

Ouachita Baptist University

Scholarly Commons @ Ouachita

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1980-1984

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

3-3-1983


March 3, 1983

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarlycommons.obu.edu/arn_80-84



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



Over 500 youth
attend choir festivals
page 10

March 3, 1983

Arkansas Baptist

NEWSMAGAZINE



ABH PHOTO

Dardanelle First Church youth choir members are intent on rehearsing their vowel sounds under the direction of Fes Robertson. There were 531 youth in Little Rock Feb. 19 to participate in all-day choir festivals at Life Line and Geyer Springs First Churches.

Controversial CP proposal shelved

The committee of 25 appointed to study the Cooperative Program withdrew the proposal to allow churches to "elect to exclude certain budget causes from their undesignated gifts [and still have them] be considered by the Southern Baptist Convention as Cooperative Program funds," prior to its presentation to the Executive Committee Feb. 22 in Nashville.

The withdrawal of the negative designation concept was done in the face of stiff opposition. Cooperative Program Study Committee Chairman Jim Pleitz, pastor of Park Cities Church, Dallas, Tex., called on Joe Ingram, executive secretary for Oklahoma, to explain the position of the executive secretaries.

Ingram said that the executive secretaries felt that negative designation held the long-range possibility of destroying the Cooperative Program. He said, "Churches have always had the option to designate their funds. The question here is whether or not a church who is not supporting all Southern Baptist causes should have their money considered as Cooperative Program money."

The executive directors and editors of Baptist state papers were virtually unanimous in their opposition to the proposal. Several editors had already written editorials opposing the proposal. Others had made quick surveys and had discovered

that apparently the majority of their pastors were in opposition to the proposal.

Negative designation occupied only three lines of a several page long report by the study committee, the central facet of which was a challenging plan by which Southern Baptists would give \$20 million through the Cooperative Program by the year 2000. The plan will be presented to the messengers of the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Pittsburg, June 14-16, 1983.

Rather than a new concept, the plan is actually a blueprint for the practical implementation of the original goal of the Cooperative Program — an even division of Cooperative Program receipts between the state and the Southern Baptist Convention ministries.

The plan was passed unanimously by the Executive Committee with the withdrawal of the negative designation paragraph and slight expansions of other portions of the report. The report carries a recommendation that by the year 2000, or sooner, 75 percent of the Cooperative Program budget will be allotted to home and foreign missions.

A national director for the program will be secured. And more information will be published as it becomes available. — J. Everett Sneed and Kevin Jones

In this issue

4 and 5

Readers respond to a variety of issues that have been covered in the *News* magazine.

8

As Arkansas Baptists prepare for a week of concentration on Home Missions, a group of Vietnamese in Fort Smith celebrate one of their oldest holidays in a new way.

New writer for "lessons for living"

Kerry G. Powell, pastor of First Church of Forrest City, begins this week as writer for the International Sunday School Lesson.

A native of Arkansas, he has previously been pastor of churches in Tennessee, Texas and Virginia prior to coming to Forrest City in 1974. He has been a member of the Committee on Boards of the Southern Baptist Convention, the Board of Trustees of Southern Baptist College and the Executive Board of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention as well as chairman of the Operating Committee. He is on the board of the Christian Civic Foundation of Arkansas.

A graduate of Carson Newman College in Jefferson City, Tenn., he received his B.D. from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1963. He is a graduate of the U.S. Navy Chaplain's School.

He and his wife, the former Glenda Carolyn Bickers, have four sons, Brent, Jamie, Gary and Chris.



Powell

Vaught resigns at 38 years

W. O. Vaught, pastor of Little Rock's Immanuel Church for nearly 38 years, resigned Sunday (Feb. 27), saying God had given him recently the words "It is enough." The resignation becomes effective on his 38th anniversary as pastor, April 17.

Dr. Vaught, who came to Immanuel in 1945 from a pastorate in Abilene, Tex., read his letter of resignation in the morning service. The pastor of the state's second largest church, observed his 72nd birthday Jan. 16.

While directing an increase of more than 800 in the church's membership and ex-

panding the budget by 18 times, Vaught has traveled widely and served in numerous Arkansas and Southern Baptist Convention offices, including terms as President of the state convention and as first vice president of the SBC.

He is a native of Versailles, Ky., and holds the master of theology degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary at Louisville, Ky. Vaught is married to the former Mary Frances Bostick of Louisville, and they are the parents of a son, Carl Gray Vaught.

Besides his accomplishments in leading the church to begin a weekly television broadcast, start a ministry of providing tapes of his sermons, and building a \$1.6 million dollar family life center, Dr. Vaught has amassed a collection of numerous personal honors.

Immanuel's pastor has been honored by the church on many occasions, the most recent being their campaign to raise \$300,000 to endow the W. O. Vaught Chair of Bible at Ouachita Baptist University.



The Christian Civic Foundation of Arkansas Inc. is one of the most important organizations supported by Arkansas Baptists. Baptists have been an active and integral part of this organization, designed to combat the evils of alcohol, narcotics, gambling and obscenity, since its inception 24 years ago. Our state is a far better place to live because of the work of the CCF. However, the Foundation is now struggling to carry on its work because of a loss of finances. Your help is desperately needed.

The financial crunch has been produced by two factors: (1) inflation; and (2) the loss of certain funds which the Foundation had previously received. The solution to this financial problem lies in those who support the CCF increasing their giving and in new support being found.

Everyone is acquainted with the impact of inflation in recent years. In order for the Foundation to accomplish its purpose, travel and mass mailings are absolutely essential. Although gasoline has decreased slightly in the last year, there has been a 300 percent increase in its cost within the last several years. Postage has increased at even a greater rate. Thus, it is impossible to operate with the budget of the past. To compensate for inflation and the loss of budget, a minimum of \$10,000 additional money is needed this year.

Baptists and others have responded well to the efforts to increase the support for the CCF and to find new sources. For example, the Assembly of God has started providing direct support and Superintendent M. J. Harris is encouraging member churches to place the CCF in local budgets. Several Baptist churches have begun either taking an offering or placing the CCF in their budgets. Several district Baptist Associations have added or increased support to the Foundation. But more is needed.

The Foundation is fortunate to have had John Finn as executive director since Jan. 1. Finn is well equipped by background and experience to lead the organization. Prior to his conversion, Finn was a problem drinker and had had personal experience with gambling. But like the Apostle Paul, Finn's conversion produced a dramatic turnaround. Although Finn hates the destructive forces the Foundation opposes, he has a compassion and love for the individuals involved.

Finn certainly is no stranger to Arkansas Baptists, having served as president of our Convention. He has also served as pastor of several churches and as director of missions for the North

Arkansas Association. All of us who are acquainted with Finn know that he is a man of the highest character, integrity and ability.

As churches, associations and individuals evaluate whether to support the CCF, the most important question is whether the activities of the Foundation are valuable to our state. The CCF is involved in a number of activities, any one of which would be worth the entire cost of the Foundation. Among these are alcohol-narcotic education, a legislative information program, and local option campaigns.

The alcohol-narcotic program is designed to alert young people to the harm of alcohol and narcotics. The Foundation is permitted to go into public schools to present their program. It is most unlikely that any programs sponsored by one denomination could enter the public schools.

A second area in which the Foundation is engaged is the monitoring of the legislature when it is in session. Finn has proven his effectiveness in this area.

A recent example of the effectiveness of the CCF was the defighting of an effort to make an appeal on the constitutionality of the private clubs in dry counties a moot question. The Senate passed this legislation with the needed two-thirds in a single day (the amendment was originally passed in 1969 by a simple majority). When pressure was brought by the CCF and others to have a hearing in the House, more than 300 people turned out to protest this legislation. The House postponed the hearing and the legislation has been withdrawn.

Another area in which the CCF assists is in local option elections. Proper organization is absolutely essential if alcohol is to be kept out of an area. The Foundation provides this assistance without cost. The CCF has been extremely effective when called on early in preparing for an election.

Personal contacts and countless mailouts are vital if the Foundation is to be effective. The loss of \$24,000 in traditional income makes the need critical, if the Foundation is to maintain its present level of service. Churches, associations and individuals who are interested in the well-being of our state are encouraged to assist. All gifts should be sent to the Christian Civic Foundation of Arkansas Inc., Donaghey Building, Little Rock, Ark. 72201.

