors at Ouachita Baptist University.

Ken Lilly of Fort Smith was installed as president of the Arkansas Medical Society when the organization convened in Little

Rock for its annual meeting April 17-20. Lilly, a member of Fort Smith First Church, has served the Arkansas Baptist State Convention in several leadership positions.

Gus Douglass of North Crossett died April 12 at age 79. He was a retired Southern Baptist minister, having served as pastor of churches in Arkansas and Louisiana. He also did missionary work in California. Survivors are his wife, Frances Robertson Douglass; a daughter, Mary Douglass Savage of Crossett; two sisters; and four grandchildren.

Windell Wood will join the staff of Sheridan First Church June 1 as minister of music, youth and education. He holds a degree in music education from Arkansas Tech University and will graduate in May from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary with a degree in Christian education: youth ministry. He and his wife, Bonnie, have a son, Ben.

briefly

Pine Bluff Hardin Church Baptist Women completed The Witnessing Women training program March 10. Jim-



Easter Sunday evening, March 30, members of First Church, Mountain Home, opened a 32-year-old box from the cornerstone of their present building in preparation for laying another cornerstone at the church's new facility east of town. The box contained, among other things, three Bibles (two over a century old), two hymnals, education and missions material, a copy of the *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine*, church bulletins, a church history, a wedding photo, and a photograph of Virgie McClure, who was present for both the setting of the cornerstone and the opening of the box. The photo above shows the setting of the old cornerstone on Nov. 15, 1953, by Herman Langston, while B. B. Foster (seated) and Pastor D. W. Stark look on. The items will remain on display until the church moves to its new location in June. Roy Fowler is pastor.

my Ashcraft directed the study, which was preceded by a breakfast.

North Pulaski Association assisted with Good News revivals in Indiana April 20-25. Associational pastors serving as evangelists were Michael Anders, Richard Avey, Marty Brown, Garland Brackett, Paul Daniel, Lex Eaker, Lee Lawson, Paul McClung and Harvey Webb.

Warren First Church ordained Tommy Arnold, Curtis Blankinship, Jim Lowman, Tommy McLemore and Ricky Roper to the deacon ministry April 13.

Eldmale Church at Springdale celebrated its 25th anniversary April 6 with a morning worship service, fellowship luncheon and afternoon anniversary service. Burton Miley was speaker.

Forest Highlands Church in Little Rock will honor Pastor and Mrs. Johnny Jackson June 21-22 in recognition of 20 years of service. Saturday activities will include a 5:30 p.m. potluck supper and informal fellowship. Sunday events planned are a regular morning worship service, 5 p.m. reception, 6:30 worship service and 8 p.m. reception. Jerry Baugh is anniversary committee chairman.

Hoxie First Church recently held a Good News America revival that resulted in five professions of faith.

Matthews Memorial Church at Pine Bluff presented Pastor Edgar Bryant and his wife, Barbara, with a Holy Land trip.

Judsonia First Church is beginning an extended session for three-year-olds up to

preschool and a children's church for first and second grade students.

Fort Smith East Side Church youth will do summer mission work Aug. 2-9 on an Arizona Navajo Indian reservation.

Little Rock Immanuel Church has organized a Yokefellow ministry to assist deacons of the church in outreach ministries. The church also has planned a series of seminars in May for those who are or will care for aging parents. Speakers and their subjects will be Tom Cain, medical problems of older adults; Dewey Lantrip, problems of finances and insurance; Judy Johnson, psychological concerns for older adults; and Madeline Korfmacher, social adjustments for those with dependent parents.

Mountain Pine Church has launched a church-wide prayer ministry as the result of a recent prayer seminar led by Carel Norman.

DeQueen First Church recently provided non-perishable food items and paper goods for former pastor Joe Denton and his wife, Dorothy, whose home was destroyed by fire.

Conway Second Church will observe homecoming May 4 with Ken Hatfield, head coach of the University of Arkansas Razorbacks, as featured speaker. The Glee Club Choir from Oklahoma Baptist University will present special music, according to pastor Larry Pillow.

Booneville First Church recognized mission volunteers in an April 13 service. Sherry Thrasher, Verlon Taff and Van and Doris Kirkpatrick were commissioned for work in Brazil; Skip and Nancy Wofford for Kansas, and pastor Allen Thrasher for Indiana.

New Life Church in Little Rock conducted its Good News revival April 6-11 with Charles Mays of Fort Smith as evangelist. Chester Caldwell, a member, directed music. Pastor Lester Aldridge reported seven professions of faith, seven baptisms and three additions by letter.

Midway Church near Judsonia conducted a Good News revival April 6-10. J. Everett Sneed, editor of the *Arkansas Baptist News* magazine, was evangelist. Truett Langley of Searcy First Church directed music. Pastor John Davey reported nine professions of faith, nine baptisms and nine additions by letter.



ABN photo / Millie Gill

Christian contemporary performer Cynthia Clawson sings for children of Second Church, Little Rock, during the congregation's "Reunion Weekend" April 4-6. Clawson and her husband, composer Ragan Courtney, joined Bill and Linda Cates and Steve and Bonita Seelig for the festive weekend, which featured three concerts by the performers, all of whom were associated with Second Church during the early 1970s. Clawson performs against a backdrop of the city of Little Rock. Bill White is pastor.

Peace Committee discusses politics, ally enlistment

by Dan Martin

DALLAS (BP)—Southern Baptist Convention politics occupied much of the sixth meeting of the SBC Peace Committee, but the 22-member body began to inch forward in an effort to enlist the protagonists in the peace process.

"Early in this meeting, it was like we turned a page in the ledger and stamped 'Politics at the top,'" said committee chairman Charles Fuller. "We moved rather abruptly into the same kind of confrontation and exchange which occupied our second meeting, when we began our discussion of theological differences."

Despite sharp exchanges between committee members, Fuller said the committee agreed on a process designed to "enlist some people who have either been subjects of the controversy or... leaders in it as we work toward bringing about some reconciliation."

A keystone will be a prayer retreat, tentatively scheduled for September or October, to bring together members of the Peace Committee and "those involved in denominational life and agency leadership."

Also part of the process will be meetings of the five-member subcommittee on political activity, which will meet, in the next few weeks, with leaders of the groups which have been politically active and with representatives of denominational and independent news media.

Fuller referred to the planned subcommittee meetings and the prayer retreat as "progress." He explained, "We have adopted a strategy designed to utilize some of the people who have been principals in the controversy to become principals in the peace

process. That doesn't look like a whole lot on paper, but if it comes to fruition, if it produces what we want it to produce, we will have made considerable progress."

Much of the sixth meeting of the Peace Committee was given over to meetings of two subcommittees Fuller appointed prior to the early April session. One of the groups discussed the effects of negative designations on overall Cooperative Program giving and the other began discussing political differences and organizations in the 14.4-million-member denomination.

The negative designation subcommittee is chaired by Robert Cuttino of Lancaster, S.C. Members are Christine Gregory of Danville, Va.; Ray Roberts of Asheville, N.C.; Albert McClellan of Nashville, Tenn.; and Daniel Vestal of Midland, Texas. During the meeting, Fuller added Jim Henry of Orlando, Fla., to the group.

Some persons have suggested a way to end the hostility in the denomination is to allow churches to support causes they favor and to be allowed to decline to support other agencies with whom they disagree.

However, after discussion, the subcommittee reported it does not recommend the Peace Committee offer a system of selective support (or negative designation) as a means to temper the controversy "at this time."

The political activities subcommittee is chaired by Pickering. Members are Jodi Chapman of Wichita Falls, Texas; Herschel H. Hobbs of Oklahoma City; Ed Young of Houston; and John Sullivan of Shreveport, La. During the meeting, Fuller added Cecil Sherman of Fort Worth, Texas.

"We spent a great deal of time discussing political organization, voter registration and balloting. There is certain information that we must get, and the subcommittee meetings in the next few weeks are designed to help us do that. We must have that kind of information before we can make any kind of report to the Peace Committee," Pickering said.

In summary, Fuller said: "The atmosphere of diversity has never left the Peace Committee during the nine months we have been meeting. The problems we have confronted as a convention for the past several years are, by and large, still there.

"We have restated these problems every way we know how and have tried to analyze them, to understand them and to find ways to deal with them. It can become frustrating but we know the Peace Committee came into being to transfer this fray from the denomination at large to 22 people. That is our assignment and we have accepted it."

Fuller said he and Pickering "feel the responsibility of reporting something of substance in June," and added he has been authorized to appoint a subcommittee to begin the process of drafting an outline to be presented when the body meets in mid-May in Atlanta. After that meeting, a full report will be drafted which will be acted on when the group meets in Atlanta prior to the June annual meeting.

He added he expects the committee to make a report "of substance" to the 1986 SBC, but to continue in its deliberations, making a final report at the 1987 annual meeting in St. Louis.

'Disciplined optimism' sometimes needed: Fuller

by Dan Martin

DALLAS (BP)—The chairman of the Southern Baptist Convention Peace Committee should be an optimist, the chairman, Charles Fuller, says.

"The chairman of this committee, if not optimistic and positive by nature, must be an optimist by discipline," says Fuller, pastor of First Church of Roanoke, Va., after the sixth meeting of the 22-member group.

After nine months, six committee meetings, at least 10 subcommittee meetings, visits to 11 national institutions and agencies by visitation subcommittees, often emotional confrontation and difference of opinion, millions upon millions of words, and only a three-paragraph statement acknowledging theological diversity in the

seminaries and convention to show as progress, Fuller admits he probably is "more of an optimist by discipline right now."

