

Ouachita Baptist University

Scholarly Commons @ Ouachita

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1985-1989

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

2-6-1986

February 6, 1986

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarlycommons.obu.edu/arbn_85-89



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

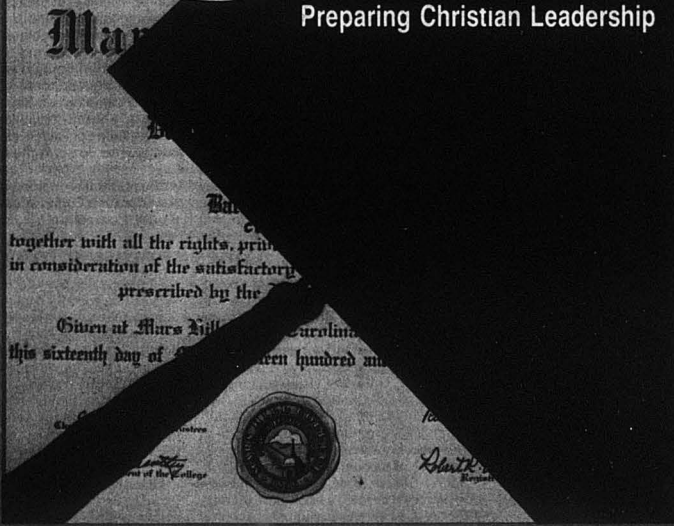
Feb. 6, 1986

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

SOUTHERN BAPTIST HISTORICAL
LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES
Historical Commission, 6802
Nashville, Tennessee



Preparing Christian Leadership

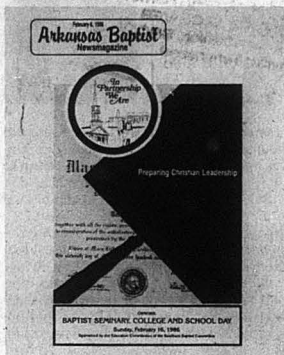


OBSERVE

BAPTIST SEMINARY, COLLEGE AND SCHOOL DAY

Sunday, February 16, 1986

Sponsored by the Education Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention



Through their institutions of higher education, Southern Baptists work in partnership preparing tomorrow's Christian leadership. That is the theme of Baptist Seminary, College and School Day Feb. 16.

In this issue

4 missionaries safe

Southern Baptist missionaries in Uganda are reported safe in the wake of a coup which ousted the six-month-old government of Gen. Tito Okello.

7-10 'fellowshipping'

Sharing some outstanding preaching and singing, National and Southern Baptists "fellowshipped together," a black Baptist term for joint worship, at the 1986 Arkansas Baptist State Evangelism conference.

A responsibility for leadership

by Arthur L. Walker Jr.

By the beginning of the 21st century, current college-age students and recent college graduates will be assuming leadership roles in all segments of society.

Shaping these leaders is a major concern of Southern Baptist educational institutions which see responsibility for more than the transmission of information.

Education and a means of providing leaders were primary reasons for forming denominational structures and founding colleges. Today there are 63 universities, colleges, Bible schools and academies sponsored by various Baptist state conventions. The Southern Baptist Convention sponsors six theological seminaries and co-sponsors the American Baptist College of the American Baptist Theological Seminary, a predominantly black school in Nashville, Tenn., with the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc.

These schools are supported in part by Cooperative Program giving of Southern Baptists. These schools, however, need more than just monetary support. They need Baptist pastors and laypersons who will recommend potential students and who will encourage them to attend Baptist institutions.

Baptist schools are the institutions better equipped to train tomorrow's leaders in both denominational and secular life. Contrary to some beliefs, Baptist schools are not just for those interested in church-related vocations.

Baptist colleges and universities believe it is equally important to train Christian doctors, nurses, lawyers, business professionals, journalists and leaders in other professions. Because they do not seek training for a church-related vocation does not mean they will not play an important role in the future of society. It is these people who will

become the Christian leaders of tomorrow.

Concern for Christian truth also can influence society in significant ways, particularly if leadership qualities are transmitted to those who help shape Christian influences.

This means Baptist colleges and schools have a particular responsibility to do all within their power to produce individuals who have characteristics of effective leadership which include a sense of significance, competence, community and commitment.