Editor's note: The Executive Board of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention approved this fund raising effort in regular session on Dec. 9, 1980.

Arkansas Baptist

NEWSMAGAZINE

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

VOLUME 82 NUMBER 9

J. Everett Sneed, Ph.D. Editor
Betty Kennedy Managing Editor
Erwin L. McDonald, Litt. D. Editor Emeritus

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine Board of Directors: Tommy Robertson, El Dorado, president; Charles Chesler, Canislie; Lyndon Finney, Little Rock; Leroy French, Fort Smith; Mrs. Jimmie Garner, Trumann; Merle Milligan, Harrison; Hon. Esijane Roy, Little Rock; Lane Strother, Mountain Home; and Jon M. Stubbelfield, Magnolia.

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

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

Copies by mail 50 cents each.

Deaths of members of Arkansas churches will be reported in brief form when information is received not later than 14 days after the date of death.

Advertising rates on request.

Newsletters expressed in signed articles are those of the writer.

Member of Southern Baptist Press Association.

The Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine (USPS 031-280) is published weekly, except the third week in April, at July 4 and Dec. 25, by the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine Inc., 525 West Capitol Ave., Little Rock, AR 72201. Subscription rates are \$6.36 per year (individual), \$5.40 per year (Every Resident Family Plan), \$6.00 per year (Group Plan) and \$15.00 per year (to foreign address). Second class postage paid at Little Rock, AR. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203



One layman's opinion

Daniel R. Grant/President, OBU

The proper age for killing on the highway

Many state legislatures in the United States have begun seriously to consider increasing the legal drinking age. This flurry of legislative activity is the result of an impressive and growing array of statistics showing that there is a direct relationship between a high rate of deaths on the highways of a state and a low legal age for drinking alcoholic beverages in that state. Some years ago, when we changed the minimum age required for voting to only 18, most states lowered the age of legal adulthood to 18 and opened the door for legal drinking three years earlier in the young person's life span.

What followed was steadily increasing carnage on American highways, with

drunken driving accounting for more than half of the fatal automobile accidents in the United States. I can recall reading from a reliable source that we are killing more Americans on our highways every year than were killed on battlefields during the entire Vietnam War.

At the risk of seeming to poke fun at these efforts to raise the legal drinking age (actually I strongly favor the efforts), I can't resist pointing out a strangely foolish part of the whole discussion. The policymakers seem almost to be asking the question, "When is a young person old enough to join in this deathly dangerous business of drunken driving and killing on the highways? To admit that it is sufficiently dan-

gerous at the age of 18 that drinking should be made illegal, but that it becomes reasonably safe at the age of 19, 20, or even 21, is nothing short of mind-boggling.

Fortunately, Arkansas never reduced the legal age below 21. I fully realize we live in an imperfect world and that all kinds of compromises are necessary to live in reasonable harmony with one another. But I can't help wondering how the parents of a child killed by a drunken driver, would answer the question, "What is the proper legal age to be eligible to join the army of killers on American highways?"

Daniel R. Grant is president of Ouachita Baptist University at Arkadelphia.

Letters to the editor

Proposal damaging

I read with a great deal of concern the article of Feb. 17, 1983 entitled "Proposal Would Change Cooperative Program."

I feel very strongly that such a proposal would do irreparable damage to our cooperative effort of seeing that the entire world is reached with the Gospel of Christ by the year 2,000 (Bold Mission Thrust).

It seems rather obvious to me that the implications of such a move would prove to become devastating to local church budgeting. For example, as a church business administrator of a local church, I can see a similar thing happening in the area of "storehouse" tithing. If the same logic be used at the local church level, a member who did not particularly care for the way a program was being conducted or how a certain staff member was being treated, that member might want to designate his or her tithes and offerings in a capricious manner.

I do not believe that this is what God meant when he said, "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse (Mal. 3:10). I believe that if we fall prey to such a proposal as the one in question, we are being victimized by a "worldly" principle that says money talks. I, for one, still have the old fashioned idea that God accomplishes his will through men and not through their money per se.

May God bless you in your fine work with ABN. — J. Leo George, Jonesboro

Saddened by article

The article in ABN dated Feb. 10, 1983, reporting that the First Baptist Church of

Oklahoma City has voted to allow women to serve as deacons saddened me for two reasons. First, the action proves the Bible is true. Paul said that his people "had a zeal for God but not according to knowledge." Hosea said, "my people perish from lack of knowledge." The writer of Judges said, "Every man did that which was right in his own eyes." Solomon said, "All of the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes." Isn't it interesting how we can overlook such simple and plain biblical truth as "let the deacon be the husband of one wife?"

Secondly, this action points out that Christians are seldom the leaders but most often the followers of the world. Does it not seem more than coincidental that Southern Baptists did not talk about women serving as deacons until ERA became a national issue? Our music is another example of how Christians have followed the world. If you listen to the sound track of most musicals done by Baptist youth groups and the sound track of the music heard on local radio stations, can you identify the "Christian music?" Does Jimmy Draper's statement that Southern Baptists loose 17 out of 18 of our young people who go to college bother you?

The world is putting the Church in a position where we must prove Christianity really works or the world will restrict us to the point we will have little, if any, power or influence either because of legislation or the fact they totally ignore us.

I pray that Southern Baptists will not forsake "the fountain of living waters and hew

out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water." — Gerald Griffin, Mabelvale

Don't cripple the work

As the pastor of a church which year after year ranks in the top ten in gifts to the Cooperative Program in our state, I want to commend those who voiced their concern in the Feb. 17 issue over efforts to undermine this God-inspired, God-blessed means of financing the work of the Kingdom. I was especially impressed with Don Moore's capitalization of the issue. He states the critical point when he says, "It is shameful that it (the theological debate in the SBC) has to be dealt with by material standards instead of being resolved spiritually."

I wonder how many of my colleagues who are in favor of "negative designation" have ever counseled church members not to withhold their offerings because they disagreed with a policy and/or a staff member. Reason and the spirit of Christ demand that we deal with the specific problem without crippling the entire church program. We don't "starve the preacher out" for fear of leaving the church anemic.

Specific problems in the SBC, such as a professor who obviously contradicts Baptist doctrine in his teachings and writings, should be dealt with in a Spirit-anointed, loving, Christ-like fashion but let's not cripple an entire seminary or agency because of one problem.

As long as we have any desire at all to "cooperate" with our fellow Baptists, we



Woman's viewpoint

Marjorie Grober

A wife's changing role

"A homemaker's conference? My children are all married or gone away to college. I don't think this is for me. No, I guess I won't go." That was my first reaction to this opportunity the Foreign Mission Board was offering to us, the missionary homemakers.

Later, I was asked if I would participate in the informal activities. I was to share my experiences with home Bible studies.

Willing to do this, I consequently signed up to go to the conference. What if I had missed it!

Dulcy Wakefield and Doris Bryant led the conference. Newly-arrived missionary wives were present. Wives with very young children were there. Wives with school age children attended. Missionary wives who were sending their first children away to

study in another continent were there. Some were there whose husbands travel constantly. Wives whose husbands work at home were there. Wives participated who had some very special talents as well as those who had no really outstanding talents.

Most all of us were frustrated. We couldn't do and be all that we expected of ourselves as missionary wives. Some were frustrated because they were tied down at home. Others were frustrated because they live more unsettled lives. There were those who, in order to be where their husbands could serve best, were unable to utilize their special talents.

As the conference progressed, we each shared what we saw as our present role. We became aware that there are different phases in a missionary career.

The role of the missionary wife is a changing one. We will probably not be able to do all things at all times. Young mothers realized that for now, their most important task is to make a Christian home. In some phases, wives may use their education in music or medicine or religious education and in some they may not.

If the opportunity is not available today, wait for tomorrow. Serve to the utmost where you are and with the opportunities you have. Remember that God understands. He put you there.