There have been some bright times, he says, when it appeared progress was about to appear, and, at those times, he was optimistic both by nature and by discipline.

"That was true in February," he says. "Then, we spent most of our time in sharp exchange, and then, suddenly, the statement on diversity came into being and we quickly had something. It has happened at other times, either through some event or simply out of the dynamic of the group. Then, my optimism is supported by some promise.

"In the meeting we just finished (the early April session) nothing came together. We

did not suddenly have something to show. What we have is a prodding, plodding plan which is going to require planning and scheduling and forbearance. There is nothing spontaneous about it.

"So, after this meeting, I am optimistic by discipline," he says. "If what we have planned comes to pass, it may be that we did more than at any previous meeting. But, it doesn't look like much on paper."

One of the reasons he remains optimistic, he says, is because he "still believes in divine intervention." "We still believe in God's divine intervention. If he is not through with Southern Baptists, he will intervene," he said.

Dan Martin is news editor for Baptist Press.

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Helpline

for the local church

Marvelous May! Special opportunities come during this good month. Before I highlight some of them, let's take a few moments for praise.



Moore

Praise is in order for God's blessings on Good News America revival ministries. "More prayer has been offered for Good News America than anything Southern Baptists have ever done." This is the conclusion of Leonard Sanderson. It may be the most important evangelistic effort ever attempted by Southern Baptists. Praise God for denominational leaders that dared to dream and lead us in such an effort. Praise God for those saved!

The media coverage has brought great visibility to us as Southern Baptists.

Five, one-fourth page ads have appeared in *USA Today*. TV spots have reached 85 percent of cable TV households. We are more on exhibit now than ever before. We must not fail to live up to our claims of love, power and concern. We must not fail to press on to the winning of the lost who have been touched and had the gospel seed sown in their hearts. We must not fail to disciple those who have recently accepted Christ.

Praise II: "I am genuinely pleased by the strong emphasis upon Bible study, witness training, local missions and the most inspiring interest in and support of missions." These words were recently written by the renowned Christian leader, Dr. Chester Swor, who was commenting on Baptist Student Union work.

Praise III is in order for God's good blessings on our WMU Convention. It was all we had told you it would be! What gifted leaders he has given to our WMU work! We may have had a record number of churches represented. God spoke. That says it succinctly. By the way, what strategy does your church have for keeping the people informed and challenged about mission work?

Senior Adult Day. May 4 has been suggested as Senior Adult Day in our churches. If not that Sunday, sometime in May, it will be great for you senior adults to be recognized for the very important part you play in the fellowship of the church. As a part of one of the largest age-groups in Arkansas, you need to know that you are appreciated. "Have a good day!"

Lost senior adults. Yes, there are large numbers of this age group who have never received Christ. Our Evangelism Department is working toward three Golden Age Evangelism Conferences in May. You can find the details elsewhere in Helpline. Special needs, special approaches and special urgency mandates attention to this important matter.

Senior Adult Celebration. Great numbers of our churches have organized groups for senior adults. Those who lead them look for enjoyable activities. Here is one! Everyone can have a great time of fellowship, inspiration and personal growth. The celebration will be at Ouachita, May 19-21. Leaders will have

special training conferences for them. The price is right! The time is right! Get a carload or vanload and come. This will add spice to your already beautiful life!

Three great movements. You may or may not know I use the word "great" very sparingly. But God has led us to three tremendous actions in our churches. I want to call them great!

Continuous witness training. You seldom find a great soul-winning church that is not using CWT or EE for regular training of their members in witnessing. We have come to be satisfied with a fraction of the conversions we would have if the gospel were shared regularly and effectively. Only two seminars are offered each year for training in CWT. The next one is May 19-22 at West Side, El Dorado. The deadline has passed for registration as you receive this. In case there may have been cancellations, why don't you call the Evangelism office (376-4791) to see if you could get in.

MasterLife. God's strategy is followed in this tremendous plan for developing Christians. Maturation, joy, concern and discipline comes into the lives of those I know who become a part of MasterLife. This meets a need not previously addressed for personal enrichment. Those who know the approach sing its praises. If it would get your members into the Word, prayer, witnessing and growth, would you want it? Sure you would! Every pastor needs to help his people into the program as soon as possible. Explore the possibilities May 12-16. We have a MasterLife Workshop scheduled then. The MasterBuilder Workshop for those already into MasterLife will be held at the same time.

New work how-to's. That should aptly describe the conference scheduled May 23-24 at Camp Paron. Starting and develop-

May's special opportunities

by Don Moore

ing new churches well does not come simply from desire. It happens by design. We have our eyes open to the necessity of starting churches that will enable everyone in our state to have a church near them in a culture and setting where they are comfortable. The principles and priorities that help churches to get started well and continue to grow will receive major attention at this meeting. Pastors and lay people who have a vision need to attend.

The Christian family. Wonderful! In trouble! Needing attention! What would you say about the family? Does the church have responsibility for helping its families? Plan a Christian Home Week or Christian Family Month. Mother's Day, May 11, through Father's Day, June 15, would be a great time.

"Discipleship in the Home" is a new book you can use in helping your families.

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

This monthly Helpline is a cooperative ministry of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention Executive Board and the *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine*, designed to inform about and interpret the helping ministries of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention to the churches. Pages 12-15 are produced by the ABSC Executive Board.

10-11 patience pays off

An open country church at Cord, near Batesville, has doubled its attendance since 1979 because of patient development of leadership resources, the pastor says.

12-15 a new format

This month the ABSC Executive Board offices take over responsibility for producing these four pages of promotional material.

Leadership development, patience give congregation new life

text and photos by J. Everett Sneed

The Cord Church, near Batesville, has experienced significant growth under the leadership of Pastor Jerry Kausler. The average Sunday School attendance has increased from 56 in 1979 to 107 in 1985.

Kausler says there are a number of factors that have produced this growth in this open-country church. First, constant pastoral visitation from house to house has been a significant key in the growth and development of the congregation. This included the visitation of new people in the community as well as checking on church members who seemed to be falling by the wayside. Kausler attempted to find out what the needs of the absentees were and to minister to them in a very real way.

Second, Kausler sought to convince the church that growth was possible. He worked ardently to convince the church that they were not just a church of 40 or 50 people. He said, "We set a lot of numerical goals intended to create excitement unlimited."

Among the growth goals that the church set and accomplished was the establishing of a children's church, efforts to fill the pews and the filling of all Sunday School rooms and alcoves.

Third, the congregation worked to utilize the talents and abilities of the congregation. Kausler and the church leadership sought to match the talents and needs of the

church. As a result the church leadership increased 400 to 600 percent. Kausler said, "Our goal was to enlist individuals, motivate them and get out of the way and let them do their job."

Kausler sought to discover the interest of people in potential areas of work and to encourage them to accept this as a responsibility. He said, "For example, I found some people who were interested in children's church that could do more than 'babysitting.' The people I wanted were people who could teach and get things done with children. As a result, I approached two people, only to discover they had already felt God wanted them to work in children's church."

Kausler believes a lot of people want to work for the Lord but don't know how to get started. He said, "They simply don't know how to put their abilities to good use. So often a pastor can look at his people and find many have useable talent and he can structure a program which will involve these individuals."

Kausler observes he does have a number of people with unusual talents for the size of his church. But he believes the same approach he has used will work in most churches. He said, "We have three or four young people who are public school teachers and several retired businessmen. We do have a very strong church."

Kausler feels the previous pastor had done an outstanding job in ministering to the people. He said, "I just took the foundation that had been laid and tried to build on it by developing spiritual ministries."

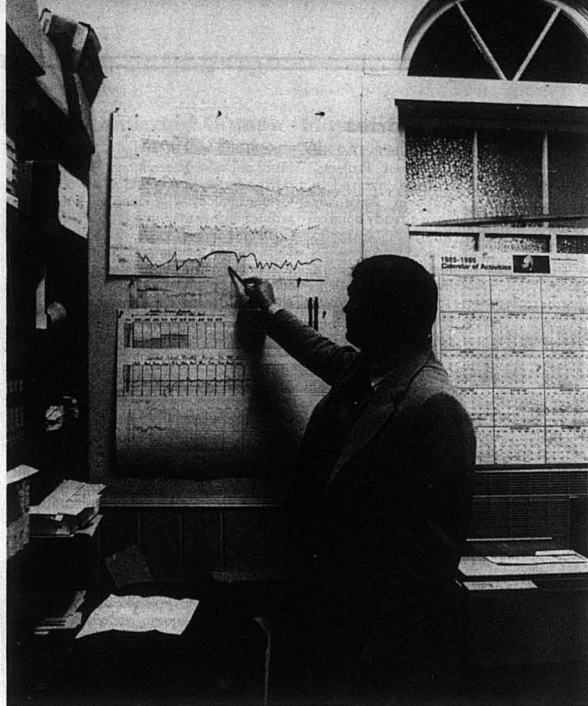
One of Kausler's primary concerns was to develop a vision among the people. He observes that it started slowly and that at one point he was very discouraged. He recalled, "There was one year in which we had no baptisms. I was working the church field every day from house to house. One day I was out visiting, and I began to cry. I knew the Lord had brought me to Cord, and that I was supposed to stay, but I wanted to leave because I was unsuccessful and several churches were showing interest in me as pastor."

"Finally," Kausler continued, "I realized I couldn't bring them in, but Christ could if I continued by being faithful and knocking on doors. So we stayed and continued visiting everyone, not just Southern Baptists, and it has paid off."

Kausler observed his people began to do some of the same things he was doing. He said, "They began to visit, and we began to see results. I had been told people will become in a few years what the pastor is. I kept this in mind and did my best to set an example." Last year the church baptized 17 people. In 1984 they baptized 22.

