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### August 1, 1991

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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# Arkansas Baptist



*BSU: Designed for you*  
Page 7

Vol. 90, No. 16

August 1, 1991



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1995 move**

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# Arkansas Baptist

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A dysfunctional family is one that doesn't function or "work right." A child has a basic need to feel like he belongs, and has value and worth. A dysfunctional family does not meet those needs. The problems may involve alcohol, physical, verbal or sexual abuse, abandonment, or any number of other problems. In the first in a series of articles, Larry Pillow, pastor of Conway Second Church, defines terms and points out how to get help.

### 7 BSU: Designed for you

When the Southern Baptist lattice of evangelism, discipleship, and mission intertwines on a local campus, it is called BSU. In a special section, the work of BSU is defined, complete with names and addresses of Arkansas BSU directors on 24 campuses and testimonies from parents, instructors, pastors, and students about their experiences in BSU.

### 19 Draper elected SSB president

James T. Draper Jr. was elected without opposition July 19 to become the eighth president of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board. Draper, 55, pastor of First Church of Euless, Texas, and 1982-84 president of the Southern Baptist Convention, will be installed Aug. 20 during the semi-annual meeting of trustees in Nashville, Tenn.

### 20 HMB approves 1995 move

Directors of the SBC Home Mission Board voted July 17 to move their national headquarters from midtown Atlanta to a new location 22 miles north in Alpharetta, Ga. Plans call for the new building to be completed in 1995. The 34 acres of property, known as the Preston Ridge development, will be purchased for \$1.3 million.

### 23 Lewis, Parks outline dreams

Outlining dreams for the year 2000 and beyond, the presidents of the Southern Baptist Home and Foreign mission boards registered concern that economic recession, denominational controversy, and cultural pressures against long-term commitments could limit efforts and world evangelization.

## Cover story

ABN photo / Lisa Coleman



### New Worship Center 18

On July 10, the Arkansas Baptist Assembly at Siloam Springs dedicated its new Worship Center, built with a \$1.3 million gift from Mrs. Bernice Jones of Springdale. It replaced the old tabernacle which was built in 1923.

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# Parenting

J. EVERETT SNEED

On a recent Sunday morning, we had the privilege of watching our pastor invite young couples with their infant children to come forward to meet him at the altar. In our pastor's brief remarks to the parents, he admonished them to rear children in an atmosphere in which the child would come to know the Lord when he reached the age of accountability. He also asked the parents to pledge to provide a Christian atmosphere for their children.

After charging the church and the parents to fulfill their respective obligations, he prayed a prayer of dedication in the hushed sanctity of the occasion. The service of commitment was a moving one which should have a long lasting impact on both the parents and the congregation at large.

In stark contrast to the happy faces of these parents are those other faces we have seen lately, filled with heartbreak, fear, and frustration. These are the parents of older youth who have rejected Christian values and counseling and have "gone off the deep end," leaving their parents plagued with the haunting question, "Where did we fall?"

Children represent our future. The children of today will be the parents, the leaders, and the church of tomorrow. The formative years are the most vital time for implanting life's guiding principles. In most instances, life's direction is set at a very early age. The Bible tells us, "Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Pr. 22:6).

Jesus, himself, emphasized the importance of children in one of the most beautiful stories found in the New Testament (see Mt. 19:13-15). If the disciples seemed harsh or rough in rebuking those who brought the children, it was their concern for Jesus that prompted their action. They knew how tired Jesus was and wanted to protect him. But, Jesus took the occasion to show the importance of children. He also demonstrated his love and concern for children who in his day were considered chattels (or property).

The story of Jesus and the little ones provides us a guiding principle for our dealing with children. Jesus had time for them because he knew their worth and potential. Children possess many characteristics which make them exceedingly teachable.



They possess a sense of wonder, trust, and obedience.

The responsibility for rearing a child rests far more heavily on the parents than anyone else. The task is extremely difficult in today's society with all the pressures that impact a child's life. But, this is of little comfort to the parent who experiences agonizing problems with his teenager. With the best of intentions and efforts during the child's formative years, there is never, never a guarantee of success.

The risk of failure is reduced, however, when young parents recognize that a child is a gift from God, and that the child has the inherent right to be himself. Each child will express his own individuality as he grows up. Any attempt to mold the child into something contrary to his own identity, in time, will be rejected to the grief of his parents.

With genuine concern and desire to be successful in training up a child in the way he should go, young parents must learn to love a child without becoming possessive, to serve without expectation of reward, and to discipline with the purpose of developing self discipline.

Parents should never use discipline to vent their own anger or frustration. Discipline should be used only to provide guidance and direction. Obviously, discipline which injures a child physically

or emotionally is tragically improper.

Fortunately, children automatically sense when someone loves them. One of the most important ingredients in being a good parent is to reflect continuing love to a child. The parent or teacher, like Jesus, should never be too tired or too busy for children.

Patience also is required if one is to be successful with a child. All children love repetition, for it is the basis of their learning. Perhaps the things they remember best are "caught" more than "taught." Children will sense Christian love in our actions. They discover new truths in the things they feel. A child's experiences enable him to form priorities for life's actions.

David Mace, an authority on family life, writes, "Our task is to accept our children for what they are; to love them; to care for them; and to strive to surround them, as they grow up, with wholesome and good influences. Beyond that we have no right to go."

The task of rearing children is indeed difficult and challenging. Parents and teachers alike must have love, patience, and a capacity to impart information in an understandable fashion. Above all, parenting begins with the right kind of person. Children will know best of all what motivates their parents, friends, and teachers.

Parents would do well to dedicate their young children to God, to commit themselves to the mutual responsibility of nurturing their children in the Lord with patience and love. Faithfulness in this practice doubtless will save a lot of emotional and mental "wear and tear" in time to come, and will rescue lives from wasted years.

## Arkansas Baptist

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# The road to recovery

*A series of articles to help you learn to overcome your dysfunctional family background*

by Larry Pillow

Special to the Arkansas Baptist

Once upon a time a woman moved to a cave in the mountains to study with a guru. She wanted, she said, to learn everything there was to know. The guru supplied her with a stack of books and left her alone so she could study.

Every morning the guru returned to the cave to monitor the woman's progress. In his hand, he carried a heavy cane. Each morning he asked her the same question, "Have you learned all there is to know yet?" Each morning her answer was the same. "No," she said, "I haven't." The guru would then strike her over the head with his cane.

The scenario repeated itself for months. One day the guru entered the cave, asked the same question, heard the same answer, and raised his cane to hit her in the same way, but the woman grabbed the cane from the guru, stopping his assault in midair.

Relieved to end the daily battering, but fearing reprisal, the woman look up at the guru. To her surprise, the guru smiled. "Congratulations," he said, "you have graduated. You know everything you need to know."

"How's that?" the woman asked.

"You have learned that you will never learn everything there is to know," he replied. "And you have learned how to stop the pain" (Melody Beattie, *Codependent No More*, New York: Harper & Row Publishers, Inc., 1987, p. 7).

Learning to stop the pain caused by our dysfunctional family of origin is what these articles are all about. A dysfunctional family is one that doesn't "function" or work right. A child has basic needs to feel like he belongs, to feel valued, and to feel he has worth. A dysfunctional family does not meet those needs.

Dysfunctional families may involve alcohol, physical, verbal or sexual abuse, abandonment, or any number of other problems. It is estimated that 80 percent of today's adults grew up

in a dysfunctional family.

A committed Christian lady in her mid forties tells the horrible story of her father forcing her to have sex with him from the time she was four until she was a teenager. How can she deal with her sense of worthlessness, guilt, shame, dirtiness, and anger? What can she do to stop her pain?

A second lady, who is a faithful member of a Baptist church, still lives in the same town she grew up in and is haunted every day with fear that somebody will ask her maiden name and identify her with her father who was the town drunk for years. What can she do to stop the pain of her shame?

A grown man's memories of childhood mainly consist of images of a drunken father, filthy in his own vomit, cursing, screaming, and physically abusing the boy's mother as the young son stood by feeling guilty because he was so helpless. Today his sense of shame and unresolved anger keeps him from having intimacy with his own family. What is the road to recovery for him?

Each of the people in the three true stories above are active church members. They started down the road to recovery when they identified the major source of their pain as coming from their dysfunctional family of origin. They also discovered the childhood coping mechanism which enabled them to survive their traumatic childhood did not work for them as adults, and thus they were functioning as "adult children." In short, they learned they could not travel an adult road with a childhood map.

Whatever else Jesus meant when he said, "You shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free" (Jn. 8:32), I'm sure he meant he can give us freedom from the pain of the past.

As Christians, "How can we travel the road to recovery from a painful past?" We begin by recognizing that recovery is a process, not an event. If

we look for quick-fix, easy answers to deep and longstanding pain, we are likely to be disappointed. Unfortunately, "the only way out of pain is through it," so we have to drop the naive notion that we can say a prayer to stop a deep emotional pain like we can take an aspirin to stop a headache. But if we are willing to learn, to grow, to change, then we can learn to stop the pain.

There are two aspects to the process of recovery. One aspect involves learning or discovery. Discovery precedes recovery. A second aspect of recovery is called "doing work."

Discovery involves learning about old pain and new ideas. It helps to discover why you are the way you are. Learning the typical characteristics of Adult Children of Dysfunctional Families (ACDFs) is helpful. I have condensed the list as given in the excellent study book *Twelve Steps—A Spiritual Journey* (Friends in Recovery, *The Twelve Steps—A Spiritual Journey*, California: Recovery Publications, 1988).

—We have feelings of low self-esteem that cause us to judge ourselves and others without mercy.

—We tend to isolate ourselves and feel uneasy around other people.

—We are approval seekers and will do anything to make people like us.

—We are intimidated by angry people and personal criticism.

—We habitually choose to have relationships with emotionally unavailable people.

—We live as victims and are attracted to other victims in our love and friendship relationships.

—We are either super-responsible or super-irresponsible.

—We feel guilty when we stand up for ourselves or act assertively.

—We deny, minimize, or repress our feelings from our traumatic childhoods.

—We are dependent personalities who are terrified of rejection or abandonment.

—We have difficulty with intimate relationships and feel insecure and lack trust in others.

—We have difficulty following projects through from beginning to end.

—We have a strong need to be in control.