Marjorie Grober, the wife of furloughing Southern Baptist missionary to Brazil Glenn Grober, is the mother of four children. A nurse, she serves as a seminary teacher on the field.

will attempt to resolve problems in ways spiritually determined. Of course, when the desire to "cooperate" is no longer present, the next step may well be to "strangle our brother with our purse strings." — Ed North, Blytheville

Trend revealed

The *News* magazine article on the conference of Protestants, Jews and Catholics is very revealing. The strong ecumenical trend of our times is shown when Christ-rejecting Jews, Pope-worshipping Catholics and liberal protestants can find such compatibility of belief.

The statement on the Jewish people reveals lack of in-depth Bible knowledge. According to the statement, the 'new teaching' of both Jews, Catholics and protestants has scrapped the old teachings that God has ended his covenant with the Jewish people and made a new covenant with Christians. God kept his covenant with the Jewish people to give them the land of Canaan, not one thing he promised failed, Joshua 23:14. God kept his promise to David to raise up one to sit on the throne, Acts 2:36, Acts 13:32-36. God kept his promise to give his people a new covenant, Jeremiah 31:31. Jesus ratified the new covenant with his own blood.

The book of Hebrews, Galatians and a large section of Romans teaches that the Old Covenant of law is fulfilled in and by Jesus. God's chosen people under the old covenant of law was national Israel. Being

born a Jew made one a member of old national Israel. God's chosen people under the new covenant of grace is the church, in which there is "neither Jew nor Gentile, male or female, bond nor free, but all are one in Christ Jesus." Being born again makes one a member of God's Israel. God has always had a chosen people and it has always been those who are saved by grace through faith. This is the starting point of sound Bible interpretation. — Walter H. Watts, Ft. Smith

Liberty at stake

I read the article "Children at Stake in Licensing Debate". I feel this does not present the real facts, as children are not at stake but rather our religious liberties.

It stated "that both local churches and state denominational leaders appear to be squarely on the other side". I personally have found just the opposite as I have talked to pastors of many of our churches. Our own association, Conway-Perry Association passed a resolution in our annual meeting taking a stand for proposed legislation for religious exemption. Licensing is not to insure safety for children, but rather to gain control of the church.

It also mentioned there has been no problem of infringement on our religious liberties of Child Care Services. While there has been no problem as yet, I think we would be safe in saying it is coming. To give you an example of what Social Services will do, they told us that we did not have the right to make the children go to church,

that it was a violation of their rights. They also said that we could not have the children in a Christian school because we were denying them the right to a higher education. Because we teach them the scriptures, they accused us of coercing religious instruction. They finally had to admit we had a right to make the children go to church, to teach them the Bible and to have them in a Christian school. They were not concerned with what was best for the child, but rather in closing our ministry because we would not accept a license. The article mentioned "they in no way tell us what to teach". "They don't even talk about curriculum". We found just the opposite to be true. We were harassed continuously about our Christian school and curriculum. This curriculum is used all over the world and our school has been given model status which is the highest honor these schools can receive, yet they said our curriculum was "woefully inadequate" and based on that statement the judge ordered our ministry to cease. — Don Grendell, director, Circle H. Youth Ranch, Plainview

ABN letters policy

Letters to the editor expressing opinion are invited. Letters should be typed double-space and must be clearly marked "For publication". All letters must be signed original copies, although the name of the writer may be withheld at writer's request and discretion of the editor. Letters are limited to 350 words and must not defame the character of persons.

by Don Moore

You'll be glad to know . . .

... "All Jesus began to do" is continuing. You recall that when Luke began to write the book of Acts he said his gospel had been written concerning what Jesus began. We believe the book of Acts was written about what Jesus continued to do through the ministry of his spirit. We, as Bible believing Christians, think our responsibility is to cooperate with God so that he can continue his work in and through us. Let me just highlight one area where this is true. All of us are touched by Jesus' attention to little children. You'll be glad to know that two emergency shelter homes in the Little Rock area cared for 350 children during the past 12 months. Our Family and Child Care ministry screens, counsels and assists in providing these homes each of which can accommodate six children at a time. I remember needing to find a home for four children whose lives were endangered by a frustrated mother. How blessed I was to have our Family and Child Care representative in the area tell me he had a home available if that were necessary. Fortunately it was not necessary in this case, but it is in many cases. Four other areas in our state have offered to help provide facilities in their area for these if we could provide the people and program. Perhaps someday we can! Let us continue "all that Jesus began to do!"



Moore

... We count in the halls of legislation. We have dedicated Baptist legislators who are striving to know and to do what is right in the sight of God. They often feel like a voice crying in the wilderness. They need our understanding and prayer support. We also are giving strong financial support to the Christian Civic Foundation headed by our own former Arkansas Baptist State Convention president, John Finn. His leadership at the capitol is being felt and heard. Bob Parker, of our Christian Life Council, stands beside John, assisting him and informing and encouraging all of us. Wouldn't it be great if the '80's could be known as the decade when America reclaimed her soul by a return to civic righteousness and personal Godliness. "God, bless these people who march on in the face of human depravity to raise the banner of your holiness." Amen!

Don Moore is Executive Secretary/Treasurer of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.



ASBN Photo/Mike Gill

Ernest Kelley, (third from left) of the Home Mission Board, met with representatives of the Arkansas State Convention to finalize budget assistance amounts that the national organization will provide to ministries within the state. Meeting with him were State Executive Secretary Don Moore (opposite Kelley) and staff of the Missions Department and Cooperative Ministries with National Baptists.

HMB funds help state convention to minister

by Kevin Jones

The annual meeting to set the Home Mission Board's share of funding of projects in Arkansas was held recently. The HMB provides approximately 15 percent of the budgetary allotments of the State Missions Department and also assists the state work with National Baptists.

The HMB contributes 40 percent funding for agreed upon projects in the areas of chaplaincy, church extension, language and missions ministries. "The uniqueness of the situation," said Pete Petty, missions ministries associate, "is that it puts the pressure for evangelism on Arkansas."

"They don't come in here and tell us

what we need. Instead, someone, for example in Hope, told us that they had a lot of migrant workers going through. We asked the HMB for help and together, we put a man on the field and built a building".

A similar cooperative project, the Bartholomew Migrant Mission Center, had a record attendance on Sunday, Feb. 13, with 225 people fed and 202 at the services, 175 of whom were Hispanic migrant workers.

At the recent meeting, the Home Mission Board agreed to pay 40 percent of the salaries of an intern in Christian Social Ministries and another in prison chaplaincy.

Southern offers new scholarship

The Southern Baptist College Board of Trustees have established a new scholarship, "The President's Scholarship" to begin in the Fall of 1983. This scholarship is for worthy, above-average students.

The college will be offering full tuition scholarships to resident students carrying 15 hours, and one-half tuition scholarships to commuter students carrying 15 hours of college credit. These awards may be awarded for four semesters.

Applications are now being received. The following criteria will be used by the

Financial Aid Committee in selecting the scholarship recipients: (1) The student must make 24 or above on the ACT Composite score. (2) Be of good character and an active church member. (3) Meet certain deadlines of application, preferably by April 1, but can be as late as June 1.

The President's Scholarship could amount to approximately \$4,000 over four semesters. This is the highest level scholarship being offered by SBC. For more details, contact the Financial Aid office, 886-6741 ext. 122.

Ark.-Tex. associations to sponsor conference

Southwest Association, an Arkansas Baptist association with offices in Texarkana, is joining with Bowie Association, a Texas Baptist association, March 7-8 for an area evangelism conference.

Carroll D. Caldwell, director of missions for Southwest Association, reports that First Church of Texarkana, Texas, will be conference host.

Speakers will include evangelist Paul Jackson of Little Rock, Adrian Rogers of Memphis, Carlos McLeod, Texas convention director of evangelism, George Stout, a layman with the Win School ministry, and E. K. Bailey, pastor of the Concord Missionary Church of Dallas, Texas.

Dick Baker, music minister for the Prestonwood Church in Dallas, will be the musician.

by Millie Gill/ABN staff writer

C. Michael Anders

will begin serving March 6 as pastor of Sherwood First Church. He comes there from Clarendon First Church and also has served on the staff of Arkansas and Kentucky churches. He has a bachelor of arts degree from the University of Arkansas and master of divinity and doctor of ministry degrees from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Anders is currently serving as president of the state's Southern Seminary Alumni and as a member of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention Executive Board. He is married to the former Sarah Jane Patterson. She is a graduate of Louisiana College, Pineville. They have a son, Andrew Michael.