Cord Church building committee members E. R. Coleman, Mary Jo Shipp, Charles Osborne, Pearl Merriweather, and Delbert Kennedy break ground for the construction of a new sanctuary and renovation of their existing building.





Pastor Jerry Kausler reviews charts which track the progress of the Cord Church.

The church growth triggered the need for building. He said, "When I came to Cord I had no intention of erecting a building. But when I began to look at the facilities we had, I realized that when space had been needed the people would just knock out a window and add another room. It became evident we needed a long-range plan.

"I felt that with the quality people we had they would understand the necessity for long-range planning," Kausler continued. "The people needed to know what the building would look like 30 or 40 years from now. A lot of this, of course, depends on the kind of building we construct now."

There was some difficulty. Some of the people felt the church should just combine some classes. Kausler said, "I knew if we were going to grow we had to add Sunday School classes rather than combine them."

Finally, the congregation agreed they needed a long-range building plan. Along with this, they felt they needed to plan their heating and air conditioning so they could

make maintenance of the structure as economical as possible. Kausler said, "We became convinced the building had to be structurally sound and yet a building a rural church could support. We could not go overboard with our planning but it had to be good planning for the future."

The church will completely remodel the old structure into classrooms and build a new sanctuary with a full basement fellowship hall. Those entering the basement will be able to walk in without climbing steps. This is possible because of the natural slope of the land.

The church leadership did a feasibility study to determine the kind of building they should construct. They sought answers to a series of questions such as, Who lives in the community? How many children are in our community? What is the economic future of our community?

The pastor and church leadership then did a cost analysis. What could the congregation afford to construct with its present income? Kausler said, "At that point, we realized that we were only capable of raising \$60,000 - \$70,000.

"As we began to develop the program, we

consulted the architects from Little Rock and from the Architecture Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board," Kausler continued. "Our SBC architects at Nashville suggested we move the church from its present location. But this was not realistic."

The congregation also had an architect within its fellowship who developed plans for just adding classrooms. Kausler said, "This approach would not have given us a good balance. We would have had a lot of classrooms but inadequate worship space. As a result the congregation came up with its present plans."

Several builders gave turn-key costs for constructing the building. All of them ran in excess of \$250,000. Kausler said, "We knew it was impossible for us to construct a \$250,000 building. So we began to consider raising money and cutting down on the building. We decided it might be possible for us to raise \$150,000. But we left the door open that, if we couldn't raise that much money, we would proceed with what we were able to raise. We decided we would start construction when we had \$100,000."

The congregation had read about the Challenge to Build program in the *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine*. "We contacted James Walker of the Stewardship Department, who came and helped us evaluate our needs. He recommended we obtain an outside consultant, and the church employed Max Deaton, pastor of the Otter Creek Church in Little Rock, to assist in the Challenge to Build," Kausler recalled.

The plans were presented to the church, and the congregation accepted them. Kausler said, "When we started the Challenge to Build program, we did everything exactly by the book. The church also was fortunate to have had a former leader of the Challenge to Build program in the person of James Williams."

The program was so successful that by the banquet night they had over \$50,000 in cash and over \$150,000 in cash and pledges. The church's goal was reached by banquet night, and in a few weeks they had \$175,000 in cash and pledges with \$96,000 cash.

Kausler believes there are two keys to the success they have had. One is selecting and developing leadership, and the other is patience. He said, "Our congregation has done an excellent job. We have checked out each thing we have done. Some churches would have done it much more quickly, but by obtaining good information and using time we were able to bring the entire congregation along with us."

"What has happened in our church has given our congregation new hope," Kausler concluded. "We now have the spiritual adrenaline flowing. Little churches across our state need to be motivated so they feel they are just as important as the First Baptist Church in a county seat town. This can be done as the people work together under the leadership of the Holy Spirit."

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

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Over 200 missionaries

Another new phenomena among Baptist Student Union: Spring Break Projects. Over two hundred



Logue

BSU in Arkansas have already gone or will go this spring to mission projects in the state and out of the state.

Arkansas Tech carried 37 students to Florida where students surveyed 170 homes for a mission church in Tampa, held services at the mission and at University of South Florida and the University of Florida, as well as singing and witnessing on the Florida beaches.

Arkansas Tech went on mission with 40 of its students in three of its singing groups. 'Adoration' worked with the Cherokee Indian churches in Oklahoma. 'Majesty' sang and shared their faith at UAPB and SAU-Tech at Camden. 'Soldiers of the Light' worked at UAM and at several Mississippi churches.

Twenty students from Henderson State again traveled to Mexico with a work crew putting up sheetrock and painting in a mission church. Backyard Bible School enrolled 70 youngsters.

Southern Baptist College took 12 of its students to work with a church in Colorado where one of their students had been a summer missionary last year.

Students at UALR helped at manual labor at Heifer International Headquarters during spring break, and 20 will go to New Orleans in May where they will again work with Southern Baptists' International Seamen's Center. The students visit the ships during the day and invite the seamen to services at the center at night. The week following UALR's visit, SAU will bring 20 students to carry on that same ministry.

Student Department

Four Baptist Children Homes in Oklahoma were visited by 25 students from the University of Arkansas. The students painted, planted flowers, and did other manual labor jobs as their Fine Arts Team shared their faith. Thirty-five Ouachita again returned to Houston to work with Mildred McWhirter in the slum area of that city. A team of workers from UAM traveled to Searcy to join workers from First Church and others in remodeling a sub-standard home for a needy family.

While thousands of students swarm each year to Florida beaches to party, we are proud of Arkansas students who pay their own way and spend their spring break in sharing in deed and in word what Jesus Christ means to them. — **Tom Logue, director**

Senior Adult Celebration

"Coming of Age" will be the theme of this year's Senior Adult Celebration to be held on the Ouachita campus May 19-21. Senior adults and leaders of senior adults are invited to attend the three-day event.



Lyle

Dennis Lyle of Nashville, Tennessee, will lead training conferences on Senior Adult Ministry for leaders including pastors, staff members and others interested in planning a Senior Adult Ministry in a church. Bob Norman, pastor of the Clearview Baptist Church of Nashville, Tennessee, will be the inspirational speaker for the conference. Norman, a popular speaker at senior adult events, was the keynote speaker at the Mid-South Senior Adult

Convention attended by many of our Arkansas senior adults.

One of the outstanding ventriloquists today is Clyde Spurgin, pastor of First Church, Piggott. He and his friend Archie, will provide entertainment and special insights for senior adults at the banquet and throughout the program.

Church Training

Other program features will include a Hobby Fair, recreation, sightseeing, and an ice cream fellowship. Lodging is available for \$3.50 per night per person for double occupancy. The registration fee is \$15.00 per person and covers registration, banquet and refreshments. Reservations should be sent to Senior Adult Celebration, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203. — **Robert Holley, director**

Tournaments and Camps

State Music Tournament and Ensemble Jubilee time is rapidly approaching for many Arkansas Baptist young people. On



Keathley

Saturday, May 10, winners from each associational tournament who received a superior rating will gather at the First Baptist Church in Benton to participate in the State event. State winners in solo categories will receive scholarships to Music Arkansas,

our adult/youth music camp conducted each year at OBU.

Speaking of music camp, it isn't too early to be making reservations for Young Musicians Camp at OBU, June 23-26. We have another excellent staff enlisted to direct your young musicians through four days of intensive music study and performance. Registration deadline for camp this year is June 9, or as soon as we receive the first 600 reservations. Don't disappoint your young musicians this year by waiting too late to get in.

1986 Festivals

Two very fine Youth Choir Festivals were conducted recently at the First Baptist Church in Little Rock. 260 were involved in the senior high division, directed by Donnie Strible of Atlanta, Texas, and 172 sang in the junior high division, directed by Gregg Greenway from FBC, Siloam Springs. Both groups sang very well for the Festival Celebration, witnessed by all the sponsors and other visitors at the festival.

Music

There were also two excellent Handbell Festivals last month conducted at FBC, Searcy and FBC, Pine Bluff. A total of 24 choirs with 267 ringers were involved.

Choir Celebration Service

The music ministry of many of our churches will use one of the Sundays in May to mark the end of another exciting choir year. Let me urge Arkansas Baptists to participate in these services to encourage those who volunteer many hours of labor through the year to provide beautiful musical numbers as a part of our worship experience. — **Ervin Keathley, state music secretary**

MasterLife/MasterBuilder Workshops

MasterLife and **MasterBuilder** are two intensive discipleship training approaches that have blessed the lives of many people.



Holley

Last year 42 churches in Arkansas reported 551 persons enrolled in MasterLife groups. They both require preparation for the leader. A MasterLife Workshop and MasterBuilder Workshop will be conducted simultaneously on the campus of Ouachita Baptist University the week of May 12-16. Both workshops begin at 6:45 on Monday evening and conclude by noon on Friday.

Church Training

The **MasterLife Workshop** is primarily for pastors and staff members and their wives. Others designated by the pastor may attend. The workshop is designed for two purposes: (1) to lead participants to experience the spiritual benefits of MasterLife and (2) to equip them to lead a MasterLife group in their churches. The registration fee is \$82.50 (\$72.50 for accompanying spouse) including conference materials. All participants should plan to participate in all sessions of the workshop. The leader of the MasterLife Workshop will be Bob Gilchrist, pastor, Los Alamos Church, Los Alamos, New Mexico and John Sanders, layman from First Church, Eules, Texas.