—We tend to be impulsive and take action before considering alternative behaviors or possible consequences.

—We have a hard time having fun.

I believe the church has the answer. We must learn to provide "a safe place" with "safe people" for people to face and overcome their pain. The best therapy in the world is the understanding support of other spirit-filled, Bible-believing, loving, growing adult children.

Fortunately, more and more churches are starting "recovery" ministries. Kingsland Baptist Church in Katy, Texas, under the leadership of Pastor Tim Sledge, has helped scores of people from dysfunctional families. Dr. Sledge also has written a book for use by small groups in churches called *Face to Face*, which will soon be published by Broadman. You can write to Sledge or his knowledgeable assistant, Mrs. Jere Williams, at 20555 Kingsland Blvd., Katy, TX 77450.

Dave Carder is the full-time "recovery" minister at Chuck Swindoll's church in Fullerton, Calif. Dave

has put together helpful material on starting a recovery ministry in your church which includes a study guide with biblical references on the characteristics mentioned earlier in this article. Write to Carder at First Evangelical Free Church, 2801 North Brea Blvd., Fullerton, CA 92635.

Our church has a recovery ministry which presently involves approximately 40 people from various backgrounds. In the past two years, we have baptized three people as a result of this ministry and have seen major breakthroughs occur in many lives of hurting people. We sponsored a retreat this past May and had 44 people attend. We have a second retreat planned for Oct. 18-20. We would be glad to send a team to meet with your church leaders and help you get a recovery ministry started. Write to us for information at 701 Polk, Conway, AR 72032. We don't have all the answers, but we will share what we have learned.

Larry Pillow has served as pastor of Second Church in Conway for the past nine years. He is completing his doctor of ministry studies at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City with an emphasis on ministry to Adult Children of Dysfunctional Families.

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## Helpful resource materials

Fortunately, there are a growing number of Christian books being written that help us understand how to change the characteristics in the above article. *Unfinished Business* by Dr. Charles Self provides an excellent introduction to the problem along with practical ideas and theological insights. Sarah Hines Martin's book, *Healing and Hope for Adult Children of Alcoholics*, published by Broadman, also gives an excellent overview of the problems of ACDs.

Two helpful secular books are *A Workbook for Healing* by Patty McConnell and *The Adult Children of Alcoholics Syndrome* by Wayne Kristberg. If you have the time and are self-disciplined to work through

it on your own, McConnell's book will help you get started with "original pain work" which is essential to healing and change. Kristberg does an excellent job of identifying and explaining the characteristics of "denial, isolation, silence, and rigidity" that exist in most dysfunctional families. He writes with a minimal amount of psychological mumbo jumbo.

If you are a spiritual leader or an advanced student, then I recommend *Secrets of Your Family Tree*, which is co-authored by five Christian leaders active in the recovery ministry. This thorough book has a helpful chapter on how a local church can get involved.

DON MOORE

## You'll Be Glad To Know



The doors keep opening for a Christian witness throughout our world. We are training Russian leaders, providing resources and materials. Billy Graham's organization has just finished a school of evangelism where 400 to 500 were trained in witnessing. A full-fledged crusade will likely be held in Moscow before long. Schools and churches are opening in East Europe. Never before have so many opportunities been open to us in such a short period of time.

You'll be sad to know that we Southern Baptists have not been in a position to seize the opportunity. Receipts to the Cooperative Program for the past nine months are actually less than last year (-59 percent). The foreign mission offering fell below the previous year's offering this year for the first time since 1938.

While inflation has shown over 28 percent increase in five years, total gifts to Southern Baptist churches have increased only 25.5 percent, and giving to missions has shown a much smaller increase.

Can this be changed? Sure it can! That is, if enough people will take action. What action should be taken?

Have missionaries speak in your church. Use weekly missionary moments out of the *Baptist Program* in your worship services. Adopt a missionary for purposes of prayer and communication. Provide a home for furloughing missionaries. Participate in mission partnership projects overseas or within the states. Subscribe to *The Commission* or *Missions USA* magazines that brief us on foreign and home missions. Have the mission studies for the entire church each spring, fall, and winter instead of just for the WMU. Let mission volunteers tell their experiences in the regular worship services. Develop your own local mission projects. Assist college students in summer missions work. Give proper attention to missionary education for all age groups in your church. Keep a steady flow of reports going to the church about what God is doing in the world. Keep world needs before the church. Born again people will respond. These will help you make a difference!

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

JUDY STROTHER

## Woman's Viewpoint

### 'Does God see me all the time?'

When our daughter, Megan, was four years old, bedtime was a serious daily affront to my success as a mother. One particularly harrowing night, after endless drinks of water and kisses, I was tucking Megan in bed for at least the third time. We had already said our prayers—quietly of course, since her two sisters had been asleep in the room for hours—when she got the mysterious and perplexed look on her face that signaled one of her "how" or "why" questions was forthcoming. I was relieved when she asked in an innocent and casual way, "Mommy, does God see me all the time, even in my room?"

Assuming she was seeking reassurance that even after I left her in her room with only her two sisters, her assorted dolls and teddy bears, and a night light for company, God would still watch over her, I sought to comfort her. With the fervor of a game show contestant who has finally gotten an easy question, I responded enthusiastically, "God can see you all the time." Her brown eyes opened just a little wider, and with every bit as much fervor, she stated emphatically, "But, I don't want him to."

Whatever response I made to comfort Megan that night was undoubtedly inadequate to the challenge laid before me. It's difficult to be theologically sound, in the middle of the night with a four-year-old insomniac. The episode has remained vivid in my mind for two lessons it illustrates. One, children rarely ask the tough questions when parents are prepared for them. The tough questions that matter are likely to come when a parent thinks she is at the end of her rope. All we can do is pray for the wisdom to express our faith and knowledge of God in words and actions that are understandable and reassuring to a child.

Two, like Megan, we all struggle with the concept of God's omnipotent presence in our lives. Can he really see me all the time? Sometimes, like Megan, I am not at all sure I want him to see me everywhere—even in my own room!

Judith C. Strother, a mother of three daughters and a member of First Church in Mountain Home, is a law partner with her husband, Lane, in the Strother Firm in Mountain Home.

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## **BSU: Designed for you**

### **BSU: What is the design?**

When the Southern Baptist lattice of evangelism, discipleship, and missions intertwines on a local campus, it is called BSU. It is not only designed for you, but by you.

### **BSU: Designed for involvement**

Every effort is made to help students become aware of BSU and to get involved in its programs. For years, BSU has met the needs of students and led them to a closer walk with Christ and his church.

### **BSU Directors and Campuses**

A complete list of names and addresses of Arkansas BSU directors on 24 campuses.

### **Testimonies about BSU**

Parents, instructors, pastors, and students speak about their experiences in BSU.



## BSU: What is the design?

by David James  
Director, ABSC Student Department

Do you have a college student in your church? Are you a parent or grandparent of a college student? Are you a student? Are you serious about fulfilling Jesus' command in Matthew 28:19-20? If any of these labels fit you, BSU is designed for you. Arkansas Baptist Student Union is designed to claim the collegiate campus for Christ, develop believers in Christ, and minister to the whole world in the name of Christ Jesus our Lord. This design caters to churches and students serious about going... teaching... and ministering.

### Evangelism

Reaching out to 86,605 students attending Arkansas colleges, BSU proves to be an effective design for evangelism. In a campus world of diversity and target group mentality, the design's color may change, but claiming our campuses for Christ is still a high priority. David McKenna says, in his book *The Coming Great Awakening*, "Youth is a choice time of life when special gifts are in full bloom. Never again will a person be so sensitive to cultural conflict, so optimistic about the future, so open to the spirit, so energized for action, and so ready to die for Christ." It is this kind of

fabric that gives BSU a dynamo to reach our world.

George Sims, our state associate, has documented the fact that every summer missionary we send computes into 4-5 professions of faith. He further emphasizes that each year approximately one-half of our summer missionaries lead their first person to a saving knowledge of Christ. This statistic alone ought to drive us to a higher commitment to connect students to this evangelism environment.

Brian, a student from Canada, attended SAU to play ball, but was injured. Little did he know that the love and care of a group of students would lead him to a personal experience with Jesus Christ. When he was baptized at Central Church in Magnolia, the network was complete. As the collective effort of Southern Baptists, BSU originated in the church. As an extension of the local church, BSU is a legitimate force to equip and send out students to do evangelism.

### Discipleship

Discipleship in the BSU is designed around developing student leaders. The quality of what a person says or does depends on the depth of their character. We want students to leave their BSU experience with a teachable character that

produces strong convictions and perseverance in obedience to the lordship of Christ, a character committed to fruit. John 15:8 says we glorify the Father and become disciples based on bearing fruit. We all know that Proverbs 11:30 teaches that a "soul" winner is wise. But do we know that the same verse says, "... the fruit of the righteous is a tree?" Even Matthew 4:19 says that we are "made" disciples as we follow him. On one campus, UAF, eighteen Bible studies and a strong freshman ministry program map out their basic discipleship scheme. The design of BSU demands our commitment to make disciples.

### Ministry

Ministering to the needs of our world is the application of the design. The task is clear and we will not be satisfied unless the weaver blends BSU with the needs of the campus, the needs of the community, and the needs of the world.

It might be an ASU group going to Guatemala to work with children, an ATU group going to a poverty ridden area in Kentucky, or a UCA group going to Perryville working at Heifer International. It might be a UAM group going to the Children's Home in their own community or a UALR group tutoring on campus. It might be a UAPB campus Baptist Young Women's group studying how to be more effective in mission strategy, a WACC group praying for New Work BSU, or a U of O group praying for and loving Internationals. In fact, it is students raising \$46,000 to send summer missionaries to several states and countries. It is students raising \$51,000 to send 235 students on short-term mission projects. The foundation and open-ended design of BSU allows our campus-based ministry to touch a campus, network with a nation, and connect with the world that God so loved.

Robert Fulghum closes his book *All I Really Need to Know, I Learned in Kindergarten* by saying, "If the fabric of existence is truly seamless, the weavers still must sleep." Surely, the design of Baptist Student Union is never complete and always adapting. However, deep in the lattice of Southern Baptist campus ministry you will find solid strands of evangelism, discipleship, and ministry.