Frances Imus

was recently honored by Brinkley First Church for 21 years of service as church secretary. Mrs. Imus was presented a corsage, a plaque and a silver service in the morning worship service. She also received a cash gift and was honored at an evening reception.

Keith Mathis

recently received his doctor of theology degree from Christian Bible College of Enfield, N.C. He is pastor of Luxora First Church.

Milton Edmonson

is serving as interim pastor of the Lamar Church. He and his wife, Esta Lee, reside in Lamar. He has been pastor of Arkansas churches in Carroll, Boone, Faulkner, Pope, Desha and Johnson counties.

Danny Weatherford

is serving as pastor of the Midway Church at Palestine.



Anders



Imus

Daniel Threet

is serving as pastor of the Natural Steps Church in Little Rock, coming there from the Bellaire Church near Dermott. A native of Arkansas, he is a graduate of Union University and Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary. He is married to the former Joan Garey of West Memphis. They have two sons, Stephen and Phillip.

Newton Smith

is serving as pastor of the Lambrook Church at Elaine, coming there from the New Hope Church in Eudora. He and his wife, Earla, have two children, Scott and Hannah.

Danny Jackson

is serving as pastor of the McRae First Church. He served for seven and one-half years as pastor of the Griffithville Church. He is a member of Calvary Association missions committee. Jackson and his wife, Pat, have four children.

Bill Neal

was ordained to the ministry Feb. 6 at the Salem Church. He is pastor of the Lonsdale Church. Ordination participants were Rudy Davis, W. T. Holland and Carl Overton, di-

rector of missions for Central Association.

Rudy Davis

has accepted the call to serve as pastor of the Cedar Heights Church in North Little Rock, going there from the Salem Church at Benton.

David McCord

was licensed to the ministry Feb. 9 by the Watson Chapel Church at Pine Bluff.

Loy Culver

was licensed to the ministry Feb. 6 at Corning First Church. He is a student at Southern Baptist College.

James T. McGill

died Feb. 5 in his Turrell home at age 56. Before his 1976 retirement, he had been pastor of churches in Arkansas, Tennessee and Kansas. He had also served as Buckner Association director of missions, as director of the East St. Louis Rescue Mission and as director of the New Orleans Rescue Mission. He attended Southern Baptist College, Mississippi College in Clinton, Miss., Union University in Jackson, Tenn. and Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Survivors include his wife, Hazel and one daughter, Jo Ann, of Bay.

Milton Cowling

joined the staff of Bryant First Southern Church Feb. 20 as minister of education/music. He came there from a similar staff position at Warren First Church. He is a graduate of Southern Arkansas University and of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Rozanne, have two children, Ross and Laura.

Correction

A news item on page 6 of the Feb. 17 ABN, which reported Clyde Jones being honored for seven years service as pastor, should have identified the church as East Side in Pine Bluff. The item erroneously listed the church in another city.

briefly

Cedarville Church

ordained Kenneth McClendon and Ruben Miller as deacons Feb. 13. Garland Hobbs, pastor, served as moderator. Others assisting were George W. Domesse, director of missions of Clear Creek Association, Ford Rogers, H. J. Morris, Marvin Fry, Fred Coleman and Paul E. Wilhelm, Clear Creek Association director of missions emeritus.

Mulberry First Church

held a soul-winning clinic Feb. 6-9. Jesse Reed of Little Rock led the 68 adults in the study, according to pastor Danny Veteto.

Luxora First Church

held an awards presentation ceremony Jan. 13. Keith Mathis, pastor, presented awards to 14 members who had completed a six-week discipleship series taught by him.

North Crosssett First Church

held a deacon ordination service Jan. 23 for Denon Cagle, Marvin Spurlock and Lamar Hill. Norman Lewis, director of missions for

Ashley County Association, preached the ordination message.

Forest Highlands Church

in Little Rock held a youth/adult soul winning seminar Feb. 20-24. Instructors were Lawrence Bryant and Art Horne, both of Warren.

Corning First Church

has added handbells to its music ministry. Tommy Knight, band director for Corning High School, is directing both the youth and adult bell choirs.

buildings

Palestine First Church

has voted to begin the first phase of a 2,992 square foot addition to house 11 Sunday School classrooms, a pastor's study, two baths, a kitchen and fellowship hall. Work will be completed as funds become available.

FEBRUARY 1982							MARCH 1982							APRIL 1982						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
							1	2	3	4	5		1	2	3	4	5			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31			27	28	29	30	31		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

This Month
in Arkansas
update

March 15-16, Arkansas Woman's Missionary Union annual meeting will be held at Grand Avenue Church in Fort Smith. The four-session meeting, with the theme "Accountable... Now!", offers a program to increase missions knowledge and commitment for Arkansas women.

New Year celebration reaches Vietnamese

by Kevin Jones

To an American, it seemed like the preparation for an unusual New Year's celebration. At the front of the hall were banners proclaiming the day and wall hangings of poems reminding the people of their homeland. Off to one side was a tree covered with painstakingly-handmade silk flowers. A choir in red robes and white pants was warming up by running through the national anthem.

Young men and women were hurrying here and there on last minute errands, putting out refreshments, setting tables, placing chairs. When they needed something, they would call for it in words unintelligible to the listener who only understood English.

Yet as unfamiliar as it was to the American, to the hundreds of Vietnamese who gradually began drifting into the hall for the celebration in mid-February, it was like seeing a part of home in a foreign land.

"To the Vietnamese, Lunar New Year is the biggest holiday," said Minh Van Lam, pastor of more than 100 of his people who meet in the old sanctuary at Grand Avenue Church in Fort Smith. "We give presents, read poems, sing folk songs, visit all our friends and relatives and think about our ancestors."

The Lunar New Year celebration at

Grand Avenue would be different from what many of the Vietnamese in the Fort Smith area had ever experienced. In the middle of the songs that made people homesick for their native land and relatives left behind, Pastor Minh stood up to talk. To an audience that was at least half non-Christian, he talked about the love of a heavenly father that was even greater, a heavenly father who could heal the empty feeling of separation.

The last time the Grand Avenue congregation had a special event, it resulted in a dozen new Christians. Minh's hopes were even higher for the Lunar New Year celebration. "We have members who go out and witness each Tuesday night to Vietnamese people," he said. "But they are afraid that if they become Christians, they will have to go to church all the time. Many of them work two jobs and are going to school and like to use their free time to visit their friends or just rest. We have much more success getting them to come to a special event like this.

"Many of them work in the poultry plants and have a nice car, house, make a good wage, but they miss their country, their customs," he said. "There are not a lot of times when we Vietnamese get together

here, so a lot of people came tonight for that reason. They like to hear our folk songs and I take that opportunity to talk to them about the Gospel."

The very thing that made the Lunar New Year celebration a success, their allegiance to their old ways, is also Minh's biggest stumbling block. "They think that Christianity is just an American religion," he said. "They and all of their ancestors were Buddhists. They have come to a strange country, they don't want to follow a strange religion. Most of them think Jesus was an American. I have to tell them that he was born in Israel, and that he is Lord of all generations. They believe in God, but it is news to them that God is Jesus Christ."

Minh must also combine American and Vietnamese practices. His young people have largely adopted American culture and must be reached that way, while the older people are more comfortable with a Vietnamese-type service. At the Lunar New Year, there was a traditional choir and a Vietnamese rock band.

Whatever it takes for his people to see Christ, Minh is determined to do it. "I have a vision for the 2,000 Vietnamese in this area," he said. "I see them when I pray and I feel responsible for them. I want to reach them for Christ."



ABN photos/Kevin Jones



Pastor Minh leads his choir in rehearsal (top picture), a choir member looks at some traditional Lunar New Year decorations (right picture) and older sister tries to get her brother to hide from the photographer (left).

The Master's mandate

by Charles Rosson

Christ's authority, assignment and assurance! Or if you prefer, the power of Christ, the program of Christ, and the promise of Christ. These are the tremendous truths we find in the last verses of the last chapter of the first book of the New Testament. His great assignment or program is a three-fold one. We who know, love, trust and serve Jesus Christ are commanded to evangelize, baptize and catechize. In the words of another, we are to make, mark and mature disciples.