There is little doubt that Southern Baptist higher education can make its contributions to these characteristics of effective leadership. Our purpose for existence centers around these same concerns.

Baptist schools also provide the place where students can receive the additional information they need to be good laypersons in local churches. Students at Baptist educational institutions have opportunities for contact with denominational leaders as well as experiencing opportunities for personal experiences with volunteer mission efforts.

Southern Baptist schools are in a world where adequate numbers of outstanding educational institutions exist. The Southern Baptist schools exist because there is a needed additional element in education which says there are commitments and purposes which go beyond simply knowing the right information in the right way.

Perhaps this additional reason for being is also the same reason Baptist schools have made an unusually significant contribution in the training of leaders in the past and will continue to do so in the future.

Arthur L. Walker Jr. is executive director of the Education Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Envelope service names confusing to customers

NASHVILLE—The similar names of two different offering envelope services are creating confusion among long-time customers of the Baptist Book Store Envelope Service, telephone inquiries and correspondence to the Sunday School Board indicate.

Jimmy D. Edwards, vice-president for publishing and distribution at the board, said the misunderstanding became evident during a change in vendors and establishment of new headquarters in Nashville for the board-owned service, effective Jan. 1, 1986.

Baptist Book Store Envelope Service, operated by the board's book store division for more than 25 years, routinely accepted bids in 1985 for the upcoming five-year contract period, said William S. Graham, division director.

The envelope manufacturing company of Richmond, Va., submitted the lowest bid, Graham said, which would reduce customer costs while providing quality envelopes and service. "We accepted their bid to fulfill our obligation to the churches," he said.

The previous manufacturer in Chester, W. Va., has recently begun using the name Baptist Offering Envelope Service and is soliciting business directly from Southern Baptist churches, Edwards said. "Baptist Offering Envelope Service has no connection with the Baptist Sunday School Board."

"The Baptist Book Store Envelope Service is the only envelope service owned and operated by an agency of the Southern Baptist Convention. Therefore, only the earnings of the Baptist Book Store Envelope Service are channeled through the Sunday School Board to Baptist causes at both the state and national level," he said.

"We regret the confusion caused by the similarity of the two names," he added. "We urge churches to pay careful attention to any mailings or ads they may see related to offering envelopes of any kind and to be sure they know the firm with which they deal."

Baptist Book Store Envelope Service can be contacted by calling toll-free, 1-800-874-6319.



How much do you know about your Jewish neighbors? Most of us would be embarrassed to admit how little we actually know about contemporary Jewish practices. We would be even more embarrassed to confess how little we are doing to share Christ with them.

It should not be forgotten that we, as Christians, owe our heritage to Judaism: Not only do we share the Old Testament scriptures in common, but we share the hope of eternal life. We know that our Savior, besides being a Jew, is the long-awaited Messiah of Hebrew prophecy. He is the Bread of Life, for which the Jews still hunger.

The Jews in America are divided into three distinct groups. In the strictest sense, however, they could not be termed as denominations, as there is a good measure of cooperation among them despite their differences.

Reform Judaism developed over a century ago as an effort to adjust the faith to modern society. The rites and holy days have been abbreviated and the liturgy translated into the vernacular. Families are allowed to sit together and the wearing of hats is optional. The house of worship may be either a temple or a synagogue. Since the traditional dietary laws are no longer emphasized, they are being progressively disregarded.

The Reform movement has generally liberalized historical doctrine. Although the Torah (the five books of Moses) is still retained, the doctrine of the coming of a personal Messiah has been abandoned.

Orthodox Judaism reacted sharply against the Reform movement. These Jews continue to adhere strictly to the Torah and to the requirements of the Talmud (a collection of Jewish traditions and explanations) for worship practices, dietary laws and the observance of holy days.

It should be observed that even the Orthodox movement is beginning to make a few concessions. In some congregations, the sexes are no longer separated and the dietary requirements are not all that they once were. But these people do retain most ardently the hope of a personal Messiah and the resurrection. In many parts of the nation, they provide parochial schools to train the youth in the faith of their fathers.