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# Designed for involvement

by George Sims  
ABSC Student Department

When I visited a university campus earlier this year, there was a sign posted on a bulletin board that read, "There's a place for you at BSU." This sign reflected the open atmosphere of the BSU organization. It is open to any student on campus. It is open to minister to every faculty and staff member on the campus. It is open as well to lead students to minister to the total community.

Because of the character of the organization, openness is basic to its structure. It is a Christian organization, but it seeks to enlist the active involvement of non-Christians and to witness to their lives. Sponsored by Southern Baptists as the arm of the churches, ministering specifically to the university community, BSU welcomes persons who are members of other Christian denominations. Indeed, access to the student body is limited to those organizations that will make membership available to any student no matter what religious preference they might express. Most BSUs do not maintain membership rolls nor do they provide membership cards lest they become exclusive rather than inclusive.

It has been reflected in the history of the Baptist Student Union that many people come to an initial awareness of what Christians, and particularly Baptists, believe through BSU. We often hear the comment among Baptists, "I would never have



become a Christian except for the outreach of BSU." Others point to the ministry as one that touched their lives at a critical time and helped them to find God.

Most students face difficult days of decision during their college years. For some it is the trauma of late adolescence dramatized by first experiences living away from home, or the tension of commuting to school. The choice of training for a career brings to focus the need for guidance in seeking an overall direction for one's life. Dating relationships progressing toward marriage are often problems during the collegiate years. And, for many students, consideration of the claim of Christ on their lives first comes as they begin to establish their personal lifestyles.

BSU is the largest and the strongest student religious organization on the campuses of our nation. More students are ministered to with a broader program of

evangelism, Bible study, discipleship, fellowship, and missions than through any other organization. God continues to use BSU in wonderful ways. Other organizations offer more specialized ministries but none seeks to involve the total student body in such a broad range of Christian growth opportunities.

The broad design for BSU has shown itself in the fact that over 70 percent of Southern Baptist missionaries, many pastors and other leaders recount their experiences through BSU involvement and summer missions as vital influences in their ministry's development. God captures the attention of students as they come to a point of readiness to respond, and often that occurs during the college years.

***BSU... is open to lead students to minister to the entire community.***

With the growing numbers of median and older adults enrolling and returning to university campuses, continuing education programs, international training programs, and technical studies, the campus population is becoming more and more diversified. BSU will generally focus on the 18-23 year olds as the largest group of students. But, by design, there is a place for every student in BSU. Remember to support and pray for BSU directors and student leaders as they seek to involve more and more students in Baptist Student Union.

## Welcome To ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

*"We invite you to become a part of the exciting Walnut Street family while at Arkansas State University."*

Student Welcome Luncheon... Sept. 15

Prime Time Bible Study  
Each Wednesday Evening

## Walnut Street Baptist Church

Jonesboro, AR

*It's worth finding!*



**Collegians**  
You are always  
Welcome at  
**Second Baptist  
Church**

### Sunday Services

Sunday School-9:30 a.m.  
MORNING WORSHIP-8:15 & 10:45 a.m.  
Discipleship Classes-5:45 p.m.  
EVENING WORSHIP-7:00 p.m.

### Wednesday Services

College Fellowship-6:30 p.m.

### Friday Evening

Singles Koinonia Fellowship-7:30 p.m.

**Second Baptist Church**  
701 Polk Street  
Conway

• Located one block south of  
Oak Street, Pizza Inn  
• Phone: 327-8585  
(Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-4 p.m.)

## Arkansas BSU Directors and Campuses

**Arkansas College**  
Helen Parman, director  
26 Chamblee Circle  
Batesville, AR 72501  
793-9101

**Arkansas State University**  
Arless Dickerson, director  
Linda Osborne, associate  
P.O. Box 730  
State University, AR 72467  
932-7241

**ASU—Beebe**  
Wanda Holland, director  
Box 235  
Beebe, AR 72012  
882-3096

**Arkansas Technical University**  
Scott Willis, director  
1404 North Arkansas  
Russellville, AR 72801  
967-3217

**East Arkansas Community College**  
BSU director  
P.O. Box 83  
Wynne, AR 72396  
238-2175

**Garland County Community College**  
Al Morris, director  
11 College Drive  
Hot Springs, AR 71913  
767-9389

**Henderson State University**  
Gary Glisson, director  
713 No. 12th Street  
Arkadelphia, AR 71923  
246-6592

**Mississippi County Community College**  
BSU director  
Rt. 2, Box 435  
Blytheville, AR 72315  
763-3480

**North Arkansas Community College**  
Kim Sanders, director  
Rt. 2, Box 268-A  
Harrison, AR 72601  
429-5262

**Ouachita Baptist University**  
Ian Cosh, director  
Box 3783, OBU  
Arkadelphia, AR 71923  
246-4531 ext. 539

**Phillips County Community College**  
Mike Fowler, director  
P.O. Box 2882  
West Helena, AR 72390  
572-1440

**Rich Mountain Community College**  
Kay Humphrey, director  
601 Bush Street  
Mena, AR 71953  
394-5012

**Southern Arkansas University**  
Robert Turner, director  
Box 1275, SAU  
Magnolia, AR 71753  
234-2434

**SAU Tech, Camden**  
Teresa Stephens, director  
Box 4171  
East Camden, AR 71701  
574-2368

**UA Fayetteville**  
Lynn Loyd, director  
David McKinney, associate  
944 West Maple  
Fayetteville, AR 72701  
521-4370

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

## Central Baptist Church



## Arkansas State University

*"Knowing Christ and Making Him Known"*

### KNOWING CHRIST.....

- ★ Collegiate Bible Study (9:40 a.m. Sunday)
- ★ M.A.N.N.A (5:30-6:30 p.m. Sunday) Collegiate Supper and Bible Study
- ★ "Prime Time" (7:00 p.m. Wednesday) Mid-week Bible Study

#### CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Rex Holt - Pastor  
Jerry Muckensturm - University Minister  
John Dresbach - University Music/Choir

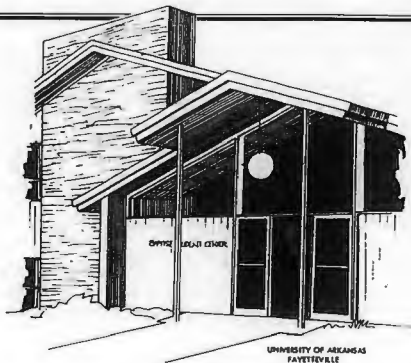
**MAIN AT CHERRY  
JONESBORO, AR 72401  
501-935-1950**

### ASU

**WELCOME  
DINNER** — Sunday  
**September 15, 1991**

### AND MAKING HIM KNOWN.....

- ★ Student Adoption
- ★ University Ensemble
- ★ Spring Mission Trip - March 14-19
- ★ University Evangelism Explosion
- ★ University Basketball
- ★ Water Ski Retreat - August 16-17



**UA Pine Bluff**  
Dawson Williams, director  
Box 4123, UAPB  
Pine Bluff, AR 71601  
535-8545

**UCA, Hendrix & CBC**  
Richard Boyles, director  
Betsy Carver, associate  
Box 5164, UCA  
Conway, AR 72032  
329-5763

**University of the Ozarks**  
Mike Kinsey, director  
BSU C-Box 377  
Clarksville, AR 72830  
454-7754

**WestArk Community College**  
Darrel Ray, director  
9219 Sky Park Lane  
Fort Smith, AR 72903  
452-9288

**Williams Baptist College**  
Jackie Burton, director  
Box 3456  
College City, AR 72476  
886-6741

**State Office Personnel**  
David James, director  
George Sims, associate director  
Secretaries: Thelma Anderson,  
Mary Wright  
P.O. Box 552  
Little Rock, AR 72203  
376-4791, ext. 5142

## Little Rock Metro Area

**Baptist Medical Center**  
Carol Landreth, director  
11900 Col. Glenn Rd.  
Little Rock, AR 72210  
223-7468

**UA Little Rock**  
Dan McCauley, director  
Hope Coleman, associate  
5515 West 32nd Street  
Little Rock, AR 72204  
562-4383

**UA Medical Sciences**  
Diane O'Connell, director  
4324 W. Markham  
Little Rock, AR 72205  
661-8078

### Speakers:



RICK CALDWELL



CRAIG MILLER

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Every Tuesday at 8:00 p.m.  
Call 751-4523 for more information

Sponsored by:  
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SPRINGDALE  
1709 JOHNSON ROAD — 751-4523

### Music with:



CHRIS EMERT

### Weekly Schedule:

**SUNDAY:**  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Celebration Service  
5:00 p.m. College Choir  
8:30 p.m. Evening Worship  
7:30 p.m. After Burners

**TUESDAY**  
8:00 p.m. FOCUS

**WEDNESDAY**  
7:00 p.m. Midweek Worship

# Testimonies

## Pastors say

*David McLemore, Second Church, Russellville:*

"I was involved in the BSU from the very beginning of my ministry; I began preaching at 19 through the BSU. BSU gave me the training and the opportunity to minister. It provided me with leadership roles and a wife."

*Rich Kincl, Central Church, Magnolia:*

"As a pastor, I appreciate the many ways BSU undergirds the ministries of the church. BSU disciples students and helps train them in good churchmanship. The BSU can be a place where college students can find a spiritual haven (on campus) during their college years."

*Stephen Hatfield, Baring Cross, North Little Rock:*

"My BSU experience helped me in my Christian life in two major ways. First, my vision of missions was broadened as I saw students travel across the world to serve in our summer missions program. Second, through BSU I participated for the first time in a small discipleship group where we studied and put into practice the disciplines of quiet time, prayer, Bible study, and witnessing."

*Larry Pillow, Second Church, Conway:*

"The BSU helped meet my spiritual and social needs. Spiritually, I benefited from the daily programs, annual retreats, and ministry opportunities. Socially, I received a warm welcome from and met the right kind of friends at the BSU."

## Instructors say

*Bill Steeger, Ouachita Baptist University:*

"I've experienced BSU as a student and as a professor. It broadens students' relationships with Christ. BSU helps to integrate student life with the church but does not replace the church. Rather, BSU supports and encourages it. BSU also gives opportunities for service through missions, while enabling the individual students each to choose his or her own mission area."