The **MasterBuilder Workshop** is designed for those who have participated in a MasterLife group or a MasterLife Workshop. MasterBuilder is a 13 unit course of study that enables MasterLife alumni to develop leadership qualities. It is helpful in equipping church leaders and in training MasterLife group leaders. The MasterBuilder Workshop leaders will be Dr. Charles Sharp, Executive Director of the Colorado State Convention and Charles Grisham, pastor of the First Church, Winnemucca, Nevada. The registration fee is \$50.00 per church for up to four participants. Each participant will be expected to purchase a set of materials for \$15.30.

Lodging will be available on campus for \$3.50 per person, per night (double occupancy) or \$5.50 for a private room. Registration should be sent to the Church Training Department, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203. — **Robert Holley, director**

Drug Abuse

Right now, over one-third of all kids in America use illegal drugs. In fact, one out of every 18 high school seniors is using marijuana every day.

IS THERE HOPE?

Cocaine?	Nicotine?
Marijuana?	Beer?
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YES PARENTS

We urge you, for the sake of our children's future, to keep up the assault on drug abuse. Alert everyone you can to the dangers. Because the more that people know about drug abuse, the better chance we have of making this very real problem a thing of the past.

The first thing a parent can do in the fight to have a drug-free child, is learn about the kind of drugs kid abuse.

For More Information Contact:

Christian Life Council
P. O. Box 552
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203
(501) 376-4791

Acteens Mini-Camp



A "Wanted" poster has just been released from the Arkansas WMU Office in Little Rock. Alive, Arkansas Acteens are wanted for three fun-filled days, June 16-18. During this time Arkansas Acteens will be captivated by missionary speakers, A "real live" Brazilian MK, Bible studies, campfire services and Acteens Olympics events. Rewards will be issued in the form of spiritual blessings, Christian growth, new friends, Studiaci recognition, increased missions awareness and Acteens Olympic ribbons. Acteens can acquire their rewards at Acteens Mini-Camp to be held at Cold Springs Camp near Conway.

Woman's Missionary Union

Registration will begin at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, June 16. Camp will close at 1:00 p.m. on June 18. The deadline for registration is June 2.

Round up all the teenage girls in your church and deposit them in the beautiful surroundings of Cold Springs Camp. Encourage your WMU to help make a camp experience possible for any Acteen needing financial assistance.

For more information concerning details and cost contact Arkansas WMU, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203. — **Angela Lowe, Acteens Director**



Evangelism Conferences

The Golden Age Evangelism Conferences are an exciting time for our retired people. Arkansas Baptist leaders have a strong commitment to the Golden Agers of Arkansas. We have the distinct privilege of ranking second only to Florida in the ratio of people 60 and above.



Sanderson

We strongly believe that our Golden Age Christians are deeply committed to serving Christ. In Evangelism, we have a two-fold emphasis of leading our retired people in the prayer ministry and personal evangelism. We believe that you Golden Agers can reach people that no one else will reach. We cannot take for granted just because a person has reached maturity in age that he is a Christian. We have multitudes of lost retired people in Arkansas. Many of you have developed a relationship with these lost people. We are asking you to pray for your lost friends daily and to share the love of Christ with them.

Evangelism

Dr. Glendon Grober, our director of Golden Age Evangelism, has secured the services of Dr. Leonard Sanderson to share with you in the conferences this year. Dr. Sanderson served as Director of Evangelism for the Home Mission Board. He then served, until his retirement, as Director of Evangelism for Louisiana. He is very active in his retirement years as Professor of Evangelism at Midwestern Seminary and as a full time vocational evangelist. Dr. Sanderson has tremendous experience and expertise in the prayer ministry for retired people and in personal evangelism. Each Golden Ager will be strengthened spiritually and motivated by Dr. Sanderson.

Neal Guthrie, our Director of Brotherhood, will be coordinating and leading the music for the conferences. The conferences will be conducted at Springdale, First Church, Monday, May 5; North Little Rock, First Church, Tuesday, May 6; and Dumas, First Church, Thursday, May 8.

Each of the conferences will begin at 10:30 a.m. until lunch. This will be a beautiful time to travel. Choose the conference that you prefer and then enlist a van or bus load to come and share in the blessings of God. — **Clarence Shell, Director**

Rare Opportunity

Director of the most effective church planting enterprise in the world... author of *Planting New Churches*... former Arkansas pastor... and Indiana DOM... recognized national leader for Southern Baptist... but gives all the glory to God, Jack Tidsworth, director of the Church Extension Division of our Home Mission Board.



Tidsworth

Jack will be our leader for the New Work Conference at Camp Paron on May 22 and 23. The conference starts at 2:00 p.m. on the 22nd and closes with lunch on the 23rd. The cost for three meals and lodging is \$20.

Melody Mosley Morris (Fred Moseley's daughter) of Illinois will portray scriptural characters through drama. She can move the heart!

Other features of the conference will include music, testimonies and conference groups. Principles and practices that will help a church grow will be presented. Starting and developing new congregations will be the central heart of the conference.

White Hall First

The First Church of White Hall where Jack Ramsey is pastor, recently voted to become a Macedonian Mission Partner. The church will join with one or two other churches to sponsor a mission for three years.

Missions

I especially am encouraged by the action of the White Hall church. We have about 20 target fields where a mission could be started this year in Arkansas. One barrier to starting new work is the need for sponsors. Fifty to 60 churches could provide ample people and finances to give these new congregations a healthy start.

The Macedonian Mission Plan is for three churches to sponsor one mission for three years (3 to 1 for 5). If your church is interested in becoming involved in the Macedonian Mission Plan contact Floyd Tidsworth Jr., P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203, phone 376-4791. — **Floyd Tidsworth Jr., Church Extension director**

Annual Chaplaincy Awareness Conference

On May 5-6, 1986 the annual Chaplaincy Conference will be held at Camp Paron.

The conference is designed to enhance the ministerial skills for full-time chaplains, military reserve and National Guard Chaplains and other persons involved in any chaplaincy type ministry.



Sisk

Many pastors, church staff and lay people are providing significant voluntary chaplaincy ministry to people in state institutions such as county and city jails, small hospitals, police and sheriff's departments, business and industry, home for the aging, fire departments, juvenile delinquent centers, motels and hotels and retardation centers.

In a nutshell, chaplaincy ministries may be defined as taking the Good News of Jesus into places where people normally cannot attend a local church.

Both ordained and lay persons involved in any type of chaplaincy work are invited to attend the conference. However, those not on our regular chaplains mailing list should contact the Missions Department for reservations [phone-376-4791 ext. 5150] or write to the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, Chaplaincy Missions Department, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203 by May 1st.

This year our conference leader will be Dr. Charles R. Riggs. Chaplain Riggs, a Southern Baptist Chaplain is Administrator for the Federal Prison System in Washington, DC. Chaplain Riggs will be emphasizing the pastoral role of the chaplain. There will be also an opportunity to discuss and share ideas to facilitate learning from each other.

Dr. Riggs holds the B.A. degree from Georgetown College in Kentucky. He attended Southern Baptist Theological Seminary where he earned the B.D. and M.Div. Additionally, he earned the TH.D. from Luther Rice Seminary International.

Missions

He has held pastorates in Alaska, Kentucky and Georgia. His chaplaincy experience has been in the U.S. Penitentiary, Atlanta, Georgia; Chaplain Administrator, Southeast Region; and presently serving as Chief of Chaplains, Washington, D.C.

Registration will be from 4:00-6:00 p.m. on May 5th. The conference will begin with the evening meal at 6:00 p.m. and will adjourn at 4:00 PM on May 6th. There is no charge for attending this conference. — **Leroy Sisk, Chaplaincy Director**

GA Mother-Daughter Camp

Mothers and their first-third grade daughters are invited to spend time sharing, recreating, worshipping and growing together at Camp Paron during GA Mother-Daughter Camps. The dates for the camps are May 16-17, June 27-28 and July 11-12. All camps begin with registration at 5 p.m. on Friday and conclude at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday.

Woman's Missionary Union

Evelyn Bullington, missionary to West Africa and Lois Cox, missionary to Chile, will be the speakers at the May 16-17, GA Mother-Daughter Camp. State missions, crafts, games, a campfire service and quiet times are featured. There will be activities geared to help mothers and daughters learn better communication skills. The experience of quality time spent by mother with daughter will be well worth the sacrifice of time and family responsibilities.

Registration information has been sent to GA leaders. You can obtain additional information from the WMU Office. Plan now to attend and register early. Registrations are accepted on a first come, first served basis. GA Mother-Daughter Camp offers the opportunity for mothers and daughters to grow together. — **Pat Glascock, GA/Mission Friends Director**

Parenting by Grace

Parenting by Grace, a parenting program to strengthen and enrich families, will be available to churches October 1, 1986.



Jackson

Developed by the Family Ministry Department of the Sunday School Board, *Parenting by Grace*, will help parents utilize God's gift of grace as they love, affirm, discipline and guide their children to mature, responsible Christian living.

Helping parents be the best parents they can be is what *Parenting by Grace* is all about. *Parenting by Grace* is a course of study for adults who have children ranging in age from infants through adolescents. The initial course of study deals with discipline as it relates to spiritual and moral development. The five

unit topics in the first course are: "Grace: God's Gift to Parents and Children;" "Helping Children Grow According to God's Plan;" "How to Discipline by Grace;" "Applying Grace to Your Parenting;" and "Sustaining Grace in Your Parenting."

Church Training

Parenting by Grace uniquely blends the theological truths Southern Baptists believe in with practical and timely learning procedures that help parents live out their faith as they parent daily in the home environment.

A National Leadership Training Workshop will launch *Parenting by Grace* during Church Training Leadership Weeks at Glorieta and Ridgcrest this summer. Associations will be encouraged to conduct

a Parent Enrichment Leadership Conference which will provide basic understanding on how to plan, promote and conduct a *Parenting by Grace* program in your church.