Conservative Judaism is a reaction against what some consider to be the excesses of the Reform movement. This is a middle-of-the-road movement between the Orthodox and the Reform movements. They agree that change and adjustment are inevitable, but that the essentials of the Jewish faith must be retained.

Within the three groups are still other movements. Perhaps

the most important of these were the Zionists. The Hebrew word still means a hill or a mountain of Jerusalem or the site of the Temple. The movement was founded upon the yearning to return to the homeland of Palestine. The first Zionist congress was held in Basel, Switzerland in 1897. Their major aim was accomplished with the establishment of the state of Israel May 14, 1948.

Perhaps one of the greatest difficulties lies in defining the "Jew." In truth, it may be impossible to do so. It is evident that Jews cannot be explained merely in terms of "race." Usually, we think of them as "Semites." But others, including Arabs, also would go under this classification. It should be remembered that the Jews have never been a totally "pure race." Today, they are a combination of many races. A gentile can become a Jew by submitting to certain rites.

They can not be defined as a "religion" as many Jews are irreligious. Judaism has always been more concerned with "doing" than "being." They have become highly secularized. A poll taken several years ago reported that 83 percent of the Catholics attend worship at least once a month, 65 percent of Protestants, and only 18 percent of the Jews.

Then, they can not properly be referred to as a nation. They do occupy a country, Israel, but, even today the vast majority of them live in other lands. According to one Jew, Robert Gordis, they must simply be defined by the inclusive term "a people."

It probably would be impossible to list 10 great men in history without naming several Jews. Their contribution to religion, history, and society is phenomenal.

There are several possible ways in which we, as Christians, can witness to the Jews with whom we have contact:

- We should be neighborly and attempt to learn something of their history, heritage and religion.
- We should cultivate their friendship. We should send greeting cards when there are births, marriages, deaths or on special holidays such as the Passover and the Jewish New Year.
- We should visit their worship services. Such experiences might prove both informative and inspirational, while demonstrating our own sincerity.
- We should invite them to attend worship services with us, particularly when there is an evangelistic appeal.
- We should present the plan of salvation to them as we have opportunity. It should be emphasized that Jesus is the Messiah of the Old Testament. Let us remember that we do not want to alienate them.
- Most importantly, we should show them our Christian love.

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

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

VOLUME 85

NUMBER 6

J. Everett Sneed, Ph.D. Editor
Betty Kennedy Managing Editor

Erwin L. McDonald, Litt D. Editor Emeritus

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine Board of Directors: Lane Strother, Mountain Home, president; Mrs. J. W. L. Adams, Jr., Texarkana; Charles Cheaser, Carlisle; Lyndon Finney, Little Rock; Leroy French, Fort Smith; Henry G. West, Blytheville; Merle Milligan, Harrison; Tommy Robertson, El Dorado; and the Hon. Elajiano Roy, Little Rock.

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 accepted in writing only. Rates on request.

Opinions expressed in signed articles are those of the writer.

Member of the 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., Little Rock, AR. Subscription rates are \$6.98 per year (individual), \$5.40 per year (Every Resident Family Plan), \$6.00 per year (Group Plan). Foreign address rates on request. 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

Spreading the word that Ouachita is affordable

Ouachita Baptist University is many things to many people. It is the place where many successful doctors, lawyers and teachers received their pre-professional education. It is the place where thousands of young people have found life companions who share their Christian faith, values and dreams. It is a Christian university owned by Arkansas Baptists. It is a "summer music camp" for hundreds of Baptist children and young people. It is home base for a thousand or more dedicated pastors, missionaries and church staff members. Ouachita is academic and Christian excellence. It is "brainy, brawny, believing and beautiful!" Most recently, the wonderful world of Ouachita is 100!

In addition to all of these good things, Ouachita is something else: it is affordable. But there is some evidence many young people and their parents do not know this. Bill Downs, Ouachita's director of public relations, recently conducted an opinion survey of high school students in three different Arkansas high schools. The results were complimentary to Ouachita—very high ratings in academic quality and in Christian emphasis—but there was one incorrect opin-

ion held by high school students.

Although the cost of attending Ouachita is well below that of Hendrix, Harding, Arkansas College and John Brown, most students surveyed thought Ouachita's costs were higher. Since that time, all of us at Ouachita, especially the admissions counselors, have been working hard to send out the message that Ouachita is affordable, more affordable, in fact, than most of the private colleges in Arkansas and neighboring states.