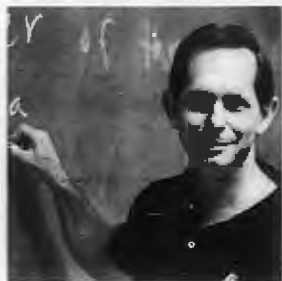
*Bill Lacey, WestArk Community College:*

"For me, BSU was a home away from home. It was and still is a great ministry,

a great means of outreach. . . It meant a lot to me personally; I found my wife there."

*Kay Humpfrey, Rich Mountain Community College:*

"BSU allows students to express their beliefs in a college setting where it is sometimes difficult to take a stand for God. Through Bible studies, fellowship, musical groups, fundraisers, and even business meetings, students are allowed to grow in Christ, make friends, develop leadership skills, share their testimonies, find a support group, and be important."



## UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH COLLEGIATE MINISTRY



*Serving the Campus of the  
University of Arkansas*



For over two decades, students have found University Baptist Church to be a great source from which to build a strong foundation in Jesus Christ while enrolled at the U of A. National recognition has come to our fellowship as having one of the most effective collegiate ministries in America. Our University singing group, "The New Creations", has traveled worldwide in over 20 years of ministry. We invite you to be a part of our vision and strategy.



*Dr. H.D. McCarty  
Senior Pastor*



*Mike Bedford  
Music/Worship Pastor*

### EVERY WEEK AT UBC

#### Sunday:

- 8:15 & 10:50.....Worship Celebration (Worship Center)
- 9:30.....Collegiate Hour (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:00.....Evening Celebration (Worship Center)

#### Wednesday:

- 7:00.....Prime Time (J. Sldlow Baxter Library)

### UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH

315 W. MAPLE, FAYETTEVILLE, AR 72701 (501) 442-5312

## Students say

*Scotty Smith, Williams Baptist College:*

"BSU provides an opportunity for ministry. It enables students to further their own beliefs and to utilize their abilities."

*Judi Kerst, Arkansas State University:*

"BSU is a lot. The closest friends I have come from BSU. The greatest Christian growth I experience is because of BSU. BSU is a way that Baptist students can touch their campuses and let others know about Christ."

*Darren Kilbury, University of Arkansas:*

"To me, the BSU is not necessarily a building but an experience. It is a new friendship, a new outlook on life, and a new way to live your Christianity. BSU is full of opportunities."



*Melissa Barnes, University of Arkansas at Monticello:*

"BSU is a Christian family that helps students grow true friendships. It is a place to learn to minister to others."

*Tim Huddleston, Arkansas Technical University*

"BSU is an organization of Christian students that help support one another in and through faith."

## Parents say

*Don Chism, daughter Jill, Williams Baptist College:*

"Through BSU, Jill has grown as a Christian and has made a lot of Christian friends."

*Joyce Langston, son Jay, University of Arkansas:*

"BSU has been a support for Jay. His prayer life is great. It's provided him with friends upon friends, lasting friendships. BSU has been wonderful; it has headed him in the right direction.

"We're looking at colleges for our third son now, and one of the first and main questions we ask is whether there is a BSU since it has influenced Jay's life so much."

*Patsy Dunham, son Wes, Henderson State University:*

"BSU has kept Wes very busy. It has been inspirational to him and a blessing to his life. That's important. He even got involved in the choir through BSU."

Interview text by Lisa Coleman, ABN summer intern.



Emil Williams  
Pastor

# FIRST BAPTIST JONESBORO

welcomes you to

## Arkansas State University



Nancy Burke  
University Minister

### MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

- ★ Sunday School
- ★ IMPACT-Wednesday
- ★ Adoption Program
- ★ Undershepherds
- ★ Fellowship
- ★ Retreats



### SPECIAL DATES

- ★ Back-To-School Bash—Aug. 23
- ★ BSU Retreat—Sept. 6-7
- ★ ASU Day/Luncheon—Sept. 8
- ★ Pastor's Reception—Sept. 22
- ★ FBC Fall Retreat—Sept. 27-28  
Stephen Hatfield

701 South Main

Transportation Available

932-3456

## Arkansas All Over

MILLIE GILL

## People

Bruce Lee Mitchell of Jacksonville died July 7 at age 78. His funeral service was held July 9 at Stanfill Church of which he was one of the founders and a deacon. Survivors are his wife, Irene "Page" Mitchell; a son, Billy Mitchell of Vilonia; four daughters, Jerry Higgins of Springdale, Maxine Elliott of Little Rock, Alberta Gay of Benton, and Linda Swindell of Clarksville; a sister; 11 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

John F. Kimbrell is serving as pastor of Solgohachia Church.

Craig Chambers began serving July 22 as pastor of Harlan Park Church in Conway, coming there from First Church in Dierks.

Jamie Harman of Harrison is serving as summer youth worker for Immanuel Southern Church in Salem. He is a student at Williams Baptist College.

John Silvey is serving as pastor of Rover Church.

Robert and Laura Lea Rainbolt are serving as youth directors for Oak Bowery Church in Conway.

LeRoy Wagner resigned July 7 as pastor of Grand Avenue Church in Hot Springs.

Robert Brown began serving July 22 as pastor of First Church in Clarksville. He is a recent graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Kimma Harper has resigned from the staff of First Church in Glenwood to move to Cabot.

Ken Shaddox, pastor of Grace Church in Camden, recently worked in Coban, Guatemala, as a part of the Arkansas/Guatemala Linkup. He was provided a scholarship for the mission trip by First Church in El Dorado.

Bob Barnett, staff evangelist of Sylvan Hills First Church in North Little Rock, has returned from Honduras where he worked with missionary Herb Prince, visited several churches, and coordinated the installation of a new 16 foot satellite antenna at the mission station in El Tomate. This will enable the reception of the ACTS channel and other information.

Tom Cox of Mountainburg has joined the staff of Ridgeview Church in Fayetteville as staff evangelist. In this position, Cox will give the church at least two weeks a year to evangelism, as well as assisting Pastor Mitch Odum in various church evangelistic thrusts. Cox currently is serving as president of Arkansas Baptist Evangelists.

Kevin Henry of Monticello is serving as youth minister at Eudora Church for the second consecutive summer. He is a senior at Ouachita Baptist University.

Len Young has resigned as pastor of First Church in Dell to serve as pastor of First Church in Bismarck, Mo.

Allen Quinn is serving as pastor of New Harmony Church, Manila.

Dennis Jacobs has joined the staff of Calvary Church in Osceola as full time minister of music and youth. He was a July graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Jacobs and his wife, Milly, have a daughter, Hannah Elizabeth.

Jim Agee has resigned as minister of youth at Life Line Church in Little Rock, effective Aug. 11 to join the staff of First Church in West Memphis as minister of youth.

Dennis Jones resigned July 14 as pastor of New Hope Church, Sparkman, to move to Camden.

David Breland has joined the staff of Broadmoor Church in Brinkley as minister of youth. A student at Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, he is a graduate of Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Ill.

Lee Barnett, a sophomore at Ouachita Baptist University, is serving as interim minister of music and youth for First Church in Marianna.

Steve Seale of Williams Baptist College is serving as supply pastor for Columbia Jarrett Church, Maynard.

Charles Stoddard is serving as supply pastor for Hopewell Church, Corning.

Mike Taylor, youth director, is serving as interim pastor of First Church in Corning.

Richard Newberry has resigned as music director at Caudle Avenue Church in Springdale.

Robert Duhon has resigned as pastor of Ridgecrest Church in Benton.



Berry Street Church in Springdale observed "Debt Free Day" June 30, signifying the first time the church has been debt free in its 39-year history. Participating in the noteburning were (left to right) Pastor Richard D. Perry; W.L. Layman, deacon and finance committee chairman; Priscilla James, church treasurer; and Harold Gateley, director of missions for Washington-Madison Association. The special day was celebrated with 137 in Sunday School. Other special activities included an evening music program and an ice cream fellowship.

Billy O. Kite, director of missions for Ashley County Association, recently observed five years of service when an Appreciation Day reception was given in his honor at Mount Olive Church in North Crossett.

Richard Slavin has resigned from the staff of First Church in Crossett following approximately 13 years of service as minister of education and outreach.

Brent Davis, son of Joe and Diane Davis, received his Eagle Scout Award in a ceremony July 21 at Grand Avenue Church in Fort Smith where they are members.

## Briefly

Conway Second Church mission team has returned from a trip to the Texas/Mexico border where team members conducted a vacation Bible school, presented concerts, and led revival services.

Saltillo Heights Church at Conway observed homecoming July 14 with Arnold

Reel as speaker for the morning service that was followed by a noon meal and an afternoon musical program, featuring The Free Spirit Singers.

Crow Mountain Church at Russellville, a mission of Second Church, Russellville, observed its first anniversary of service July 7 with record attendances and a commitment to future growth. The day's activities included prayer time, fellowship, morning worship, a noon meal, a display of photos and momentos, and a 2 p.m. anniversary celebration service. Speakers were Jeff Cheatham, director of missions for Arkansas River Valley Association, and Jack Ramsey, ABSC director of church extension. The church, located on a nine and one-half acre plot purchased by Second Church, has set the spring of 1992 for the beginning of its first building. Al Sparkman, the church's first pastor, came to the mission in September 1990. Truman Owens, church music director, planned and led music for the anniversary celebration.

DeWitt First Church mission team has returned from working in Green Forest, Eureka Springs, Basin Park in Arkansas, and from Ava and Ash Grove in Missouri.

Van Buren First Church has purchased a 30 passenger bus for outreach ministries.

The purchase was made possible in part from a trust given to the church by Will and Nell Boatright.

East Oakland Church at Mountain Home dedicated a new worship center July 14 at 2 p.m. Harold Barnett is pastor.

Hot Springs First Church youth mission team has returned from Surfside, Texas, where they led Bible clubs, did surveys, and performed both music and drama presentations. The church recently purchased property for an expansion program.

El Dorado Second Church mission team returned July 25 from Houston, Texas, where they worked inner city centers directed by Home Missionary Mildred McWhorter.

Markham Street Church in Little Rock mission team has returned from Oveida, Fla., where they assisted in leading backyard Bible clubs and door-to-door surveys for a new work that has been launched by Oveida First Church.