Your state convention will conduct a Parent Enrichment Leadership Training Workshop July 7-9, 1986, to equip participants to be uniquely competent to lead and train others to lead parent enrichment programs. This workshop is primarily for associational Family Ministry leaders and special workers. A few church Family Ministry leaders and/or church staff persons can participate in the 15-hour workshop. A fee will be charged for the resources used in the workshop. For additional information about *Parenting by Grace* and training available in Arkansas, please contact Gerald Jackson, Church Training Department, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203. — **Gerald Jackson, associate**

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May 5-6, Chaplaincy Awareness Conference, Camp Paron. A training conference for Arkansas chaplains in various fields who are endorsed by the Southern Baptist Convention, plus

Next month in Arkansas: May

volunteer chaplains. The pastoral role of the chaplain is this year's emphasis.

May 5, Golden Age Evangelism Conference, Springdale, First Church. Annual event to get senior adults involved in evangelism.

May 6, Golden Age Evangelism Conference, North Little Rock, First Church.

May 8, Golden Age Evangelism Conference, Dumas, First Church.

May 10, Ouachita Baptist University

commencement, Arkadelphia. Degrees will be awarded by Arkansas Baptists' senior institution of higher education.

May 11, Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine Day of Prayer. Time for local churches to focus on the ministry of the state Baptist paper. Prayer for the staff is suggested.

May 10, State Music Tournament/Ensemble Jubilee, Benton, First Church. Annual event to give associational tournament winners a chance to compete on the state level.

May 12-16, MasterLife/MasterBuilder/DiscipleYouth II Workshops, Ouachita Baptist University at Arkadelphia. Annual event to train pastors, church staff, church leaders and youth leaders to lead these programs in their local churches.

May 16, Southern Baptist College commencement, Walnut Ridge. Degrees, including the first baccalaureate degrees, will be awarded.

May 16-17, GA Mother/Daughter Camp,

Paron. First of several overnight events for Girls in Action and their mothers for missions education and fellowship.

May 19-21, Senior Adult Celebration, Ouachita Baptist University at Arkadelphia. An annual inspiration and fellowship event for senior adults and their leaders.

May 19-22, National Continuing Witness Training Seminar, El Dorado, First Church. One of three seminars in the state this year to certify participants to begin witness training in local churches.

May 19-25, Associational Emphasis Week. Focus of the work of the district association in helping Baptist churches to see and care for their neighbors.

May 22-23, New Work Conference, Camp Paron. Missions Committee chairmen, missions development directors from associations, plus mission pastors, sponsoring church pastors and directors of missions are invited.

June

June 3-6, Student Summer Missionaries Orientation, Mills Valley Retreat Center in North Pulaski Association.

June 9-13, Royal Ambassador Camp, Paron.

June 13-14, RA Man and Boy Mini Camp, Paron.

June 16-18, Acteens Mini Camp, Cold Springs Camp in Faulkner Association.

June 16-20, Arkansas Baptist

Assembly, Siloam Springs.

June 16-20, Royal Ambassador Camp, Paron.

June 17-19, Arkansas Campers on Mission Rally, Wilderness Point Campground on Lake Norfolk.

June 20-22, National Campers on Mission Rally, Wilderness Point Campground.

June 23-27, Arkansas Baptist Assembly, Siloam Springs.

June 22-29, Mission Revivals Week, statewide.

June 23-26, Young Musicians Camp, Ouachita Baptist University at Arkadelphia.

June 23-27, Girls in Action Camp, Paron.

June 27-28, GA Mother-Daughter Camp, Paron.

June 30-July 3, Girls in Action Camp, Paron.

July

July 1-3, Girls and Action Mini Camp, Camp Paron.

July 7-11, Girls in Action Camp, Paron.
July 7-11, Arkansas Baptist Assembly, Siloam Springs.

July 9-11, GA Mini Camp, Paron.
July 11-12, GA Mother-Daughter Camp, Paron.

July 13-23, Pioneer RA Mission Action Project, Grayling, Mich.

July 14, Money Management for Ministers, Concord Association office, Fort Smith.

July 15, Money Management for Ministers, Baptist Building, Little Rock.

July 14-18, Super Summer '86, Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia.

July 14-18, Girls in Action Camp, Paron.
July 14-18, Arkansas Baptist Assembly, Siloam Springs.

July 21-25, Arkansas Baptist Assembly, Siloam Springs.

July 28-August 1, Arkansas Baptist Assembly, Siloam Springs.

July 28-August 1, Music Arkansas, Ouachita Baptist University at Arkadelphia.

July 31-August 1, Weekday Early Education Workshop, Little Rock, Lifeline Church.

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Charles Stanley names parliamentarians for SBC

ATLANTA (BP)—Three parliamentarians, two of them former officers of the Southern Baptist Convention and the third a certified professional parliamentarian, have been named for the 1986 annual meeting of the SBC, scheduled June 10-12 in Atlanta.

SBC President Charles F. Stanley, pastor of Atlanta's First Church, announced the appointments April 8, naming James T. Draper Jr., pastor of First Church of Euless, Texas, and president of the SBC 1982-84; John Sullivan, pastor of Broadmore Church in Shreveport, La., and SBC first vice president 1982-84, and C. Barry McCarty, of Elizabeth City, N.C., a certified professional parliamentarian and ordained Church of Christ minister.

Although the SBC Constitution does not provide for a parliamentarian, previous presidents have appointed persons to assist in parliamentary procedure during the annual meetings.

Stanley said he appointed Draper because "I feel he did a fantastic job presiding at the annual meeting in the past." He noted Sullivan "ran against me" for president of the convention in 1984, and, as chairman of the SBC Executive Committee's Bylaws Workgroup "is probably as knowledgeable about the constitution and bylaws of the convention as anyone I know."

The president said he received a list of certified parliamentarians from the American Institute of Parliamentarians and selected McCarty from the list.

McCarty, a former vice president of the American Institute of Parliamentarians, is a professor of public speaking and debate at Roanoke Bible College in Elizabeth City, N.C. He conducts seminars on convention parliamentary procedure for state and local governmental bodies, professional associations and political action groups.

McCarty is one of two North Carolina members on the national Republican Party Committee on Permanent Organization. He was 1984 chairman of the North Carolina Republican Convention and a delegate to the 1984 national GOP convention in Dallas.

According to his biographical data sheet, McCarty also has been a "spokesman and lobbyist" for Right-to-Life groups.

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Visit the Pine Mountain Jamboree Entertainment Complex

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- ★ Shop and dine in Pine Mountain Jamboree Village

And see the highlight of your Ozark trip, The Pine Mountain Jamboree.

- ★ Show time 8 p.m.
- ★ Air-conditioned
- ★ Theater-style seating
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- ★ Family entertainment
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packages which include lodging and show tickets

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The LaHayes will be with us to answer any questions about your temperament — are you a sanguine, choleric, melancholy, or phlegmatic? They will help you discover your temperament blend, your strengths and weaknesses and help you to improve your relationship in your job, marriage, and your church. For more information contact Frances Goza at 227-0010.

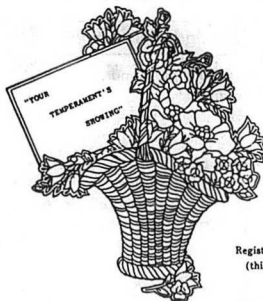
REGISTRATION

Registration Fee: \$10.00
 (this includes lunch)

Registration Deadline: April 29
 (registration fee is non-refundable after this date)

SCHEDULE

8:30- 9:00 a.m.—Registration	10:45-12:00 a.m.—Session II
9:00-10:15 a.m.—Session I	12:00- 1:00 p.m.—Lunch
10:15-10:45 a.m.—Break	1:00- 2:30 p.m.—Session III



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Appeals court throws out challenge to Vatican envoy

WASHINGTON (BP)—A federal appellate court has rejected arguments President Reagan violated the U.S. Constitution by sending an ambassador to the Vatican two years ago.

In a unanimous decision, a three-judge panel of the Third Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia threw out a challenge to Reagan's action, ruling that Americans United for Separation of Church and State—along with 20 religious bodies and 83 individuals—had no legal standing to bring the lawsuit. Even if they had been granted standing, the court ruled further, their arguments would have failed since the president alone has the power to appoint ambassadors.

Americans United Executive Director Robert L. Maddox, a Southern Baptist minister, said his organization will appeal the decision. "We have a popular president and a popular pope. But that must not obscure the fact that our nation is governed by the Constitution. The president has no authority under the Constitution to set up a formal relationship with a church," Maddox said.

Dunn, others ask Reagan to sign torture treaty

WASHINGTON (BP)—Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs Executive Director James M. Dunn and 10 other American Christian leaders have asked President Reagan to sign a United Nations-sponsored treaty condemning the practice of torture throughout the world.

The U.N. General Assembly unanimously adopted the torture treaty in December 1984. Noting the United States supported the treaty in the U.N. but is not among nearly 50 nations that since have ratified the document, the 11 asked Reagan to direct the U.S. ambassador to the U.N. to sign the treaty and to submit it to the Senate for ratification.

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Acteens Mini-Camp June 16 - 18, 1986 Cold Springs Camp Conway

Features: Missionaries, swimming, crafts, Studiact projects, a Brazilian MK, Acteens Olympic events, campfire services, talent show, new friends.