In the work of evangelism there is a proper message, proper methods and a proper motive. Think with me about these things.

The message in evangelism is both bad news and good news. "The wages of sin is death..." That's bad news! "But the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." That's good news! But notice the order — bad news and then good news! In other words, we must teach people the law of God before they will appreciate the grace of God. We must preach sin before they will appreciate salvation. We must proclaim hell before they will appreciate heaven. We must declare the wrath of God before they will appreciate the love of God. We desperately need preachers and teachers who are not afraid to declare the whole counsel of God (Acts 20:27).

The methods of evangelism are three in number. There are three ways to witness to others for Christ. We can witness for him with our lives. Jesus said that we are the light of the world. We are to let our light shine before others that they may see our good works and glorify our heavenly Father.

We can witness for Christ with our lips. We should use our vocal cords to share the gospel with others. But are we doing it? Men, you talk about your business, your bonds and stocks and gold, and in all worldly matters you are so brave and bold. But why are you so silent about salvation's plan? Why don't you speak for Jesus and speak out like a man? You talk about the weather, and the crops of corn and wheat; you speak of friends and neighbors that pass along the street; you call yourself a Christian and like the gospel plan. Then why not speak for Jesus and speak out like a man? Are you ashamed of Jesus and the story of the cross, that you lower his pure banner and let it suffer loss? Have you forgotten his suffering? Did he die for you in vain? If not, then live and speak for Jesus, and speak out like a man!

We can witness for Christ with literature. Bibles, gospel tracts, and thousands of excellent books can be given to people with a prayer that they will read and be converted to him who is the way, the truth and the life (John 14:6).

The proper motive in evangelism (and everything else we do) is love! Love for the Saviour (John 14:15, 11 Cor. 5:14-15) and love for the sinner (Rom. 9:1-3, 10:1-4).

We know the message! We know the methods! May we be motivated by love to use the methods in declaring the message of salvation!

Charles Rosson is founder and director of the Berean Evangelistic Association out of Gravette.

program began in 1978 and has been the preacher for the worldwide "Baptist Hour" radio program since 1976.

Pollard was pastor of First Church, Jackson, Miss., before moving to San Antonio in 1980. Previously, he was pastor of Shiloh Terrace Church in Dallas.

He holds the bachelor of business administration degree from Texas A & M University and the bachelor of divinity degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has done doctoral studies at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and was awarded an honorary doctor of divinity from Mississippi College.

He is the author of three books, and in 1979 was selected by *Time* magazine as one of the seven most outstanding Protestant preachers in America.

Crucial Questions for Christians

by Glen D. McGriff

Dr. McGriff, it seems that the institution of marriage is experiencing obvious erosion and is increasingly evidenced in the break-up of marriage among those engaged in church-related vocational ministry. Would you please address this matter relative to both cause and consequence?

Serious erosion of family stability has occurred and is increasingly frequent among the clergy. It is somewhat audacious for one to address such a complex problem in the scope of a brief column. However, some suggestions will be offered in response to your honest and searching concern.



McGriff

First, it may be pointed out that the minister who experiences a termination of his marital relationship will encounter the same emotions characteristic of such human situations. There may be some consequences due to his position in the community.

The minister often perceives himself and is viewed by others, as an answer source. He is sought out as a problem solver, advisor, and one who is in touch with ultimate information. The pronouncements from the pulpit are often dogmatic, forceful and final. Failure in such a context can intensify guilt, anger and identity crisis.

There is perhaps an intensified emotional reaction by others to the break-up of a clergy marriage. It may well create an increased insecurity for those who are facing problems in their marriage. Considering the minister to be more competent than himself, a parishoner may panic in response. There may also be a feeling of having been deserted by his minister, especially if the minister has been sought out for counseling.

The cause of clergy marriage break-up is perhaps little different from others. While there are many contributing factors, it may well be that persons either are unwilling or unable to solve problems effectively. Persons often approach marriage with unresolved personality conflicts. Poor communication skill stifles growth in understanding. Pride and anger block forgiveness. In such a climate resentment grows until problem solving resources are diminished or obscured.

Glen McGriff is director of the Ministry of Crisis Support, Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

Pollard new president of Golden Gate Seminary

MILL VALLEY, Calif. (BP) — Frank Pollard, pastor of First Church of San Antonio, Texas, was elected president of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in a called meeting of seminary trustees Feb. 8.



Pollard

The Pollards will move to the Mill Valley campus in the spring.

Pollard has been host and Bible teacher for "At Home With The Bible," a radio and television program sponsored by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board and the Radio and Television Commission since the

500 youth trained at choir festivals

Youth choirs, representing a number of Arkansas Baptist churches, were in Little Rock Feb. 19 for statewide choir festivals.

Life Line and Geyer Springs First Churches hosted the festivals sponsored by the Church Music Department of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

Adjudication was followed by mass rehearsals and performances. The removal of formal robes and scarves marked the beginning of work sessions where vowel pronunciation, breath control and rhythm were repeatedly practiced by the 531 youth.

Joan Blann of Park Place Church in Hot Springs rehearsed and directed the Junior High and Beginning choirs at Life Line Church.

Fes Robertson of the Southern Baptist Convention Church Music Department directed senior high rehearsals and performance.

Rehearsals were frequently interrupted by directors with "No, no, no, let's improve those vowel sounds," or "Oh, come on now and smooth out that rhythm!"

Blann and Robertson, at the close of the day, however, were quick to praise choir members for their outstanding mass performances. They were joined in their praise by Ervin Keathley, state music director, and his associate, Glen Ennes. — Millie Gill



Arkansas Baptist
State Convention

This certificate is awarded to
YOUTH CHOIR
of the _____ Baptist Church
Geyer Springs, Arkansas in recognition
of a meritorious performance.

FEBRUARY 20, 1983

Ervin Keathley

CHURCH MUSIC DEPARTMENT



A spring-like day called for some refreshing noon time ice cream for choir members from Grand Avenue in Fort Smith (top). Senior high choir members from throughout the state held mass rehearsals and performances at Geyer Springs First Church (right). Martha Owen, accompanist and Marty Sewald, director, check the adjudication sheet of the Pine Bluff First Church youth choir (far right). Fes Robertson pauses to check a time count with senior high choir members (bottom right). Joan Blann directed mass rehearsals and performances at Life Line Church (below).



International

An expectant fellowship

by Kerry G. Powell, First Church of Forrest City

Basic passage: Acts 1:4-14

Focal passage: Acts 1:6-11

Central truth: We need God's power to witness and to live the Christian life while we are waiting for his return.

1. The great hope of the church is the second coming of Jesus. Paul said in (Titus 2:13) "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our saviour Jesus Christ." We know he is coming back again. But "It's not for us to know the times or the seasons which the Father hath put in his own power."

2. You can't tamper with God's timetable. (Mark 13:32) says "of that day and hour knoweth no man." He's coming in his own time. "This same Jesus" means personally, "shall so come in like manner" means visibly, "as ye have seen him go into heaven" means bodily (Rev. 16:45) "Behold, I come as a thief: blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame."

3. And what are we to do in the interim? We are to be witnesses! Telling the world what we know about Jesus and we can't do that in our own strength. We can't live as we ought and we can't witness as we ought in our own power.

4. So, he gave us the Holy Spirit when we were saved (Rom. 8:9) "If any man have not the spirit of Christ, he is none of his." And the Holy Spirit teaches us and guides us and empowers us to live the full and meaningful life while we are expectantly awaiting our Lord's return.

5. Notice Jesus said: "Ye shall be witnesses unto me." You don't choose whether or not you will be a witness, you are one! The question is, are you a good one? "We are living epistles, known and read of all men." What is the gospel according to you?

The lesson treatment is based on the International Bible Lesson for Christian teaching, Uniform Series, copyright by the International Council of Education. Used by permission.

missionary notes

Dr. and Mrs. Bill Bullington, missionaries in West Africa, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: 01 BP 3722, Abidjan, Ivory Coast). He is the non-English speaking West Africa associate to the Foreign Mission Board's era director for West Africa. He is a native of Charleston, Ark. The former Evelyn Robinson, she was born in San Antonio, Texas, and spent most of her childhood in Russellville, Ark. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1966.