Fellowship Church at Wickertville has begun construction on a building that will provide space for a fellowship hall, kitchen, library, and self-contained classrooms.

Olivet Church in Little Rock will observe its 45th anniversary Aug. 24-25 with activities that include a Saturday evening reception and banquet. The banquet will feature Rudy Davis as speaker. Former Pastor Richard Perkins will speak at the Sunday morning worship hour. A noon meal and Sunday evening service, featuring special congregational music, will conclude the anniversary celebration.

Ridgeview Church in Fayetteville is hosting the 16th annual Bible conference of Tom Cox World Ministries July 27-Aug. 2.

Bingham Road Church in Little Rock will hold a special service Aug. 13 for which Bobby Boyles will be speaker. Boyles, a native of Arkansas and pastor of First Church in Moore, Okla., will share his testimony "Willing to Die." Bill Hilburn is pastor.

Brownsville Church near Greens Ferry is experiencing a growth that has resulted in eight baptisms and six additions by letter. Shelby Bittle is pastor.

Kingston First Southern Church observed Pastor Appreciation Day June 30, presenting Pastor Nick Hartness a gift and honoring him with a fellowship luncheon.

Pine Grove Church at Pocatamos recently was assisted in the construction of a new building by The Nail Benders of Arkansas.

ABM photo / J. Everett Broad



Calvary Church, Paragould, held a homecoming and noteburning July 14. Pastor Bob Martin spoke during the morning service. During the afternoon service, a note was burned signifying the \$150,000 bond indebtedness incurred in 1979 when a new 500-seat auditorium, 200-seat fellowship hall, and several Sunday School rooms were erected. The congregation currently is debt free. The speaker for the noteburning was Junior Vester, who was pastor when the facility was erected. Pictured (left to right) are C.A. Johnson, director of missions for Greene County Association; Gerald Robbins, treasurer when the building was constructed; Martin; Vester; and Lonnie Wilson, current church treasurer.



**Pulaski Association** will observe its 75th anniversary with its annual meeting Oct. 14-15. Activities will include an old fashioned singing at Pleasant Grove Church in Little Rock, a fish fry and historical pageant at Life Line Church, Little Rock, and focusing on the future in the Tuesday evening session at Second Church in Little Rock. Don Moore, ABSC Executive Director, will be speaker. Glenn Hickey is director of missions and Bill Hilburn is moderator.

**Spradling Church** at Fort Smith will observe its 40th anniversary Sept. 1 with services that will feature Tom McClain, Charles Skutt, K. Mansell, Erma Kennedy, and Pastor Ron Williamson.

**Westside Church** in Fort Smith broke ground June 30 for a unit that will be added to the existing building. James R. Zelner is pastor.

**Judsonia First Church** recently sponsored a vacation Bible school in Big Flat.

**Pleasant Grove Church** at McCrory will observe homecoming Aug. 4 with Emanuel Long as speaker.

**Rose Bud Church** has voted to begin a building expansion program that will provide space for a fellowship hall, kitchen, restrooms, and additional educational rooms.

**Searcy Temple Church** recently conducted backyard Bible clubs in eight different locations in the Searcy area, enrolling 130 in the schools.

**Bethel Church** at Melwood was assisted June 22 by the Church in a Day group in constructing a building.

**Blytheville First Church Baptist Men** will be in Rochester, Minn., Aug. 3-10 for the purpose of helping to build a church.

**Morrilton First Church** youth recently returned from assisting with work at Hope Migrant Mission Center. Jeff Stotts is minister of youth.

**South Highland Church** in Little Rock will observe its 75th anniversary with special activities Aug. 18.

**Walnut Street Church** in Jonesboro recently voted to participate in the Arkansas/Guatemala Linkup by sending a mission team to San Marcos Aug. 17-24 to lead a vacation Bible school and assist with an evening revival for which Pastor John Matthews will serve as evangelist.

**Magnolia Church** at Crossett will celebrate 80 years of service with homecoming Sept. 15.

## New missionaries appointed

Two couples with Arkansas connections were among 37 people named missionaries by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board June 18 at Tabernacle Baptist Church in Richmond, Va.



*The Hodges*



*The Wrights*

Dr. and Mrs. Paul C. Hodges will live in Nigeria where he, a dentist, will work among the Fulani, a traditionally nomadic and Muslim people.

Hodges is a native of Texas and a graduate of Texas A & M University in College Station and the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston.

Mrs. Hodges, the former Cheri Marsh, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Marsh of Huntsville. She is a graduate of Texas A & M University.

The Hodges have two children, Emily and Andrew.

As missionary associates, John and Jean Wright will live in South Korea where he will pastor the English-language Seoul International Church.

From 1972 to 1991, Wright was pastor of First Church in Little Rock. Born in Missouri, he considers Little Rock his hometown.

Also born in Missouri, Mrs. Wright, the former Jean Murdaugh, also considers Little Rock her hometown.

The Wrights have three grown children. Both families will attend a seven week orientation in Rockville, Va., before leaving for the field.

## ISC assigns Arkansan

One Arkansan was among 65 people recently assigned by the SBC Foreign Mission Board to work overseas through the International Service Corps (ISC).

David Pearce of Little Rock, has been assigned as a community center ministry worker in Mali for two years. He is a graduate of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and a member of Geyer Springs First Church, Little Rock.

## Two attend literacy workshop

Virginia Lollar of Siloam Springs and Terry Bailey of Little Rock joined literacy workers from 28 states at Literacy Mission Leadership Workshop held at Samford University in Birmingham, Ala., June 16-22.

The annual program is sponsored by the SBC Home Mission Board and Samford's Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education.

## Sutton receives award

William H. "Buddy" Sutton was presented the 1991 Brooks Hays Memorial Christian Citizenship Award by Second Church, Little Rock, on Sunday, June 30. Sutton, a senior partner in the Friday, Eldredge & Clark law firm, was selected for his exemplary service to the community and state. The award has been presented annually since 1982.

Sutton has served as a Sunday School teacher and deacon at Immanuel Church, Little Rock, for 30 years. He also has served in numerous other positions, most recently as chairman of the Arkansas Billy Graham Crusade in 1989 and Citizens Against Legalized Lottery in 1990. He presently serves as chairman of the Board of Trustees at Ouachita Baptist University.



ABN photo / Lisa Coleman

## 1991 Annual Associational Meetings

|                       |             |  |
|-----------------------|-------------|--|
| Arkansas River Valley | Oct. 14-15  | Bakers Creek, Centerville;<br>First, Centerville     |
| Arkansas Valley       | Oct. 21     | Moro   |
| Ashley                | Oct. 21-22  | First, Hamburg; Gardner, Hamburg                     |
| Bartholomew           | Oct. 14-15  | Second, Monticello; Immanuel, Warren                 |
| Benton County         | Oct. 21-22  | First, Rogers  |
| Big Creek             | Oct. 10-11  | Viola; Mt. Lebanon, Ash Flat                         |
| Black River           | Oct. 14-15  | First, Imboden; Swifton                              |
| Buckner               | Oct. 15, 17 | First, Hartford; Southside, Waldron                  |
| Buckville             | Sept. 28    | Buckville  |
| Caddo River           | Oct. 21-22  | Little Hope; Oden                                    |
| Calvary               | Oct. 15     | First, McRae   |
| Carey                 | Oct. 21-22  | First, Fordyce; First, Hampton                       |
| Caroline              | Oct. 15     | First, Carlisle                                      |
| Centennial            | Oct. 14-15  | St. Charles; Southside, Stuttgart                    |
| Central               | Oct. 10     | Third, Malvern                                       |
| Clear Creek           | Oct. 15     | East Mt. Zion, Clarksville                           |
| Concord               | Oct. 14-15  | First, Lavaca  |
| Conway Perry          | Oct. 15, 17 | First, Perry; First, Petit Jean Mountain             |
| Current-Gains         | Oct. 21-22  | Witt's Chapel; New Hope                              |
| Delta                 | Oct. 14-15  | Lake Village; Temple, Dermott                        |
| Faulkner              | Oct. 19     | Oak Bowery, Conway                                   |
| Garland               | Oct. 7-8    | Jessieville; Grand Avenue,<br>Hot Springs            |
| Greene                | Oct. 28-29  | Browns Chapel, Paragould                             |
| Harmony               | Oct. 14-15  | First, Althelmer; First, White Hall                  |
| Independence          | Oct. 14-15  | Sulphur Rock; Floral                                 |
| Liberty               | Oct. 21     | First, Cullendale                                    |
| Little Red River      | Oct. 21-22  | Sugarloaf, Heber Springs; Harris Chapel,<br>Pangburn |
| Little River          | Oct. 14-15  | Central, Mineral Springs; First, Wilton              |
| Mississippi           | Oct. 21     | First, Blytheville                                   |
| Mt. Zion              | Oct. 14-15  | North Maln, Jonesboro; First, Monette                |
| North Arkansas        | Oct. 15     | Woodland Heights, Harrison                           |
| North Central         | Oct. 7-8    | Fairfield Bay; Burnt Ridge, Clinton                  |
| North Pulaski         | Oct. 21     | North Little Rock First                              |
| Ouachita              | Oct. 14-15  | First, Gillham; Dallas Avenue, Mena                  |
| Pulaski               | Oct. 14-15  | Life Line, Little Rock; Second,<br>Little Rock       |
| Red River             | Oct. 14-15  | First, Emmet; First, Arkadelphia                     |
| Rocky Bayou           | Oct. 17-18  | First, Evening Shade; Northside,<br>Horseshoe        |
| Southwest             | Oct. 24     | Bradley  |
| Tri-County            | Oct. 21     | Earle  |
| Trinity               | Oct. 14-15  | Lebanon; Central, Marked Tree                        |
| Washington-Madison    | Oct. 21-22  | First, West Fork                                     |
| White River           | Oct. 14-15  | First, Flippin; Mt. Home                             |