One important part of Ouachita's affordability that also may be little known is that the great majority of students who attend Ouachita receive financial assistance in the form of scholarships, College Work-Study funds, U.S. or Arkansas "entitlements" that actually are larger at Ouachita than at the state colleges, and special discounts that go to various categories of Ouachita students.

Scholarship funds given to Ouachita have increased dramatically in the last few years, both from bequests and special gifts. Five have endowments of \$100,000 or more: Stella McPherson Presidential Scholarships, the L.J. (Dutch) Funderburk Scholarships, the

John William Henderson Scholarships, the Frank Hickingbotham Scholarships and the Blanche A. Jones Scholarships. The Ouachita Student Foundation raises and awards more than 30 scholarships each year, and an increasing number of churches are establishing Christian education scholarships. In addition, several different sources of educational loans are available based on family financial need.

It still costs somewhat more to attend Ouachita than to attend the state colleges and universities in Arkansas, but I have yet to see a young person who has had to leave Ouachita for financial reasons, if he or she really wanted to stay in Ouachita. But now we have our work cut out for us: spreading the word that Ouachita is affordable.

I wonder if we can afford to employ the services of a professional public relations firm to convince high school seniors and their parents that Ouachita is affordable. Is a Ouachita affordability campaign affordable?

Daniel R. Grant is president of Ouachita Baptist University.

Reed serving as mission revival consultant

Jesse Reed, retired director of evangelism for the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, is serving during 1986 as a Missions Revival Consultant for the state convention's Missions Department.

Reed will seek to assist existing missions with their revivals and will work with associations and churches planning revivals in areas where they hope to start new churches.

Working through the Missions Department's church extension program, Reed will assist missions with their Good News America mission revivals March 16-April 6. Revivals designed to start new churches will be scheduled for the summer so more workers will be available, according to Floyd Tidsworth, director of church extension.

Reed will visit sponsors of new work target fields, representing the church extension program and resources available for mission revivals, Tidsworth added.



Reed

missionary notes

Mrs. Mildred Cagle, missionary associate to Kenya, has completed furlough and returned to the field (address: P.O. Box 30405, Nairobi, Kenya). The former Mildred Dawson of Arkadelphia, she was employed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1974.

Mr. and Mrs. S. Kyle Cox, missionaries to Chile, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 510 W. Third St., Russellville, AR 72801). He is a native of Pasadena, Texas, and she is the former Lois Tipton of Grandin, Mo. They were appointed in 1981.

Uganda missionaries unharmed in fighting

NAIROBI, Kenya (BP)—Southern Baptist missionaries in Uganda reported they were safe and moving about with caution Jan. 27 as the rebel National Resistance Army consolidated control of Kampala, the Ugandan capital.

Missionaries in Kenya monitored short-wave radio broadcasts Jan. 27 from Jim Rice in Kampala, who said he and the other 11 missionaries in the capital were unharmed and violence had subsided. Rebel forces also took Entebbe and Jinja, the country's second largest city, as government troops reportedly fled toward Kenya and Sudan.

Missionary Jimmie Hooten in Jinja reported by shortwave radio Jan. 27 that his family and journeyman John Dina also were safe. In Kampala, the Baptist bookstore and other mission properties were reported undamaged.

The missionaries likely will remain in Uganda as the fighting ends, though temporary evacuation to neighboring Kenya is an option. "They have been through so much with (former Ugandan dictator) Idi Amin and the changing of governments that have followed that they know pretty well when it becomes imperative for them to leave if they can get out," said Davis Saunders, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's director for eastern and southern Africa.

Thirty-one Southern Baptist missionaries and journeymen are assigned to Uganda, but about half of them are currently in Kenya or in the United States on furlough.

Ousted head of state Gen. Tito Okello held power for barely six months after overthrowing the government of Milton Obote last July.

Don Moore

You'll be glad to know...