Mr. and Mrs. Elton P. Gray, missionaries to Japan, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 2004 Sycamore, Apt. 2, Springdale, Ark. 72764). He is a native of Loretto, Tenn.; she is the former Dottie Eayenson of Marks, Miss. They began serving with the Foreign Mission Board in 1970.

Life and Work

Relating to others

by W. Coy Sample, First Church of Morrilton

Basic passage: Matthew 5:21-48

Focal passages: Romans 5:21a, 27-29, 38-44

Central truth: Righteousness, according to the kingdom, calls for a proper inner attitude toward others, as well as forbidding certain overt acts.

Jesus surpassed legalism by going directly to the motives behind the act. We have all heard it said, "better to think a thing than to do it." But Jesus taught us that "thinking" can be as dangerous as the act itself.

Four areas of outer conduct that have their beginnings in the inner man are discussed in this lesson: murder, adultery, retaliation and the law of love.

Jesus teaches us that murder grows out of contempt for persons. You may murder a person without using a lethal weapon. You do this when you hold him in contempt or destroy his character. Such deep-seated contempt for others is evidence of an unregenerated heart. Those who die in that condition must answer to God.

Next to life itself, is the sacredness of one's person. This is especially significant in an age of such loose moral standards. Here again is divine illumination on our relationship to others. The law saw adultery only the overt act. Jesus went behind the act to the inner attitude.

Christ did not call for actual mutilation of the body but rather mastery of it. The picture Jesus paints intensifies his plea that his followers be clean.

There is ever before us the dangers of anger, lust and all the unhealthy feelings which can ultimately translate thoughts to actions. How true it is that to the extent that you have inner control, to that extent you will be able to have outer control. This ethic of Christ drives us to deeper commitment to him.

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

Bible Book

Living in right relationships

by Francis Cheswon, First Church of Camden

Basic passage: Romans 12

Focal passages: Romans 12:1-13, 16-18

Central truth: A Christian's behavior should reflect brotherly love, which comes in one's life as a result of God's mercy and grace.

In writing on the subject of Christian relationships, Paul made an appeal for sacrificial living. Before one can be in right relationship with others, he must be in right relationship with God and this begins with worship. For a Christian, worship does not include animal sacrifice but it must involve self-sacrifice. We should respond to God's mercy to us with the offering of ourselves to him.

In a day when even children insist on designer labels, it does not come natural for a person to refrain from conforming to the world. Only God's transforming power can enable one to live out his plan, which alone is perfect (v. 2).

A Christian cannot very well be a loner and live in right relationship with others. God does not have any Lone Rangers. In making this point, Paul points out that the church is much like the human body with its many members, all of which are interdependent on one another (v. 4).

When one becomes a member of the body of Christ, his church that person becomes a vital part of the whole, which is made up of many individuals who have varying gifts (v. 4-8). Though there is difference in gifts, unity comes as each member uses his gifts to the fullest for God's glory.

Not only are the individuals members of one body in Christ, but they are also members of one another (v. 5). Because of this close relationship between Christians, it is important that love rule their lives. Genuine love must be sincere as it is shown in devotion to others and service to the Lord (v. 9-13). This type love is needed for harmony in the body (v. 16-18).

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

Election and Evangelism
Both are Biblical! To deny either of those doctrines is a grave mistake! For a free paper on this subject send self-addressed, stamped envelope to Evangelist Charles Rowson, P.O. Box 60, Gravette, AR 72736.

Christian couple needed to work in Christian Assembly. Man to do maintenance work, lady to work part-time in dining hall. Live on grounds. Send resume and references to: P.O. Box 1264, Benton, Ark. 72015.

Stepless  Repetitive  Light  Backed
DIAL TOLL FREE
1-800-467-1700
BOWLING UNITED INDUSTRIES, INC.
Box 220, Danville, VA 24541
in VA (804) 787-3277

Your state convention at work

Family Ministry

Marriage enrichment retreat

Dr. and Mrs. Bill Carpenter will lead the Marriage Enrichment Retreat at the Ozark Folk Center Lodge, Mountain View, March 24-26, 1983. Dr. Carpenter is chaplain at the Baptist Medical Center, Oklahoma City. The Carpenters are parents of two children. Bill and Shirley are experienced retreat leaders and led a previous Marriage Enrichment Retreat in Arkansas.



Dr. and Mrs. Carpenter

The retreat is a special time away for couples who have a good marriage and want to enhance their marital relationship. It

begins at 7 p.m. Thursday and ends at noon on Saturday.

Preregistration is required. Interested couples may contact their pastor, church staff, or the area director of missions for more detailed information about the retreat. Or, couples may write the Church Training Department, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203.

The basic Marriage Enrichment Retreat will be the major project for Southern Baptist's 1984 Bold Mission Thrust Strengthen Families emphasis: "Marriage: Growing in Oneness." Churches interested in having couples trained to lead marriage enrichment will find this retreat and a later leadership training workshop an excellent opportunity. Contact Gerald Jackson in the Church Training Department for additional information about the Southern Baptist Marriage Enrichment Retreat System. The retreat is sponsored by the Family Ministry Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board and the Church Training Department of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. — **Gerald Jackson, associate**

WMU

Where can you meet these people?

Former college quarterback, volunteer football coach for Uptown Chicago's largest high school, pastor of Uptown Church, Jim Queen is innovative, insightful and patient. He spends much of his time on the streets of this neighborhood where he grew up, an inner city community of 144,000 persons known for its crime and poverty. "You have to know people in order to relate to them," he says. His official assignment is Christian Social Ministries Consultant, Uptown Inner City Ministry.



Lacy

Recipient of the City of Para' Medal, Peace Theater Medal, honorary doctorate from Ouachita Baptist University, Glendon Grober is in his 28th year as missionary to Brazil. He is the author of six books and has translated two others. He serves as Executive Director of the Evangelism Board of the Brazilian Baptist Convention. Glendon Grober is a missionary with outstanding credentials.

Mrs. Grober (Marjorie) in addition to being her husband's sup-

port system, is the mother of four children and a seminary teacher.

Native of Guatemala, former managing editor of Spanish publications for the Home Mission Board and now Language WMU Department Director, Doris Diaz, is a diminutive bundle of talent and energy.

Among musicians, Ann Rice is known for her contralto voice, work in operas and concerts, soloist with the St. Louis Symphony and at Ridgecrest and Glorieta Conference Centers. In her community she is known for her work with the Cyst House, home for alcoholic women. In her church she is known as a choir member, Baptist Women president and director of the Young-at-Heart program for senior adults and a Sunday School teacher.

A broad spectrum of persons from across our state who have been involved in a variety of mission activities.

You may meet all these and more at Woman's Missionary Union Annual Meeting, Grand Avenue Church in Fort Smith, March 15-16. Sessions on Tuesday begin at 10 a.m., 2 p.m. and 6:45 p.m., and on Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. — **Betty Jo Lacy, Acteens director**

Church Training

Chester Swor is youth convention speaker

The 1983 State Youth Convention holds the potential for being one of the best youth conventions ever. Chester Swor, a well known speaker, author and educator, will be our featured speaker. This man has been a source of inspiration and challenge as he has spoken to at least two generations of youth. His wit and wisdom are as timeless as his age. Your youth and leaders are in for a special blessing as this man shares from his heart and life.



Swor

Our location for this year will be different, too. We will be meeting in the new State House Convention Center and Excelsior Hotel complex. This new facility is large enough for us to meet in one location for all three sessions. The Statehouse Convention Center is just two blocks east of the Robinson Center where we have met in years past. A Baptist

Book Store, along with other displays, will be housed in the rotunda area.

The theme of "DiscipleLife... Youth on Bold Mission" will be communicated in each of the three sessions at 10 a.m., 2 p.m., and 6 p.m. They will include music from Weston and Davis, Ouachita, and Southern Baptist College Choirs. The evening session will include a Youth on Bold Mission worship spectacular. Other features will include the State Youth Bible Drill and State Youth Speakers' Tournament.

We hope that your youth will be among the thousands of Arkansas Baptist youth who will be attending this event. Plan to come expecting a great experience of worship and inspiration.