## Looking Ahead

### August

- 1-2 Weekday Early Education Workshop, *Little Rock First Church (SS)*
- 2-3 Pastor/Director Conference (DT)
- 6 DOM Update Meeting, *Little Rock First Church (Ad)*
- 8-10 Junior High Jamboree, *Williams Baptist College (Ev)*
- 8-10 Discipleship Conference, *Williams Baptist College (DT)*
- 15 Associational Secretaries/Clerks Meeting, *Baptist Building, Little Rock (Ad)*
- 18-17 Volunteer/Part-time Music Leader Workshop, *Williams Baptist College (M)*
- 17 Associational WMU Officers Training Day, *Little Rock Calvary Church (WMU)*
- 23-24 Association Discipleship Training Conference, *North Little Rock Park Hill Church (DT)*
- 26 IMPACT 91 Meeting, *Fort Smith East Side Church (WMU)*
- 27-28 IMPACT 91 Meeting, *Rogers First Church (WMU)*
- 29 IMPACT 91 Meeting, *Harrison First Church (WMU)*
- 31-9/2 Single Parent Family Camp, *Arkansas Baptist Assembly (SS)*

### September

- 1-7 Brotherhood Leadership Week (Bbd)
- 5 Brotherhood Blitz, *West Memphis First Church (Bbd)*
- 6 Furloughing Missionaries' Orientation, *Baptist Building, Little Rock (SA)*
- 7 Baptist Youth Day, *Magic Springs (DT)*
- 9 IMPACT 91 Meeting, *Crossett First Church (WMU)*
- 9 Brotherhood Blitz, *Texasiana Beech Street Church (Bbd)*
- 9 Arkansas Praising Celebration, *Jonesboro Central Church (M)*
- 9 Bivocational/Small Church Evangelism Conference, *Farmington First Church (Ev)*

#### Abbreviations:

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

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## ARKANSAS BAPTIST ASSEMBLY

# Worship Center dedicated

by Lisa Coleman  
ABN summer intern

On July 10, the Arkansas Baptist Assembly in Siloam Springs dedicated its new Worship Center. Mrs. Bernice Jones provided the \$1,365,000 building through a charitable trust of the Harvey and Bernice Jones Foundation. A plaque honoring Mr. and Mrs. Jones was placed on the building.

ABSC Executive Director Don Moore presented the dedication message. He read from Joshua 4:1-24, in which 12 stones were placed as an eternal memorial to God for drying up the Jordan, thus enabling the Israelites to cross over. Following the reading of the Scripture, Moore said, "God has provided this place. . . so that all the people of the world might someday know of Jesus Christ, God's risen Redeemer. . . God has done a mighty thing. We are going to make a commitment to this building, to the Lord our God. These 12 people will represent you and others who have been involved in this." Moore



ABN photo / J. Everett Snood

ABSC President Mike Huckabee, benefactor Bernice Jones, ABSC Executive Director Don Moore, and ABSC Sunday School Director Freddie Pike stand in front of the plaque written by Burton Miley, former pastor of Springdale First Church, honoring Mrs. Jones and her late husband.

then introduced twelve people who each placed a stone as a lasting memorial to the dedication of the new Worship Center. The final stone was placed by Mrs. Bernice Jones.

Former ABSC president Lawson Hatfield presented the prayer of dedication, saying, "To the purpose that Jesus came to seek and to save that which was lost, we dedicate this worship center."

Freddie Pike, ABSC Sunday School direc-

ABN photo / Lisa Coleman



The newly completed Worship Center at Arkansas Baptist Assembly in Siloam Springs.

tor, provided the history of the Arkansas Baptist Assembly, which first met in 1905 at Brown Springs near Arkadelphia. It then moved to Ouachita College from 1906-1922. In 1923 the ABSC leadership determined that the Arkansas Baptist Assembly needed a permanent home. Siloam Springs won the bid, giving the state Baptist Young People's Union (BYPU) 150 acres of land which formerly had been the Masonic Playground.

The tabernacle built in May and June 1923 served the Arkansas Baptist Assembly until Labor Day 1990. After Labor Day, the old tabernacle was torn down, and the new Worship Center was built.

Marketing research revealed that not only was a new worship center needed, better dormitories were also in high demand. The Arkansas Baptist Assembly is now in the midst of a \$1.5 million fundraising campaign to renovate all the dorms. The Mabee Foundation from Tulsa issued a challenge grant to Arkansas Baptists that if they could raise approximately \$350,000, the foundation would provide \$295,000, which would complete the fundraising campaign. Those who donate \$300 or more will receive a brick inscribed with words of their choice which will be placed on a building project within the grounds.

ABN photo / Lisa Coleman



Inside the new Worship Center.

Record numbers of young people and children have been attending the Assembly this summer. Four of the six weeks were closed to more registration several weeks before the first week opened.

## Draper elected SSB president

by Linda Lawson  
Baptist Sunday School Board

NASHVILLE (BP)—James T. Draper Jr. was elected without opposition July 18 to become the eighth president of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

The roll call vote, taken after a one hour and forty-five minute closed session, was 75 in favor, none opposed, and one abstention.

Draper, 55, pastor of First Baptist Church of Eules, Texas, and 1982-84 president of the Southern Baptist Convention, will be installed Aug. 20 during the semi-annual meeting of trustees in Nashville. He will succeed Lloyd Elder who, after a lengthy dispute with trustees about his leadership at the board, reached agreement with trustees Jan. 17 to retire 30 days after election of a successor to lead the church programs and publishing agency.

Trustees voted early in the four-hour meeting to go into executive session for the dialogue with Draper and discussion of his salary and benefits package.

After a motion for an open session, Bob Tenery, a trustee from Mocksville, N.C., of-

fered a substitute motion to go into closed session, the first executive session held by the SSB trustees in more than 10 years. That session concerned an employee personnel matter.

"I was on the board when Dr. Elder was elected (in 1983) and we did not discuss the salary package in that session," said Tenery. "We will be discussing some things that shouldn't be in the papers right now. Anything we want to go out of executive session, we can."

Wayne DuBose, chairman of the presidential search committee, said his group "has no preference (about a closed or open session). We want to follow the will of the trustees. Dr. Draper is willing to go either way."

Before the closed session, DuBose said his committee received nominations of 21 different people from about 70 Southern Baptists. The 10 member committee conducted "serious interviews" with eight nominees and held nine two-day meetings since being named Feb. 4.

"We did our work amid much prayer and fasting, some pressures and many



New SSB President James Draper

rumors," said DuBose, pastor of Summer Grove Baptist Church in Shreveport, La. "At times we differed and debated. There was never a time when disrespect was shown one for another. We have the strong conviction that God has led us to Dr. James T. Draper Jr."

Search committee member Kirk Humphreys, president of Century Investments, Inc., of Oklahoma City, said: "There is more to running the Sunday School Board than having your theology right. Management is leading people toward a common goal." He praised Draper as a man of courage, vision, and a motivator.

Leon Bolton, a dentist from Memphis, Tenn., was the only trustee who abstained in the vote. While pledging cooperation and support for Draper, he said, in his opinion, convincing evidence about Draper's management skills was not presented.

After the vote, Draper told trustees: "Carol Ann (his wife) and I have come to believe this is God's will for our lives. Today was the last piece of the puzzle. Thank you. We accept. We'll do our best to lead you in the way God would have us to."

Mrs. Draper added: "I know my God doesn't make a mistake. He is big enough to walk before us and in us and through us. I look forward to seeing what he's going to do."

Bill Anderson, chairman of trustees and pastor of Calvary Baptist Church of Clearwater, Fla., said Draper will receive the same salary Elder currently earns, but "there will be minor differences" in retirement benefits. Elder's salary was reported in January to be \$135,800.

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## IMPACT 91

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August 26 AM/PM

August 27 AM/28PM

August 29 AM/PM

September 9 AM/PM

September 10 PM/11 AM

September 12 AM/PM

September 23 AM/PM

September 24 PM/25 AM

September 26 AM/PM

Eastside, Fort Smith

First, Rogers

First, Harrison

First, Crossett

First, Camden

Cornerstone, Texarkana

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## Across the Country

### Annuitant Board investments secure despite MBL trouble

DALLAS—The Annuitant Board of the Southern Baptist Convention does have limited exposure to a troubled New Jersey life insurance company but the "problem will have no effect whatsoever on the (board's) ability to meet every benefit check obligation."

Annuitant Board officials said the company, Mutual Benefit Life Insurance of New Jersey, voluntarily has requested protection while it works to solve problems related to some of its investments. The Annuitant Board has two guaranteed investment contracts with that company.

"The (board's) Fixed Fund does have limited exposure to MBL in two contracts with a total present value of \$21.3 million. This represents approximately 1.6 percent of the Fixed Fund. . . The Annuitant Fund, from which benefits are paid, has no investment in Mutual Benefit Life," said a board spokesman.

### HMB adopts resolution thanking Morris Chapman

ATLANTA—A resolution expressing "grateful appreciation" to Southern Baptist Convention President Morris Chapman for his challenge to support home missions was adopted by directors of the SBC Home Mission Board.

The resolution, recommended by the board's administrative committee, urged Southern Baptists to "prayerfully consider" Chapman's appeal for churches to double their goal for the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions next year, and to work toward establishing 1,000 new congregations on Easter Sunday in 1992.

Chapman issued the challenge during his presidential address at the Southern Baptist Convention in Atlanta June 4. Home Mission Board President Larry Lewis described Chapman's challenge as "unprecedented," and said he and the staff at the Home Mission Board are taking that challenge "very seriously."

### PrayerLife course changes name effective in October

NASHVILLE (BP)—Due to trademark infringement upon an already existing name, PrayerLife: Walking in Fellowship with God will change its name effective in October.

The 13-week Lay Institute for Equipping Course, published through the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's discipleship training department, will become Disciple's Prayer Life: Walking in Fellowship with God.

Avery Willis, manager of the adult section of the discipleship training department, said he received a call early this year from Glayphrey Gilliland, owner of a corporation in Bethany, Okla., that had received trademark rights on the name PrayerLife in 1978.

Officials at the firm had just learned the Sunday School Board had a product with the same name as their company, he said. PrayerLife, written by T.W. Hunt, was first released in 1988, Willis said.

### Foreign Mission Board begins toll-free information line

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Southern Baptists now can dial a toll-free telephone number, 1-800-866-FMB1, for information about foreign missions.

The 800 line will offer information about missionaries, their addresses and countries where they work, mission service opportunities, and mission products for use in churches. It also will feature seasonal or topical information, such as mission emphases during the fall when churches highlight the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions.