For more information: Contact WMU, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203



Senior Adult Celebration Monday - Wednesday, May 19 - 21 Ouachita Baptist University Campus, Arkadelphia

For senior adults and their leaders

begins with banquet, 6:30 p.m. Monday
adjourn at noon Wednesday

Program features:

- ◆ Leadership conferences
- ◆ Inspirational messages
- ◆ Fellowship - recreation
- ◆ Hobby fair
- ◆ Ventriloquist Clyde & Archie
- ◆ Senior Adult Musical: "More Than Ever Before", Sr. Adult Choir, First Church Arkadelphia

Registration Information

- ◆ Registration, \$15
Includes banquet and breaks
- ◆ Rooms available on campus
\$3.50 per person per night (double)
\$5.50 per person per night (single)

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Little Rock, AR 72203



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Tentative

1987 Arkansas Baptist State Convention Calendar

JANUARY: Make Your Will Month

1 New Year's Day
 4 Christian Wills Emphasis
 5-7 Baptist Building at Home Week
 5-9 Bible Study Week, James
 8-9 Baptist Building Staff Retreat
 11 Witness Commitment Day
 12 Area Growth Spiral Workshops, Jonesboro; Monticello; Blytheville (SS)
 12 Spring Registration, Southern Baptist College
 13 Spring Registration, Ouachita Baptist University
 13 Area Growth Spiral Workshops, Brinkley; Pine Bluff; Hot Springs
 15 State Joint Committee (National Baptists)
 15 Area Growth Spiral Workshops, Hope; West Memphis, Searcy
 18 Sanctity of Human Life Sunday
 19-23 Area Media Library Clinics (Media Library)
 23 Baptist Building banquet
 25 Baptist Men's Day
 26 Baptist Doctrine Preview Study (Church Training)
 26-27 State Evangelism Conference, Park Hill, North Little Rock
 28-30 BSU Directors Workshop

FEBRUARY: Baptist Seminaries, Colleges and Schools

2 VBS Clinic, Central, North Little Rock
 2-3 ASSIST Training, First, North Little Rock
 8 Race Relations Day
 8 Associational Hymn Sings
 8-14 Focus on WMU
 9 Tax Seminars, First, Fayetteville; Little Rock (Annuity/Stewardship)
 10 Tax Seminar, Grand Avenue, Hot Springs (Annuity/Stewardship)
 15-18 Home Mission Study
 16-17 Shared Ministry Conferences (Church Administration)
 19 Small Sunday School Leadership Update, Belview, Melbourne; Temple, Waldron; First, Dierks; Military Road, Jacksonville; Bakers Creek, Russellville
 19-20 Shared Ministry Conference (Church Administration)
 20-21 Southern Baptist College Homecoming
 23-26 National CWT Seminar, South Highland, Little Rock (Evangelism)
 25-27 Directors of Missions Retreat, DeGray
 26 Recognition banquet for Directors of Missions (Ouachita Baptist University)
 27-28 Volunteer/Part-time Retreat, Camp Paron (Church Music)
 27-28 State Single Adult Conference (Family Ministry)

MARCH: Home Missions

1-8 Week of Prayer for Home Missions and Annie Armstrong Offering
 2-6 Christian Focus Week, Ouachita Baptist University
 6-7 Handbell Festival, Geyer Springs, Little Rock

6-7 Mini-Rec Lab (Church Recreation)
 8-15 Youth Week (Church Training)
 9-12 Area Church Training Leadership Conferences (Church Training)
 14 Arkansas Baptist Men's Fellowship Convention, Little Rock (Brotherhood)
 14 Associational Baptist Youth Night (Church Training)
 15-Apr. 19 Attendance/Enlargement Campaign: Power in the Work (Sunday School)
 17 Instrumental Workshop, Ouachita Baptist University (Church Music)
 17 WMU Annual Meeting, First, Camden
 17-18 Statedwide Pastors' Retreat, Camp Paron (ABSC)
 19-20 Brotherhood/Missions Disaster Relief Workshop, Little Rock
 20-21 Start-A-Church Commitment Sunday (Missions)
 22 Church Building Conference Tour, First, Mt. Ida; Sang Avenue, Fayetteville (Sunday School)
 23-25 Literacy Workshop, Trinity, Blytheville (Missions)
 26-27 Marriage Enrichment Retreat Leadership Update (Family Ministry)
 26-27 Church Building Tour, Gassville, First; Calvary, Little Rock (SS)
 27-28 Minister/Mate Marriage Enrichment Retreat (Church Training)
 27-29 Leadership Training Conference, Camp Paron (BSU)
 28 Youth Choir Festival, Immanuel, Little Rock
 30-31 District Bible Drill and Speakers Tournaments (Church Training)
 30-31 Interfaith Witness Conference (Missions)

APRIL

2-3 District Bible Drills and Speakers Tournaments (Church Training)
 2-3 Interfaith Witness Conference (Missions)
 3-4 Actøens Encounter, Ouachita Baptist University, (WMU)
 4 Missions Friends Leader Training Conference, Calvary, Little Rock (WMU)
 6-8 Seminary Extension Area Workshop (Missions)
 9-10 Church Staff Retreat (Church Administration)
 10-11 Tiger Tunes Weekend (Ouachita Baptist University)
 11 Young Musicians Festivals, Arkadelphia, First; Central, Jonesboro; First, Fayetteville; Conway, Second; First, Monticello (Church Music)
 13-14 New Pastor/Staff Orientation, Baptist Building (ABSC)
 16 Small Sunday School Leadership Update, First, Reyno; Pleasant Lane, Crossett; First, Alpena; Bellaire, Dermott; First, Griffithville
 16-18 Northeast Arkansas Bible Conference (Missions)
 17 State Youth Convention (Church Training)
 19 Easter
 20-22 National Conference for Ministers of Education, Nashville, Tenn. (CT)
 20-23 Area Summer Youth Ministry Conference (Church Administration)
 20-24 Baptist Doctrine Study (Church Training)
 21 Advanced Growth Spiral Workshop (Sunday School)
 24-25 State RA Congress at Ouachita Baptist University (Brotherhood)
 27-28 Key Leader Meeting
 27-29 National Conference for Senior Adults, Ft. Worth, Tex. (Family Ministry)
 28 District Directors Meeting, Baptist Building, Little Rock (Church Music)
 30 Senior Adult Event, Hot Springs (Church Music)

22-25 Young Musicians Camp, Ouachita Baptist University (Church Music)
 22-26 Arkansas Baptist Assembly (second week)
 25-26 Christian Citizenship Conference (Christian Life Council)
 26-28 Pre-camp Training GA Camp Staff Camp Paron
 28 Christian Citizenship Sunday
 29-July 3 GA Camp (grades 4-6), Camp Paron (WMU)
 29-July 3 Arkansas Baptist Assembly (third week)

JULY

1-3 GA Mini-Camp (grades 1-4 & leaders and/or mothers), Camp Paron (WMU)
 4 Independence Day
 4-10 Church Training Leadership Youth Conference, Glorieta
 5-17 High School BYM Mission Project (Brotherhood)
 6-7 Mid-Summer Student Missionaries Meeting (Missions)
 6-10 GA Camp (grades 4-6), Camp Paron (WMU)
 6-10 Arkansas Baptist Assembly (fourth week)
 8-10 GA Mini Camp (grades 1-4 & leaders and/or mothers, Camp Paron (WMU)
 9 State Joint Committee (National Baptists)
 10-11 GA Mother/Daughter Camp (grades 1-3), Camp Paron
 11-17 Glorieta Music Week
 13-17 GA Camp (grades 4-6), Camp Paron
 13-17 Arkansas Baptist Assembly (fifth week)
 18-24 Church Training Leadership/Youth Conference, Ridgecrest
 18-25 GA Camp Staff Mission Trip
 20-24 Boys Youth Camp, Camp Paron (National Baptists)
 20-24 Arkansas Baptist Assembly (sixth week)
 25-31 WMU Conference, Glorieta
 27-31 Music Arkansas
 27-31 Girls Youth Camp, Camp Paron (National Baptists)
 27-31 Arkansas Baptist Assembly (seventh week)
 30-31 Marriage Enrichment Retreat Leadership Seminar (Family Ministry)
 31 WEE Workshop (Missions/Sunday School)

AUGUST

2 On-To-College Day
 3-7 Girls Youth Camp, Camp Paron (National Baptists)
 6 Small Sunday School Leadership Update, Friendship, Osceola; Webb City, Ozark, First, Lewisville; Wattensaw, Lonoke; North Maple, Stuttgart
 7-8 Pastor/Director Retreat (Church Training)
 8 Volunteer/Part-time Retreat, First, Smackover (Church Music)
 9 Associational Hymn Sing
 14-15 Children's Choir Leadership Clinic, Park Hill, North Little Rock
 14-15 DiscipleYouth Conference, Ouachita Baptist University (Church Training)
 14-15 Associational WMU Officers Retreat, Camp Paron
 17-19 Area Growth Spiral Workshops, Mena, First; Immanuel, Rogers; Batesville; Little Rock; Fort Smith; Harrison; Mountain Home; El Dorado; Russellville (Sunday School)
 21-22 Volunteer Part-time Retreat, Southern Baptist College, Walnut Ridge (Church Music)
 22-28 WMU Conference, Ridgecrest
 23-29 Church Music Emphasis Week
 25 Ouachita Baptist University Fall Registration

28 Area Brotherhood Conference, First, West Memphis
 28 am/pm WMU Leader/Member Training, First, West Memphis
 29 pm/30 WMU Leader/Member Training, Central, Jonesboro
 29 Area Annuity/Stewardship Conference, Central, Jonesboro
 29 Area Brotherhood Conference, Central, Jonesboro
 30 am WMU Leader/Member Training