Please contact the Church Training Department, Arkansas Baptist State Convention if you have questions or need further information about the State Youth Convention.

I hope to see you on April 1! — **Bill Falkner, associate**

Evangelism

Witnessing — we are in, what then?

It is a beautiful act of hospitality to be invited into someone else's home. The witness should be very friendly and introduce himself to everyone in the room. It is a time to be very gentle and gracious, polite and well mannered. The witness should always respect the prospect and family in their home.

It is very important for the witness to sit near the prospect. If two people are visiting together, the one who plans to do the witnessing should sit by the prospect. This usually means going to the couch, thus leaving the silent partner to sit in the chair.

If the prospect says something about the house being in a



Shell

mess, "I am so embarrassed," the witness should never make any type of issue of this. At this point, instead of making any reference to the mess, it is good to refer to something positive, such as a beautiful picture on the wall.

It's good to talk in a general conversation for a few minutes. This should never be on controversial subjects or issues. It is very important to share with the prospect in such a way that they will feel relaxed and open to further conversation.

I begin with the individual where they are and direct them to the question, "Have you ever received Jesus as your savior." The Gospel is then presented to the lost person.

Remember, it is not the plan of salvation that saves the lost, it is the person of salvation, Jesus. Whatever plan one uses always points a lost person to Jesus, who does the saving. — **Clarence Shell, director**

Family and Child Care

Opportunity at middle age

Are you in middle life and want a change? Would you like to go back to college and finish a degree or get a new major? Would you like to invest some years in Christian child care? These are all possibilities at Arkansas Baptist Home.

Middle-aged couples who have reared children of their own have learned a great deal about youth. Our child care program does have an in-service training which will add to the knowledge and skill you already have. A team of workers will assist you in working with the children.

Of course, my first interest is in giving children a second chance in life. I have found that some couples can accomplish both goals, child care and an education. Perhaps you are one of those couples who could.

If you have your children reared and you love youth, we have a challenge for you. Ten teen-aged girls will demand your very best. We are looking for Christian couples who are willing to minister.

If you are one of those couples needing a new direction in life, call or write Charlie Belknap, P.O. Box 180, Monticello, Ark. 71655, phone 367-5358.

It is such a good chance to grow and serve. Make our program and your needs a matter of prayer. I truly believe I would have more child care workers than I could employ if our Baptist middle aged population knew about the challenges and possibilities of child care. — **Charlie Belknap, Superintendent, Arkansas Baptist Home for Children**

WMU

Children's Park 1983

Preparations are well underway for the Arkansas Baptist Assembly this summer. Pastors and music directors have been enlisted, materials are in the printing process and letters, hundreds of letters, are being mailed to prospective workers.

Children's Park is especially designed for good learning experiences by children in grades 4-6. Children are involved in a variety of activities which include Bible study (this year, "O Worship the Lord"), missions, arts and crafts, and music (this year, "Good Morning, Morning!") The schedule makes for



Edwards

a full morning.

Afternoons are free time for the boys and girls. A special time of worship in the Children's Tabernacle begins at 7:30 p.m. Our pastors and music leaders involve the children in activities which will help boys and girls build a foundation for a life-changing experience with our Saviour.

We invite your children to come one of the seven weeks of the assembly this summer. We will be ready for them! — **Jackie Edwards, children's consultant**

Stewardship

The special offerings

Southwestern Seminary professor John Drakeford received a letter from a church member who was "sick and tired" of special offerings. The member had all she could take when a fellow member asked for funds for an overseas mission trip.

The church member was faithful in giving tithes and other offerings but expressed her frustration over repeated pleas with, "I have always given, but I've given out."

With four generally approved special offerings, three mission and one child care, many members feel churches are always asking for money for causes not included in the church budget. In some churches, special offerings are promoted for six weeks or two months. Even devoted Christians lose their enthusiasm over long

promotions.

Add to the four special offerings encouraged by churches and conventions many other special offerings. Building funds, youth activities, and special mission projects call for additional gifts.

The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions is a worthy offering. It deserves promotion in all of our Baptist churches. It encourages over three thousand home missionaries in their efforts to present Christ to this nation.

Set a worthy church goal. The SBC goal is \$25,000,000 and Arkansas Baptists are anticipating \$545,000 from dedicated people who aren't "given out." — **James A. Walker, director**

Tom Netherton

of the Lawrence Welk show
in sacred concert



Tuesday, Mar. 22, 7:30 p.m. Robinson Auditorium, Little Rock, Ark. Reserved seats \$7.50 and \$6.50. Special group rates for 25 or more.

Ticket Outlets: Baptist Book Store, 9101 W. Markham, Little Rock; Baptist Bible and Book House, 712 Main, Little Rock; The Lamplight, 3118 John F. Kennedy Boulevard, North Little Rock; Gospel Emporium, 1301 W. Main, Jacksonville; Gilover's Bible Book Store, 811 W. 6th, Pine Bluff; The Salt Shop, 114 North 10th, Arkadelphia.

Christian Woman's award is begun at Southern

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — The Distinguished Christian Woman Award has been initiated by the Woman's Committee of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

The purpose of the award is to recognize annually an outstanding Christian woman.

Recipients must be active Christian churchwomen whose achievements benefit humanity and whose lives reflect the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Letters should describe the nominee's church participation and outline her other Christian activities, describe and give examples of activities which benefit humanity and contain examples of how the nominee's life reflects the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Nominations should be sent to the Distinguished Christian Woman's Award Committee, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, 2825 Lexington Rd., Louisville, Ky. 40280.



Specialists
in church
construction

6920 Dahlia Drive
Little Rock, Ark. 72209

Financing available

For information call:

H. W. Roper (501) 562-4582
Irby Watson (501) 847-8565

Workshop for single parents

March 11, 7 p.m.-10 p.m. March 12, 8:30 a.m.-12 noon. Dumas Municipal Building, Dumas, Ark., conference leader: Dr. Otho Hesterly, \$10 per person. Child care provided, call for reservation if needed: 382-2315.

Hughes pew cushions

Reversible or attached
Quality, comfort and beauty

**We believe we can
save your church money**

3 weeks delivery on fabric in stock
For free estimate call collect

Eugene Hughes, 353-6556
Route 2, Box 159A
Gurdon, Ark. 71743

Passenger

Van

headquarters
Nice late models
5 passenger to 15 passenger
Special prices to churches

**QUALITY
AUTO SALES**

(501) 268-4490

1500 E. Race, Searcy, Ark. 72143

**BUILDING . . .
BUILDING . . .
BUILDING . . .**
Church Pews & Pulpit
Furniture, Laminated
Arches, Decking
and
Fiberglass Specialties
Stocking Distributor

BAPTISTRIES
& BAPTISTRY
HEATERS

STEEPLES

CENTRAL
Manufacturing Co.
P. O. Box 695 - Fifth and Vine
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72115
(501) 374-6008

BAPTISTRIES

FIBERGLASS
CHURCH PRODUCTS

CALL OR WRITE FOR FREE BROCHURE
TOLL FREE 1-800-251-0679 • TN. COLLECT 615-875-0679
3511 HIXSON PK. • CHATTA. TN 37415

"ONCE SAVED, ALWAYS SAFE"

The book has four chapters: "A Child of God Can Never Be Lost," "A Child of God Should Live Holy," "Saved People Do sin" and "What Happens When a Saved Person Sins?" Send \$2.00 and receive this book, PLUS four others: "When a New World Begins," "Heaven, Hell and Salvation," "The Rapture of the Saints," and "Do We Live After Death?" Full-length Bible messages! ALL five books for only \$20.00! Send this ad and \$2.00 with your name and address to:

JOHN L. BRAY, Dept. A R
P.O. Box 1778 - Lakeland, Florida 33802

LEE CLEMENTS
home phone (501) 835-2054
DAVID CLEMENTS
home phone (501) 834-3674

**MARK
CORPORATION**

6160 Getty Drive
North Little Rock, Ark. 72117
Phone 501-835-8037

Specialists
in Church
Construction

Financing
available

Conference offers help to small church leaders

NASHVILLE — The problems of administration and planning for a pastor who is the only staff member can be time-consuming and frustrating to ministry efforts.