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For further information write: Doctor of Ministry Office, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, P.O. Box 5894, Memphis, TN 38173-0894; or call (901) 788-8171.

## HMB approves 1995 move

ATLANTA (BP)—Directors of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board voted July 17 to move their national headquarters from midtown Atlanta to a new location 22 miles north in Alpharetta, Ga.

Plans call for the new building to be completed in 1995 before the agency's 150th anniversary and the Southern Baptist Convention which meets in Atlanta, June 20-22, 1995.

The 90-member board agreed to buy 34 acres of property for \$1.3 million from the Hillwood Development Corp., a division of the Perot Group headed by Ross Perot Jr., of Dallas.

Known as the Preston Ridge development, the land is located near the intersection of Georgia 400 and State Bridge Road in a booming area of north Fulton County. Ground was broken one week earlier on a major new shopping mall one mile from the Preston Ridge site.

Ralph Smith of Austin, Texas, chairman of the board's site and building committee, said the location was the unanimous recommendation of the site committee which considered more than 150 locations in metro Atlanta. The recommendation was adopted without debate.

Smith, pastor of Hyde Park Baptist Church in Austin, said the site met all of the 14 criteria established by the committee.

The 11-member committee narrowed the choice from 10 locations to three, and did detailed analyses of two potential sites before making the recommendation.

Home Mission Board President Larry L. Lewis said the proposed location was also the unanimous choice of the agency's administration and a staff task force. A poll of the board's 396 Atlanta employees indicated most favored a north or northeast location.

Lewis said he first preferred a location closer to downtown and nearer the Interstate 285 loop which circles Atlanta, but the cost of land, averaging \$300,000 per acre, was prohibitive.

Lewis said he was deeply concerned the new building be located in an area where there is good, affordable housing nearby. A survey showed more current staff members live in the north-northeast area than in all other sections of the city combined.

Smith displayed an architectural model of how the proposed five-story building might look, and how the 34-acre site might be landscaped. Initial plans call for an office building with about 175,000 square feet.

## Convention Uniform

### Behold! We are slaves

by Lane Strother, First Church, Mountain Home

Basic passage: Nehemiah 9:1-37

Focal passage: Nehemiah 9:2-3, 6-8, 16-17, 28, 31, 36-37

Central truth: God never abandons his people, although we, his people, continue to enslave ourselves as we ignore him and his commandments.

After hearing the Word of God as read by Ezra (Ne. 8:8) and after studying the Word of God (8:13), the Israelites stood and confessed their sins and the iniquities of their fathers (9:2). They made confession and worshipped the Lord their God (9:3). The people of Israel were experiencing revival, and one of the ultimate aims of revival is repentance and rededication.

Then Ezra, in verses 6-31 of chapter 9, recounted for the people how the Lord had been the creator, the preserver, the initiator, the liberator, the law-giver, the giver of bread and water, and the deliverer for the Israelites. In return, the Israelites had acted presumptuously, stiffened their necks, and ignored God's commandments and the wonders he had performed among them. But God, ready to forgive, gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, did not forsake them.

Then, in verses 32-37, Ezra appeals to God for mercy. The punishment they received had been deserved. Every good gift God had given to them had been misused. Every warning God had given to them had been ignored. "Behold, we are slaves. . . We are in great distress."

For many years, I viewed the God of the Old Testament as an angry, wrathful God—a God who zapped his enemies and enslaved his own people. However, as one looks at the Scripture for this lesson, one sees a gracious, forgiving, forbearing God that never abandons his people. On the other hand, one finds a people who had gotten fat off of the generosity of God only to stiffen their necks and presumptuously ignore his presence. These people then found themselves enslaved and in distress.

Likewise, if we misuse God's gifts, if we ignore God's commandments, then we, as did the Israelites, will find ourselves enslaved. God did not abandon the Israelites, nor will he abandon us. Let us not enslave ourselves by stiffening our necks and ignoring God's Word. Let us confess, repent, and worship God.

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## Life and Work

### A revived life

by Jim Files, Windsor Park Church, Fort Smith

Basic passage: 2 Kings 4:8-37

Focal passage: 2 Kings 4:8-9, 16-17, 20-29, 33-37

Central truth: A perfected faith lays hold of God's mighty power for a revived life.

In this chapter, we are introduced to a woman of true faith. She was a wealthy woman (v. 8), and she recognized Elisha as a "holy man of God" (v. 9).

Her desire to please God was rewarded with the promise of a son (v. 16-17). In Old Testament times the giving of a son to the childless was a special mark of God's favor and power. This divine gift was to become a vessel for God to proclaim his power and glory and dominion over all things. But, this was to be accomplished in a totally unexpected way.

After the child had grown old enough to go into the fields, he was suddenly struck with an illness and died in his mother's arms (v. 20). The mother did not go into grief or mourning. She demonstrated her faith in God by taking the boy's body and laying it on Elisha's bed (v. 21). God's peace was ruling in her heart and mind as she went after Elisha (v. 23-24). A faith that goes to pieces in difficulties and discouragements is not true faith.

True faith is not quenched when unfaithful servants fall either. Gehazi was sent by Elisha to minister to the child (v. 29). But Gehazi was unable to bring life to the child. When Elisha arrives, the child is lying on his bed—a challenge to his faith! Though Elisha had never been in such a situation, Elijah had performed a similar task (1 K. 17:22). Thus, Elisha knows by the work of Elijah that restoring life to a dead child is possible.

In shutting the door (v. 33), Elisha is taking this situation to the Heavenly Father in secret. This will be no show, but a private communion with the Almighty God. By stretching himself out on the child (v. 34), Elisha is demonstrating his faith and willingness to give himself for the young boy. It took several times to bring life back to the child (v. 35). It takes a pure faith and a perfected faith to raise the dead! It took the faith of a woman who had a need and the faith of a minister who would settle for nothing but a revived life to bring glory to God. What a lesson for today!

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## Bible Book

### Solomon's unfaithfulness

by R.V. Haygood, Garfield First Church

Basic passage: 1 Kings 11

Focal passage: 1 Kings 11:4-7, 9-11, 29-32, 43

Central truth: God will not accept divided allegiance.

Solomon inherited a kingdom established in righteousness, with the promise that God would dwell among them and would not forsake Israel if they would obey his commands (1 K. 6:12-13). The first command was that they should worship no other gods (Ex. 20:3). They were to love him with all their might (Dt. 6:4-6).

God had warned Israel repeatedly that alliances with idol-worshipping peoples would draw them away from complete devotion to Jehovah, the one true God.

However, Solomon's love for his pagan wives led him to build "high places" where each might burn incense and make sacrifices to her own pagan idol. This opened the door for his people to worship false gods. He "did evil in the sight of the Lord" (v. 6) "and the Lord was angry with Solomon" (v. 9).

God will not accept partial commitment. As a result of Solomon's disobedience the kingdom would be taken from him and given to one of his subordinates (v. 11).

The prophet Ahijah was sent to Jeroboam, whom Solomon had placed in charge of the whole labor force of the tribe of Ephraim. Ahijah tore the new cloak he was wearing into 12 pieces and gave 10 of them to Jeroboam. This symbolized God's plan to tear the kingdom from Solomon's hands and make Jeroboam ruler over 10 tribes (vv. 29-31).

God does, however, always honor his promises. Solomon's son, Rehoboam, would be allowed to reign over one tribe in honor of God's promise to David, Solomon's father, who always served God faithfully (vv. 32 and 43).

Paul warns in the New Testament that we should not be "yoked together with unbelievers" because righteousness and wickedness have nothing in common. We are to relate to every person in humility and loving concern, but we must choose carefully those with whom we associate continually. Satan's choice tool for influencing our thinking is our love for those around us. We are always in danger of being drawn away from total commitment to God.

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# LESSONS FOR LIVING

## Convention Uniform

### Putting it in writing

by Lane Strother, First Church, Mountain Home

Basic passage: Nehemiah 9:38-10:39

Focal passage: Nehemiah 9:38; 10:28-29,31,35,39

Central truth: A commitment in writing gives evidence of the commitment.

Often in the law practice, either jokingly or seriously, someone will remark on how sad it is in today's world that a person's word is not adequate to seal a contract. This same person will then state that a contract needs to be in writing to be legal. A contract, with some exceptions, does not have to be in writing to be legal. Putting the agreement in writing gives evidence to the agreement. It is for this reason that most lawyers encourage their clients "to put it in writing."

Nehemiah 9:38 states, in part, "we make a firm covenant and write it, and . . . set (our) seal to it." The first 27 verses of chapter 10 then list 84 signers of the covenant. First on this list of signers is Nehemiah, the governor. He and 83 others were willing to put their covenant in writing and sign their names to it as evidence of their commitment to God. *Broadman Bible Commentary* suggests that the number 84, a multiple of 12 and 7, may be an attempt to symbolize the whole people of Israel as being in agreement with the document.

The Israelite people agreed to separate themselves from the people of the lands and to follow the laws of God (v. 28), and to walk in God's law, and to observe and do all the commandments of the Lord (v. 29). The people also agreed not to buy on the sabbath or on a holy day (v. 31). A recent article in the *Arkansas Gazette* listed Sunday afternoon as one of the most profitable times for a retailer to be open. The profitability of being open on Sunday is partially due to Christian's shopping on Sunday. The people further agreed to support the house of the Lord with the first fruits, the first born, and the tithes (v. 35). The people committed themselves not to neglect the house of God. "For the children of Israel and the children of Levi shall bring the offering. . . and we will not forsake the house of our God" (v.39)

Are we, God's people, willing to put our commitment to God in writing and sign our names to it? Think about it; then do it!

## Life and Work

### The healing of Naaman

by Jim Files, Windsor Park Church, Fort Smith

Basic passage: 2 Kings 5:1-15

Focal passage: 2 Kings 5:1-2, 9-11, 13-14

Central truth: God works to bring healing and holiness into our lives.

Naaman's healing demonstrates to us the goodness and sovereignty of God. Naaman did not follow the God of Israel. He was a worshipper of other gods, but he had a condition that no one had been able to help him with. The beauty of this passage is that God seeks out those who oppose him and bestows his divine grace and mercy to lead them to repentance.