... Everywhere I have gone and the subject of "Lay Renewal Weekends" is brought up, I get this tremendous expression of praise and thanksgiving from those who have been involved. Some have even called to share with me at length the experience they have had with a Lay Renewal Weekend. One of the LRW leaders recently said, "I wish you could read two letters I have received from our last LRW!" I requested he copy them and send them to me. You will be blessed by some excerpts from them.

From the pastor: "In my 20-plus years as a Christian and my 16 years in ministry, I've never seen anything impact a church like Lay Renewal Weekend did this past weekend. Thirty-eight people shared on Sunday night. That's more people than have shared in all my three years as pastor here. I loved it. And we were surprised by many who shared."

From a laywoman, group leader: "No mere words could ever express what we feel in our hearts. How does one describe and evaluate such a mountain top experience? A weekend such as we had does not just happen. "It was wonderful to get to know you as you shared with us, but it was overwhelming to get a glimpse into the lives of fellow church members with whom we had worshipped for years and did not truly know. "The Sunday evening service was truly the culmination of the weekend's events. We willingly spent a joyous four hours of testimony, commitment, confession and praise and were hesitant to let go of this renewed spirit of joy in the Lord..."

We have so many churches that seem to be on "high center," unable to get moving, little excitement and little happening. Many have broken fellowships. Many are oppressed by the depressed condition of farmers. I have a feeling a Lay Renewal Weekend could be just the answer for many of these churches. I hope many of you will consider the testimony of this pastor and laywoman and schedule a Lay Renewal Weekend soon. Call us if we can help you make contact with one of these teams.

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



Moore

'We need it now'

Like thousands of other Southern Baptists, I have watched with high hopes the work of our Peace Committee this year. I had hoped that they could lead us to peace, acceptance and the work of evangelism and missions in our nation and our world.

I cannot say how disappointed I was to hear of the meetings in Florida in which the ultra-conservative group announced its plan to continue its agenda and chose a prospective presidential candidate.

This turn of events forces we Southern Baptists to ask some probing questions. If we as a denomination are to have peace, why are the ultra-conservatives holding political caucuses, announcing their continuing agenda and choosing a candidate? Do not these actions force us to believe their talk of peace is merely talk? How are we ever going to work together in missions and evangelism while one group is plotting to dominate all others of us?

Something else may come of this. There is a strong possibility that Adrian Rogers, the announced candidate of the ultra-right, will

Letters to the editor

withdraw saying that he does not feel any member of the Peace Committee should be a candidate for the presidency in Atlanta. This move is likely an orchestrated effort on the part of the far right to take Winfred Moore (also a Peace Committee member) out of the picture as a likely presidential candidate. This may not happen. However, we Southern Baptists should be aware of this scenario in order that, should it come to pass, we see it for what it is.

Our convention does not need a group or a president to exclude other Southern Baptists. We need full acceptance by all, of all, to do Christ's work in our world, and we need it now. — Bill Sherman, Nashville, Tenn.

Letters to the editor expressing opinions are invited. Letters should be typed double-space and must be signed by one person, though the name may be withheld on request. Mailing address and phone number of the writer should be included. Letters must not contain more than 350 words and must not defame the character of persons. Letters must be marked "for publication." Only original letters will be considered.

Arkansas Baptists write curriculum

NASHVILLE—Twelve Arkansas Baptists have written curriculum published by the Sunday School Board for use during 1985-85 in Sunday School, Church Training or church music programs.

Approximately 500 Southern Baptists write curriculum published by the board each year. This does not include hundreds of others who write articles and other kinds of leadership helps.

Arkansas writers are as follows: Cindy Doty, North Little Rock, *Bible Learners*; Tina Taylor Newberry, Newport, *Bible Searchers*; John McClanahan, Pine

Bluff, *Adult Bible Study*; L.L. Collins Jr., Little Rock, *Youth in Discovery*; *Teacher/Youth in Action*; *Teacher*; Winnie Kinsey, Lavaca, *Preschool Bible Teacher B*; Rosalie S. Love, Norphlet, *Preschool Bible Teacher C*; Steve Lemke, Walnut Ridge, *Sunday School Adults*.

Other are Pauline Tucker, Melbourne, *Bible Study*; *Special Ministries*; Roma Zeltner, Fort Smith, *Exploring 1*; Winfred Bridges, Paragould, *Adult Life and Work Lesson Annual*; James A. Walker, Little Rock, *Bible Study Special Ministries*; and Lois Hacker, Harrison, *Exploring 2*.