To help pastors of small churches deal with some of the administration problems, the First National Small Church Administration Conference is planned Aug. 20-26 at Ridgcrest Baptist Conference Center.

Thurman Allred, consultant in the church administration department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, will direct the conference, which will include Bible study, skills development, conflict management and working with volunteers.

Allred said pastors from churches with 300 or fewer members will particularly benefit from the conference, because the material will be directly applicable to their situation in relation to size.

It is estimated that there are 21,000 churches in the Southern Baptist Convention with 300 or fewer members. Much of the material presented in the conference will be especially helpful to bivocational pastors whose time is so limited, Allred said.

Peter Rhea Jones, pastor of First Church, Decatur, Ga., will be the Bible study leader for the week and John Sullivan, pastor of Broadmoor Church, Shreveport, La., and first vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention, will be the preacher.

The First National Small Church Administration Conference will be held during the Bible/Preaching Week at Ridgcrest. For reservations write to Ridgcrest Baptist Conference Center, P.O. Box 128, Ridgcrest, N.C. 28770.

\$879 Hawaii	Hawaiian vacation <i>right dates, seven nights departing May 31, 1983 double occupancy Little Rock to Little Rock</i>	\$1,298 Israel
	Holy Land Tour <i>10 days departing June 15, 1983 from N.Y.</i>	
	Rev. David M. Hankins Jr. 51 Broadmoor Drive, L.R. 72204 Phone (501) 585-4123	

We invite you to



"Catch the spirit . . . Praying, Giving, Going"

Young adult mission meetings

April 16, Tri-County Assn. Camp

April 23, Camp Paron

Program personalities include Vickey Lloyd, Angus Emerson, Kathy Findley, Martha Dewbre, Pete Petty and Patsy Davidson.

Sponsored by Arkansas WMU and Brotherhood

For information write: WMU, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, Ark. 72203

THE OZARKS' MAIN EVENT

Eureka Springs is the Ozarks' Main Event because it offers so much to so many. And with church groups it offers the added appeal of the Ozarks' greatest attraction, the Great Passion Play.

In 1983 the Passion Play will have an early opening with special performances April 29 and 30 and May 1, 3 and 4. The season will run through the last Saturday in October. No performances on Thursdays and Mondays.

Eureka Springs also offers your group the historic downtown district and shopping for arts and crafts, a full size steam powered train to ride, fine country music

shows and the beauty of Ozark scenery and many natural attractions.

There are plenty of fine places to stay and most offer group rates. For full information write Eureka Springs Chamber of Commerce, Dept. 7, P. O. Box 551, Eureka Springs, AR 72632; or call toll-free 1-800-643-3546.



UNDERSTAND WHO?



Whether you work with adults, youth, children, or preschoolers, you need to have an understanding of who you are working with. The very latest in Christian concepts of development through the life cycles is presented in the new understanding books. *Understanding Today's Adults* and so forth for each age group is now available in Baptist Book Stores. Be an informed teacher or leader by getting your copy of the understanding book today. IT WILL HELP YOU TO TEACH AND LEAD.

Winebarger

**CHURCH FURNITURE
& STAINED GLASS**
LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA

*America's
Foremost Name
In Church
Furniture*

Area Representative
RON DODD
1745 East Lakewood
Springfield, Mo. 65807
417/883-7943
Call Toll Free 800-446-0945

SBC educators react to Falwell's idea

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) — Southern Baptists won't be "misled" by someone who does not want to be a Southern Baptist but who chooses to make "self-righteous pronouncements," according to two SBC educators.

Arthur Walker, executive director of the Southern Baptist Convention's Education Commission, and Herbert Reynolds, president of Baylor University, the largest Southern Baptist university in the country, made their comments in response to Moral Majority leader Jerry Falwell's suggestion that Southern Baptists sever all ties with the 47 colleges and universities they support because they no longer represent conservative theological views.

Baylor University in Waco, Texas, was the only school specifically named.

Walker and Reynolds challenged Falwell's assessment of SBC schools and noted his flawed understanding of how the schools are supported and governed.

"Southern Baptists are supported by state conventions which know them and appreciate them," explained Walker, who heads the only national SBC agency which relates to Southern Baptist colleges and universities, and that in an advisory relationship. "The trustees of each Southern Baptist college are local Baptists elected by the state convention which supports each college. Local Baptists will not be misled concerning the colleges they know and love."

Reynolds was even more specific. "Mr. Falwell continues to exhibit his self-righteous approach to all things and in this case a most presumptuous attitude. After all, he is not a Southern Baptist by choice but rather is an independent Baptist. This suggests he does not want to be associated with Southern Baptists in any of our multiple ministries but chooses to make far-reaching self-righteous pronouncements on a wide variety of topics to Americans and people the world over.

"We (Baylor) have been an SBC institution for 138 years and we will continue to be a Southern Baptist institution regardless of Mr. Falwell's meddling and whether our state convention chooses to own us or not. All along, I have believed, amidst the present controversy among Southern Baptists that ultimately the collective good judg-

ment of our people would prevail and that love and wisdom would triumph over the self-righteousness and theocratic aims of some within our convention," Reynolds said.

"Texas Baptists (we are not owned or operated by the Southern Baptist Convention) support Baylor in more ways than just with money. Our people support us with their goodwill, prayers and the attendance of 5,000 quality young people in our student body of 10,000 from around the world. Baylor has some 50,000 alumni living in all 50 states and 101 foreign countries, among whom are the greatest number of missionaries produced by any Baptist college or university in the world.

"We at Baylor are not unfamiliar with the Jerry Falwells of this world nor are we strangers to controversy and attack. Much of our strength derives from our willingness and capacity to deal with such unpleasantness and inane as we determinedly provide our students superior undergraduate, graduate and professional university educations within a community of Christian teachers and scholars," he said.

William M. Pinson, executive director of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, said because Falwell had singled out Baylor, it should be noted Baylor has contributed greatly to the cause of Christ through Southern Baptists and some of the foremost pastors and agency heads are products of the school.

Are you moving?

Please give us two weeks advance notice. Clip this portion with your old address label, supply new address below and send to Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203.

017997
HISTORICAL COMMISSION
127 9TH AVE NORTH
NASHVILLE, TN 37203
COMP SBC

Name _____
Street _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____

In an interview with the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* Feb. 2, Falwell said the SBC should keep its six seminaries and take some "hard handed" actions to rid them of liberal influence.

Such a purge of the colleges and universities would be too difficult, however, he said, because local churches don't have as much influence over the college trustees as they do over the seminaries and because, "if you fired half the faculty, the students would hold demonstrations on campus" and national agencies would threaten the school's accreditation.

Draper: broadcasters must complement local church

by Stan Hasley

WASHINGTON (BP) — Southern Baptist Convention President James T. Draper told the nation's religious broadcasters they must complement rather than compete with the local church if they are to fulfill their mission.

Draper, the keynote speaker to the 40th annual convention of the National Religious Broadcasters, told an estimated audience of 2,800, "the missing link in much of religious broadcasting is the primary of the strategy of Christ through the local church."

For radio and television preachers to tell their listeners and viewers they can discharge their obligation to tithe their money by sending in a check is neither "godly" nor "biblical."

Draper, pastor of First Church of Eules, Tex., said that while he personally contributes offerings above the tithe to religious broadcasters and asks his people to do the same, "we must never put those two (local church and broadcasters) in competition ... Folks, there's plenty to go around. You do what God tells you to do and you magnify the local church and God will take

care of your needs ... If that's not true, God is a liar, the Bible is false and Jesus is not Lord."

Draper said further that "to put electronic arms to the churches" instead of "simply binding believers to the personalities of the communicators in television and radio may be the greatest challenge you face for the immediate future."

He also suggested electronic preachers give preeminence to the Bible and center their message in the Lordship of Christ. "The subtle temptation of the religious broadcaster is the same temptation that I face as a pastor," he said, "and that is to fashion the message to the tastes of the people."

He warned the broadcasters to beware of their industry's "basic principle" of shading the message for the securing of the viewer and the listener. "In the setting of religious broadcasting, he declared, that practice "is to be tempted to produce a counterfeit gospel ... It contributes to the confusion in the marketplace as people with itchy ears listen for what they want to hear rather than what God wants them to hear."