OCTOBER: Cooperative Program Month

2-3 Better Bible Teaching in the Small Sunday School, Cedar Glades Camp, Imboden; Bakers Creek, Russellville
 2-4 Baptist Student Convention
 2-4 Campus BYW Event
 5-8 National CWT Seminar, First, Harrison
 10 Venture (Ouachita Baptist University)
 10 Parents/Pastors Day (Southern Baptist College)
 11 World Hunger Day
 12-16 Arkansas Senior Adult Chautauqua, Ridgecrest (Family Ministry)
 12-16 Annual Associational Meetings
 17 GA Missions Spectacular (grades 1-6 & leaders), Park Hill, NLR
 19-23 Annual Associational Meetings
 22-23 Music Men/Singing Women Retreat, Ouachita Baptist University
 22-23 Baptist Women Retreat, Camp Paron
 23-24 Baptist Women Retreat, Camp Paron
 25-27 Fall Building Tour (Sunday School)
 27 Church Training Convention
 30-31 Supervision Training Conference (Missions)

NOVEMBER

1-7 National RA Week
 2 Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer (BWA)
 2-7 January Bible Study
 3 Language Pastors Conference, Baptist Building, Little Rock (Missions)
 6-8 International Student Conference, Camp Paron (BSU)
 7 State RA Fellowship Luncheon, Little Rock
 9-12 Area Senior Adult Rallies (Family Ministry)
 10-13 Regular Arkansas Baptist State Convention (National Baptists)
 15-18 Foreign Mission Study
 17-18 Arkansas Baptist State Convention, First, Fort Smith
 21 Ouachita Baptist University Homecoming
 21 Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions Teleconference (BTN)
 23 "M" Night
 24-27 Consolidated Missionary Baptist State Convention (National Baptists)
 26 Thanksgiving
 29-Dec.6 Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

DECEMBER

6 Associational Carol Sing
 10-11 Evangelism Workshop, Camp Paron
 25 Christmas
 27 Student Day at Christmas
 28-29 All State Band
 28-29 Youth Evangelism Conference

MAY

- 1-2 Pastor/Deacon Conference, Little Rock (Church Administration)
 1-2 State Acteens Encounter, Southern Baptist College (WMU)
 1-3 Central Arkansas PACT Blitz (Missions)
 2 State Music Tournament/Ensemble Jubilee, Baring Cross, NLR (Church Music)
 3 Associational Hymn Sings
 3 Baptist Senior Adult Day
 3-10 Christian Home Week
 4 Pre-Retirement Planning Conference, First, Van Buren (Annuity)
 4-5 Chaplaincy Awareness Conference, Camp Paron (Missions)
 5 Pre-Retirement Planning Conference, First, Nashville (Annuity)
 5-6 Golden Age Evangelism Conference, Second, Hot Springs
 6 Pre-Retirement Planning Conference, Little Rock (Annuity/Stewardship)
 7 Pre-Retirement Planning Conference, First, Wynne (Annuity/Stewardship)
 7-9 Regional Prayer for Spiritual Awakening Seminar, Second, Hot Springs (Evangelism)
 8-9 GA Mother/Daughter Camp (Grade 1-3), Camp Paron (WMU)
 9 Ouachita Baptist University Spring Commencement
 9 Backyard Bible Club/Mission VBS State Conference, Levy, NLR, (SS)
 11 Cradle Roll Workshop, Immanuel, El Dorado (SS)
 11 Outreach Bible Study, Springdale; Watson Chapel, Pine Bluff (SS)
 11-13 Mid-South Conference on Preaching, Memphis, Tenn. (Church Admin.)
 12 Cradle Roll Workshop, Park Hill, North Little Rock (Sunday School)
 12 Outreach Bible Study, Central, Jonesboro; Hickory Street, Texarkana (SS)
 14 Cradle Roll Workshop, First, Ozark (Sunday School)
 15 Southern Baptist College Spring Commencement
 16 Baptist Young Women Retreat, Mt. Sequoia Assembly, Fayetteville (WMU)
 17 Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine Day of Prayer
 17 Season of Prayer for Associational Missions
 18-22 MasterLife/MasterBuilder Workshops (Church Training)
 18-24 Associational Emphasis Week
 21-22 Church Planting Conference, Camp Paron (Missions)
 25 Memorial Day
 28-30 Senior Adult Celebration (Family Ministry)
 28-31 Spring Campers on Mission (Missions)

JUNE: Annuity Board Ministries Month

- 2-5 Student Summer Missionaries Orientation (Missions)
 4-5 Student Summer Missionaries Supervisors Conference (Missions)
 5-6 GA Mother/Daughter Camp (grades 1-3), Camp Paron (WMU)
 6-7 RA Camp Staff Training (Brotherhood)
 6-12 Church Training Youth Conference, Gorieta
 7 Religious Liberty Sunday
 8-12 RA Camp (first week)
 12-13 Man/Boy Mini Camp (Brotherhood)
 13-19 Church Training Youth Conference, Ridgecrest
 14-15 WMU, Southern Baptist Convention, St. Louis
 13-19 RA Camp (second week)
 15-19 Arkansas Baptist Assembly (first week)
 15-19 Super Summer (Evangelism)
 16-18 Southern Baptist Convention, St. Louis
 20-26 Ridgecrest Music Week

- 25-26 Southern Baptist College Fall Registration
 26-27 Tiger Traks (Ouachita Baptist University)
 27 Special Worker Institute, Immanuel, Little Rock (Sunday School)
 28-29 Associational Church Training Leadership Conference
 31 Area Annuity/Stewardship Conference, Immanuel, Pine Bluff
 31 Area Brotherhood Conference, Immanuel, Pine Bluff
 31 am/pm WMU Leader/Member Training, Immanuel, Pine Bluff
 31 Adult Choir Festivals, First, Hope; First, Springdale; First, Jonesboro

SEPTEMBER: Baptist Foundation Month

- 1 Area Annuity/Stewardship Conference, Second, El Dorado
 1 Area Brotherhood Conference, Second, El Dorado
 1 Adult Choir Festivals, Booneville, First; Brinkley, First; Calvary, NLR
 3 Area Annuity/Stewardship Conference, Beech Street, Texarkana
 3 Area Brotherhood Conference, Beech Street, Texarkana
 3 Adult Choir Festivals, Mt. Home, First; Second, Little Rock; Monticello, Second
 1 p.m./2 WMU Leader/Member Training, Second, El Dorado
 3 am/pm WMU Leader/Member Training, Beech Street, Texarkana
 3-8 Single Adult Labor Day Weekend, Gorieta (Family Ministry)
 5 Youth Missions Emphasis, Magic Springs, (WMU/Church Training)
 7 Labor Day
 9 Founders Day (Southern Baptist College)
 10 Area Annuity/Stewardship Conference, Baring Cross, North Little Rock
 10 Area Brotherhood Conference, Baring Cross, North Little Rock
 10 am/pm WMU Leader/Member Training, Baring Cross, North Little Rock
 10 Festivals Committee, Baptist Building, Little Rock (Church Music)
 10-13 Fall Campers on Mission Rally (Missions)
 11 Furloughing Missionaries Orientation, Baptist Building, LR (Stewardship)
 12 Baptist Youth Day (Church Training)
 13 Single Adult Day (Family Ministry)
 13 Baptist Foundation Sunday
 14 Area Annuity/Stewardship Conference, Grand Avenue, Fort Smith
 14 Area Brotherhood Conference, Grand Avenue, Fort Smith
 14 am/pm WMU Leader/Member Training, Grand Avenue, Fort Smith
 14-15 Better Bible Teaching in the Small Sunday School, Bellaire, Dermott; First, Wilmot
 15 Area Annuity/Stewardship Conference, First, Fayetteville
 15 Area Brotherhood Conference, First, Fayetteville
 15 pm/16 WMU Leader/Member Training, First, Fayetteville
 15 Camps Committee, Baptist Building, Little Rock (Church Music)
 17 am/pm WMU Leader/Member Training, First, Harrison
 17 Area Annuity/Stewardship Conference, First, Harrison
 17 Area Brotherhood Conference, First, Harrison
 17 Small Sunday School Leadership Update, Bowman; First, Perryville;
 Emmanuel, Hot Springs; First, Lexa; Southside, Fordyce
 18-19 CPA Pastors/Wives Retreat, Little Rock (Missions)
 20-27 Season of Prayer for State Missions and Dixie Jackson Offering
 21 Bi-vocational and Small Church Evangelism Conference, First, Mansfield
 21-25 Arkansas Senior Adult Chautauqua, Gorieta (Family Ministry)
 22 Bi-Vocational and Small Church Evangelism Conference, First, Clinton
 24 Bi-Vocational and Small Church Evangelism Conference, First, Trumann
 25-26 Sunday School Conference, Geyer Springs, Little Rock
 28 Area Annuity/Stewardship Conference, First, West Memphis

Earliest PGG reports indicate new vitality

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—Renewed spiritual and financial vitality highlight earliest reports from churches participating in Southern Baptists' Planned Growth in Giving emphasis.

Planned growth in giving has provided a variety of benefits to First Church, Okmulgee, Okla., reports Pastor Alton Fannin. "A new spirit of unity and vision has become very evident," he says. "A new sense of healthy pride has returned for what Southern Baptists are doing. People look more at the Lord's will as opposed to the dollar weight. . . . We have entered a new era of progress in all directions."

Okmulgee's First church has enjoyed a \$25,000 checkbook balance, compared to recent annual deficits of up to \$30,000.

Says Rodney W. McGlothlin, pastor of First Church West in Lawton, Okla.: "We live in a day when Baptists are debating what the minimum requirements are for being a Baptist. Our only avenue out of this deadly tendency is to focus on maximum sacrifice to meet the needs of a lost world."