Task force organized for mobile home missions

A task force has been organized in Arkansas to identify opportunities and principles for starting new congregations in mobile home parks, according to Floyd Tidsworth, director of church extension for the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

Eugene Ray, pastor of First Church, Marion, is chairman of the task force. Other

members are Neal Stevens, pastor, Calvary Chapel, Lakeshore Estates, Marion; Jack Ramsey, pastor, First Church, White Hall; and Joe Smith, layman from Jonesboro.

First Church, Marion, sponsored the Lakeshore Estates mission, which was organized last year as part of the church extension program's "Missions Models" projects.

Hope couple donates scholarship funds

ARKADELPHIA—Ouachita Baptist University recently received a gift of \$33,482 from donors Mr. and Mrs. Robert Tye of Hope to provide a scholarship fund for students needing financial aid.

"Mr. and Mrs. Tye have chosen a means of honoring a loved one in a way that will benefit young people at Ouachita for generations," said Roger Harrod, vice-president for

development at Ouachita. The gift was given in memory of Hugh McCarthy, Mrs. Tye's father, and interest from the fund will make up the Hugh McCarthy Scholarships, which Ouachita will begin distributing in the fall of 1986.

McCarthy's widow, Glendene, is now living in Stephens. Mr. and Mrs. Tye donated the money through First Church, Hope.

by Millie Gill / ABN staff writer

people



Shell

Susan Shell of Clinton has been named to the Acteens National Advisory Panel. She was selected from more than 130 teenage girls nationwide who applied to served on the six-member panel. Selections are based on scholastic achievement, school

and church activities and accomplishments in Studiaid, the individual achievement plan for Acteens. Panelists, selected by Woman's Missionary Union, SBC, were announced during the January Executive Board meeting in Birmingham. Their duties will include writing for *Accent*, a monthly missions magazine, and serving as pages at the WMU annual meeting and the Southern Baptist Convention. Shell, 17, is the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Frank Shell. She is a member of Clinton First Church, where her father serves as pastor. In Acteens she has achieved the level of Queen Regent.

J. Wesley Kennedy is serving as minister of youth at Immanuel Church, Little Rock. Kennedy has recently served there as interim minister of youth while attending Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He will continue his seminary education through the Seminary Studies program. He is a 1982 graduate of Auburn University and is a native of Gadsden, Ala. He has served churches in Alabama, Texas and Arkansas.

David J. Napier will begin serving Feb. 9 as minister of recreation at Immanuel Church, Little Rock, coming there from Broadmoor Church in Baton Rouge, La. He is a graduate of Florida State University, University of West Florida and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He holds a clinical pastoral training diploma from Louisiana State Hospital, Mandeville, La., and a recreation leadership diploma from the Church Recreation Department of the Southern Baptist Convention. Napier and his wife, Melissa, have two children, Josh and Jaelyn.

Kelley Erstine is serving as interim music director at Sheridan First Church.

Tim Stanley began serving Jan. 19 as full-time minister of music and outreach for East End Church, Hensley. He and his wife, Sandy, have two daughters, Amber and Rebekkah.



Kennedy

Nadean Bell is serving Bentonville First Church as part-time minister to senior adults.

George Adams recently observed five years of service as minister of youth and university students at Fayetteville First Church.

Ron Bray is serving as pastor of Mount Zion Church at Paragould. A native of Missouri, he attended Southern Baptist College and Southwest Baptist College. He is married to the former Gail Ring of Pochontas. They have three children, Christie, nine, Justin, eight and Angela, age seven.

Gene H. Devor of Siloam Springs died Jan. 25 at age 54 in St. John's Hospital in Tulsa, Okla. He had served for 23 years as resident manager of Arkansas Baptist Assembly at Siloam Springs. He was a veteran of the Korean conflict and a member of the Siloam Springs Volunteer Fire Department. Survivors, all of Siloam Springs, include his wife, Leila Hufford Devor; a son, Terry Gene Devor; a daughter, Brenda Comer; his parents, Arthur and Hallie Devor; one brother, Bob Devor; one sister, Pat Calico; and four grandchildren. Funeral services were held Jan. 28 at Siloam Springs First Church, where he was a member. Memorials may be made to the Arkansas Baptist State Convention Gene Devor Memorial Fund, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203.