Naaman's healing began with a little maid who had been captured in the raids (v. 2). She shared the ministry of Elisha with her master's wife, and the word came to Naaman. It would have been easy for this maid to have harbored hatred and bitterness toward the one who had carried her away from her family. Instead she spoke about the welfare of her captor. God's work in Naaman's life had begun.

At the word of hope that Naaman had received, he set out to find Elisha the prophet. When he arrived at Elisha's door (v. 9), he met with some circumstances that revealed an even greater problem than leprosy. Elisha spoke to Naaman through a servant (v. 10). Then he sent word for him to dip himself in the Jordan seven times to be healed. Naaman became furious with Elisha (v. 11), revealing his heart of pride.

Notice in v. 11 the words "I thought." Naaman had a preconceived idea that he would be honored as well as healed. The instructions to dip himself in the Jordan would mean a humbling of his heart and submission to God's Word through his servant. Now his own servants plead with him (v. 13) to obey the words of the prophet.

The seven times that Naaman had to dip in the Jordan signify complete submission to God. With obedience comes the healing and the blessing of God. But, notice the greatest change in Naaman was in his heart—he came back to Elisha and gave glory to God (v. 14)! Healing of body and holiness of heart go together. But the good news may come from the most unlikely sources. God does not work according to what we think or do. Let us be careful that we do not preconceive how God is going to bless us.

## Bible Book

### Idolatrous worship

by R.V. Haygood, Garfield First Church

Basic passage: 1 Kings 12

Focal passage: 1 Kings 12:1-8, 13-15, 18-20, 26-31

Central truth: Selfish ambition results in misleading others and loss of usefulness.

Solomon said, "Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall" (Pr. 16:18 NIV). Solomon left his son the legacy of a nation under a heavy burden of taxation and forced labor. His people made a plea for relief. The older men who had served Solomon advised Rehoboam to grant their request and gain their allegiance forever.

Rehoboam, as many younger persons do, failed to recognize that these men had learned from experience. He consulted the young men who had grown up with him in the king's court. They apparently viewed the people's request as a challenge to the king's power and courage. They advised Rehoboam to assert his authority by increasing their burden rather than lightening it.

In contrast to Solomon's attitude of humility and prayer for wisdom when he became king (1 K. 3:5-11), his son became arrogant and insensitive to the misery of his people. He apparently failed to realize that leaders are supposed to be God's servants to do the people good (Ro. 13:4).

Rehoboam rejected the wisdom of the older men and answered his people harshly. "My father made your yoke heavy; I will make it even heavier." When he tried to enforce this policy, the 10 northern tribes rebelled and made Jeroboam king.

God had promised to build Jeroboam a dynasty as enduring as David's if he would be faithful to God (1 K. 11:38). Instead of leading the people to honor God and trusting God to keep his promise, Jeroboam became concerned about the people reuniting under Rehoboam if they were allowed to go to the temple in Jerusalem to worship. In order to protect his position, he ignored the ultimate reason for Israel's call and existence (to be the people of God) and provided a substitute religion (vv. 28-33).

"This thing (idolatrous worship) became a sin" to Israel (v. 30) and eventually led to the destruction of their nation. "There is no wisdom, no insight, no plan that can succeed against the Lord" (Pr. 21:30 NIV).

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## Lewis, Parks outline dreams

by Linda Lawson  
Baptist Sunday School Board

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP)—Outlining dreams for the year 2000 and beyond, the presidents of the Southern Baptist Home and Foreign mission boards registered concern that economic recession, denominational controversy and cultural pressures against long-term commitments could limit efforts at world evangelization.

HMB President Larry Lewis and FMB President R. Keith Parks fielded questions during a July 7 town meeting attended by more than 200 participants in Jericho: A Southern Baptist Missions Festival at Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Conference Center.

Financially, Lewis said the HMB stands to receive \$600-700,000 more in Cooperative Program funds for 1991-92. However, medical insurance costs for home missionaries and HMB staff will increase by about \$800,000.

Amid those pressures, Lewis cited the need to increase the home missions force

by 100 people per year.

"We need to really pray that these lifeline supports (Cooperative Program, Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions) will continue" and increase, said Lewis.

Foreign missionaries and FMB staff are "having to learn to do more with less," Parks said.

On the positive side, he cited Baptist conventions in some countries which are becoming increasingly self-supporting and others beginning to send missionaries. Cooperative efforts among evangelical groups are maximizing the impact of personnel, programs and resources.

However, Parks said both people and money are needed to take advantage of opportunities in eastern Europe.

"There is no question but that we need many more dollars than are coming in," said Parks.

The two agreed the 12-year denominational controversy has taken a toll on

missions.

However, Lewis said, "I feel rather positive at this point." He cited what he termed a "spirit of reconciliation and healing" at the 1991 Southern Baptist Convention meeting June 4-6 in Atlanta and SBC President Morris Chapman's call for starting 1,000 new churches on Easter Sunday 1992.

Resolution of the controversy depends "on whether we can create an atmosphere where all Southern Baptists can feel they are full participants in decision making," Parks said.

Increasing numbers of volunteers participating in home and foreign missions represents one of the brightest spots of progress, Parks and Lewis agreed.

Both Parks and Lewis expressed concern the percentage of two-year missionaries is increasing slightly while the percentage of career missionaries appears to be decreasing slightly. A long-term trend in that direction would be detrimental.

### SOUTHEASTERN SEMINARY

## Trustees hear reports

by Todd Deaton  
Southeastern Seminary

WAKE FOREST, N.C. (BP)—Ten trustees of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary met July 2 essentially for the school's administration to share information with local board members as to how far they have progressed in a plan for financial and theological integrity.

No decisions were announced since the local trustees cannot make decisions that are binding on the full board. They may make formal recommendations to the full board when it convenes in October.

"The whole scheme. . . is we have gotten administrative input, we've gotten faculty input, and now we're getting trustee input. . . that we will have a real body of material on hand to put together and have a definite 'one, two, three, four' kind of plan" to accomplish the theological and fiscal integrity of Southeastern Seminary, President Lewis A. Drummond explained.

What local trustees heard were reports from the Wake Forest seminary's two vice presidents on plans for financial exigency and rebuilding the Southern Baptist Convention's perception of the school's

theological integrity.

"What we have tried to do is stick with the (ATS) guidelines on retrenchment," Paul Fletcher, vice president for internal affairs told the trustees. "They are very fair. They bring in the total community—administration, trustees, and faculty—into a cooperative effort to solve the problems that we are facing."

He outlined three ATS guidelines for retrenchment which trustees were striving to abide by in formulating the school's financial exigency plan:

1. The formation of a credible statement of the nature and dimensions of financial exigency at the school.
2. Detailed information regarding the nature and extent of financial exigency should be made available to all people and groups potentially affected by the crises.
3. A panel of outside and disinterested persons should be invited to confirm the reality of financial exigency and to render judgment on the fairness of tentative proposals.

Fletcher said the administration was in the process of carrying out the second guideline in the called meeting of local trustees.

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## Miller speaks out

### New WMU president outlines role of women in SBC

by Karen Benson  
SBC Woman's Missionary Union

RIDGECREST (BP)—Women are losing ground in positions of leadership and ministry in Southern Baptist life—and unless the situation is turned around, the denomination will continue on a path that runs counter to the expressed will of God in relationship to women.

Carolyn Miller, the newly elected national president of Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union, issued that warning June 26 during a five-hour Church Study Course conference on "The Role of Women in Southern Baptist Life" at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center.

Miller taught the course, which is based on a Discipleship Training module produced by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

"The original idea when God first created men and women was that of partnership," Miller said. Even though historically the Southern Baptist Convention never has lived up to that ideal of partnership, the SBC took a major step backward in 1984, she said, when messengers passed a resolution "On Ordination and the Role of Women in Ministry."

"That year we lost the partnership image that God gave us from creation, and which Jesus then tried to restore in the New Testament," she said.

Jesus involved women in all that he did, and he gave perfect models for how women are to be treated, Miller said. In the New Testament, Jesus overruled the traditional culture which made women second class. Even in the Old Testament, God broke the traditional laws that oppressed women, she said.

"It all comes down to one word—'culture.' It's the same word that makes it okay for a woman to 'speak' on the foreign mission field, but she can't 'preach' in the United States!" Miller said.

"We're going backwards, ladies!" Miller warned. "We've gone backwards in leadership roles for women in the culture of the '90s."

The attitudes of some SBC leaders toward women in general and toward WMU in particular are in need of adjustment, Miller said. For many men, their attitude toward WMU "is that we are to bake their cookies" for church events, she said.

"The WMU women are not responsible to be the 'cookers' in the church!" Miller admonished.

"We are not a social group who makes

cookies for everybody else. We need to affirm our position in the church as what we do—the missions task!" Miller said. "What we're all about is missions, not cookies!"

Of the few women leaders in Southern Baptist life and history, most have come from WMU, Miller said. For that reason, the men or the churches who feel threatened by women "are cutting out WMU!" Miller warned.

Miller also issued a strong warning about AWANA, an independent organization for youth that advocates Scripture memory and strict adherence to its creeds, and which is infiltrating churches.

Although it might look all right at first glance, a closer look will reveal the program does not teach the security of salvation; missions is never mentioned; the program does not undergird Southern Baptist beliefs; and other such flaws, Miller warned.

It's also time WMU members quit "sitting in our pews and just going to meetings and reading our parts," Miller said. "We've got to get out in the world and change our image!"

"I'm not advocating we forget all the old ways of WMU. But I am advocating new ways of doing the old thing," she said.

WMU members have been "holding our breaths" for too long during the recent years of the denominational controversy, hoping it would either get better or go away, Miller said. "It's time to quit holding our breaths and get out on the edge of a changing world—or we will die!" she urged.

"We will not continue to do business as usual if we're going to grow. We have got to take part in the church. Christ related to the culture and the times, and if we're going to reach the world, we've got to relate to our culture and our times!"

As women take more active roles in their churches and in the denomination, they need to do so with the right spirit, Miller said.

"Historically, we have been so far ahead of the men, in terms of starting social revolutions," she said. As women challenge a '90s religious culture that puts women down, they need to go about the task "in a servant role," she said.

For instance, there is a right and a wrong way for women to take a stand on the issue of ordination, Miller said. "As a Christian woman, if you feel that you want to be ordained, and your church does not accept this, then I don't think you should make a big 'to-do' about it."