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International

Jesus' mission

by Winfred P. Bridges, First Church, Paragould

Basic passage: Luke 3:15-22; 4:16-30

Focal passage: Luke 3:15-17; 21-22; 4:16-19

Central truth: Jesus releases persons from spiritual blindness and oppression, and brings the presence and power of the Holy Spirit into their lives.

It has been said what God calls one to do, he gives the power to do it. As Jesus began his public ministry, his baptism and the descending of the Holy Spirit illustrate this truth. The Holy Spirit was present in the birth of Jesus, and in his acquiring of great wisdom at such an early age, but in a special sense Jesus was "ordained" or set apart for his ministry in the majestic act of God.

One might easily mistake this event in the life of Jesus as the "point of contact" where the public sanction and the descending power of God is demonstrated in the life of every transformed one in Christ. This cannot be, even though God uniquely used Jesus' baptism as an appropriate time to show himself present.

The power of God's Spirit comes to us when we receive him (Jn. 1:12). We then have the authority to become the sons of God and daughters of God, to share in his joy, beauty, and to speak in his name. We have all the power of God we need in us when we are saved. However, we can learn how to appropriate that power within the framework of God's measure of grace in us.

The ministry of Jesus was unique and was characterized by this anointing of God. The Pharisees missed the point of Jesus' ministry because they lacked the spirit of his ministry. The peculiarity of the ministry of Jesus was not based on a new ethic, but a new spirit characterized by love and redemption. The difference in his spirit and that of the Pharisees was that of the difference between "righteous judgment" of John 7:24, a discernment designed to encourage acceptance for the person without condoning sin, and the judgment of Matthew 7:1, a "put down." The Pharisees sought to build a cover up, while putting others not just like themselves down. Jesus sought to glorify God, not himself, while building others up by loving and forgiving them.

The witness and ministry of Jesus can be carried on today by those who embody that same Spirit.

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Life and Work

Developing character

by Bert Thomas, Valley Church, Searcy

Basic passage: Colossians 3:12-17

Focal passage: Colossians 3:12-17

Central truth: Each Christian should develop character that is Christ-like.

"To Tell The Truth" was a popular TV show a few years ago. Three individuals, all claiming to be the same person, appeared before a selected panel. The object of the game was to confuse the panel as to their true identity. The two imposters could give any answer they chose but the person with the correct identity had to tell the truth. After a period of questioning, the moderator would ask the person who had been telling the truth to reveal himself.

Christians are not to confuse a lost world about our identity. We must develop Christian character so there will be no doubt we belong to Christ.

Our status as God's elect is an incentive to do this. In verse 12 Paul uses the words "holy and beloved" to describe this status. "Holy" means we have been set apart from the world, we belong to God, and that we are to be used in his service. The term "beloved" indicates we are recipients of God's love and special blessings. Some of these blessings include Jesus' daily presence, daily provision, and his promise to take us to live with him in the Father's house.

If we are to develop Christian character, we must have a standard. Paul gives us one in verses 12-13. We are to have compassion and show kindness toward each other. This means to feel deeply for others and help them meet their needs. Christians are not to be harsh in our judgment toward others but are to help each other overcome sin.

Believers are to develop a proper view of themselves. A humble, gentle person has learned to submit to the control of others.

Believers are to develop a proper reaction to the deeds of others. We are to be patient with one another. Patience includes the refusal to retaliate. Forbearing means to endure one another with the thought of helping one another. Forgiving is based upon our need for forgiveness and grounded in God's forgiveness to us.

Stability is needed to develop Christian character. Christ-like love is the glue that holds the other characteristics together. The peace of Christ is the umpire for each decision and thankfulness to God for his blessings will serve as an anchor for our souls.

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Bible Book

Repentance and correction

by Roy A. Fowler, First Church, Mountain Home

Basic passage: Ezra 9:1 to 10:44

Focal passage: Ezra 9:1-3,10-11; 10:2-5

Central truth: Fervent prayer and strong action can lead people to repent and change their lives for the better.

The happiness of Ezra over his accomplishment in bringing the Jewish people back to Jerusalem was short lived. He had been in Jerusalem only four and a half months (7:9; 10:8-9) when he was faced with the greatest religious and moral crisis of his ministry.

The chief men of the community came to Ezra and informed him there had been intermarriage of Jews and unbelieving Gentiles in Judah and Samaria. God had forbidden such intermarriage (Deut. 7:1-4). Their sin was causing God's people to fall into idolatry and diminish their distinctiveness.

Ezra fell on his knees before the Lord, acknowledging his shame over the sin of the people. He acknowledged it was because of such sin in the lives of their fathers that they had been in captivity. And now, so soon out of captivity, the people had entered into the same sin.

His prayer demonstrated that he recognized the action of the people clearly as disobedience. He did not ask God for anything and he offered no excuses for their sin. He remembered it was God's expression of mercy that saved their fathers and that his mercy was now their only hope of salvation.

While Ezra prayed, the people gathered around him. Schechaniah proposed they make a covenant with God to divorce all the foreign wives (10:3). It was to be carried out according to the Law (Deut. 7:1-4; 24:1).

Even though divorce was practiced among the Israelites, it was not instituted by God and had no part in his original design for marriage. The divorces required by Ezra had two unique purposes: (1) to maintain the distinctiveness of God's people in light of his purpose for them, and (2) to prevent the contamination of the Hebrew faith as a result of the mixed marriages with people who worshipped other gods. The New Testament makes it clear that we are not to use this unique situation to support divorce today (1 Cor. 7:12-13, Matt. 19:8).

Finally it should be noted almost 25 percent of those guilty were religious leaders. It is no wonder Ezra feared the judgment of God. God has always demanded his leaders be obediently clean.

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Rogers willing to be nominated as SBC president

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP)—Former Southern Baptist Convention President Adrian Rogers says he is willing to be nominated again as president of the nation's largest non-Catholic denomination.

"I am not running for office," said Rogers, who declined a traditional second term as president after his 1979-80 tenure. "I am willing if the brethren want me. I realize there is the potential that I may not be nominated and the potential that if nominated, I may not be elected. I just have a willingness in my heart to allow my name to be placed in nomination."

Rogers' announcement ends months of speculation as to whether the former president would allow himself to be nominated. Open speculation began when Florida pastor Homer Lindsay Jr. told a meeting at First Church in Jacksonville that Rogers was the choice of fundamental-conservatives to succeed current SBC President Charles F. Stanley of Atlanta.

Rogers told Baptist Press: "The announcement (in Florida) was that I was the man they wanted. They had asked me if I would be their candidate, and I told them no, but I did tell them they could say I was their choice. I did not give them permission to say I was a candidate."

The Memphis pastor said: "It is my desire, whether I am president or not, to see a clear-

ing of the air. For this reason I am very supportive of the SBC Peace Committee (of which he is a member). I believe the committee is the best mechanism to let the facts be known. It has been my philosophy in almost any decision making that if you carefully gather the facts, the decision is almost automatic."

He added the recently adopted "Diversity Statement" by the 22-member Peace Committee is a case in point. "For many years we have been hearing that there is no real theological problem in the SBC. But now a bi-partisan, convention-elected committee has clearly said there is."

The committee, elected by the 1985 annual meeting to determine the sources of controversy in the SBC and to try to devise paths to reconciliation, adopted a three-paragraph statement during its February meeting which spelled out the diversity of theological belief.

Rogers said, "Whoever is elected president should work to create a climate in which we can solve our problems. I am talking about one of love and fairness, a spiritual revival. I don't believe Southern Baptists will be changed ultimately by parliamentary maneuvering, appointments or gavel-banging. We need a fresh touch from God and I will pray and work toward that end."

Moore announces four-point SBC peace plan

ATLANTA (BP)—Winfred Moore, first vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention, has announced a four-point "peace plan" calling for "fairness" in the 14.4-million member denomination.

Moore, pastor of First Church, Amarillo, Texas, would not say he is willing to be nominated as convention president when the SBC meets in Atlanta next June, but added, "As far as I know, I've never run out on a friend or a cause I believe in."

Moore disclosed the following four-point plan in a telephone interview with the Atlanta bureau of Baptist Press:

(1) There must be a fairness in the distribution of power and the inclusion of small churches by allowing no more than two individuals from the same church being asked to serve on SBC boards and agencies.

(2) There must be a fairness in the appointment process by asking each state convention president, WMU president, executive director and chairman of the state convention executive board for names. The SBC president and officers should make appointments from these suggestions.

(3) The people asked to serve on SBC boards and agencies should be from churches who have shown a history of support for Cooperative Program efforts.

(4) There must be a fairness in the conducting of business at our national conventions

by calling for an official parliamentarian and requesting proper identification when the ballots are received by the messengers.

Moore said he did not plan to present his four-point proposal to the SBC Peace Committee, of which he is a member, because the committee has too much to do between now and the convention. "I just hope everyone will take a look at the idea and come to the convention in Atlanta with a more peaceful approach."

Saying he was not surprised at the announcement Adrian Rogers is willing to be a candidate for SBC president, Moore added he felt Rogers is "misusing" the statement on theological diversity issued by the SBC Peace Committee.

Moore denied the Peace Committee statement is a so-called "smoking gun" proving there are theological problems. "That's not what the Peace Committee voted to say," said Moore. "We were just acknowledging what everyone has known all along, that we have diversity in the SBC."

"I've said all along if someone is teaching heresy, we ought to deal with that person on a one-to-one basis; but we shouldn't throw suspicion over everyone," Moore said. "We need teachers in our seminaries who expand our minds, not who walk in the same ruts we are in."

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