Jamey Smith has resigned as minister of education and administration at Pulaski Heights Church in Little Rock.

Sam Howell is serving as pastor of Spadra Church at Clarksville. He received his education at Eastern Arizona Junior College, Southern Baptist College and Arkansas State University. He has served churches in Arkansas, Missouri and Arkansas. Howell and his wife, Kathy, have a son, Jason.



Napier

Ira Taylor is serving as pastor of Hagarville Church. He is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University and has served churches in Knoxville, Vine Prairie, Mulberry and Atkins. He and his wife, Jo, have five children.

Darrell Dungey has joined the staff of Benton Trinity Church as minister of music and youth.

Charles Wright is serving as interim minister of music for adult choirs at Immanuel Church, Little Rock. Wright is Dean of the School of Music at Ouachita Baptist University.

Judith Rogers is serving as interim director of senior high and college choirs at Immanuel Church, Little Rock where she is a member. She also serves on the faculty of a school in North Little Rock.

W.B. and Marie Armstrong of Paragould were killed Saturday Jan. 25 in a 27-vehicle accident near Marion. Their funeral services were held Jan. 28 at Paragould First Church, where both were members. His survivors include two brothers and two sisters. Her survivors include her mother, Blanche Davis of Memphis; two brothers and a sister. Memorials may be made to Paragould First Church or the American Heart Association.

briefly

Little Rock Second Church ordained Zack Birns, Harold Bowers, Bobby Gosser and John Gosser to the deacon ministry Feb. 2. Pastor Billy White served as moderator.

Rock Springs Church honored Jo Edmondson Jan. 26, recognizing her 30 years of service as church treasurer. She has been a member there for 40 years. The coordination of the special service was under the direction of pastor Jerry Ballinger and Madeline Jackson. Others participating were L.B. Atchison, director of missions for North Arkansas Association.

Concord Church at Van Buren recently ordained Melvin Henderson and Ted Burkhardt to the deacon ministry. A. C. Vincent served as moderator. Others on program were Jimmy D. Smith, Ted Gentry Sr., Bob Floyd, Mike Taylor, Loal Harwell, George Doremese, director of missions for Clear Creek Association, Gene Loyd, Ted Gentry Jr. and Richard Corley.

State Evangelism Conference—(Left) Bible study leader Jack Johnson visits with ABCS Executive Director Don Moore. (Below) National and Southern Baptist women share ideas on evangelism.

ABN photos / Millie Gill



'Mere revival efforts' doomed to failure, Hamblin says

by Mark Kelly

The 1986 "Good News America" simultaneous revivals already are failures if Southern Baptists see them as merely another few weeks of revival effort, believes Robert Hamblin, vice-president of the evangelism section of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

But if the revivals are envisioned as a catalyst for spiritual awakening, Hamblin says the Good News revivals hold the potential of beginning the greatest revival movement ever among Southern Baptists.

"I believe Good News America is the most vital thing going on among Southern Baptists," said Hamblin, who was in Little Rock Jan. 27-28 for the Arkansas State Evangelism Conference. "If we see it as a catalyst for the beginning of a spiritual movement, it has the ability to turn us to effective evangelism that reaches people for Christ."

While Southern Baptists are "basically right" in their approach to evangelism, they are failing to see proper results for their efforts because "we lack the proper spiritual climate necessary for a great evangelistic thrust," Hamblin explained.

In order for the Good News revival to spark spiritual awakening, several elements are essential, Hamblin said.

First, revival efforts must be "bathed in prayer." "If we don't pray, we'll see no revival," Hamblin warned.

And prayer should be collective, as well as individual, he added, recalling Jesus' words recorded in Matthew 18:19, "... if two of you agree on earth about anything... it shall be done..." Hamblin explained the Greek word translated "agree" provides our English word "symphony." Based on that idea, he has called upon Southern Baptists recently to take up a "symphony, or concert

of prayer" for spiritual awakening during the Good News revivals.

Second, Southern Baptists must find and cultivate people who need to know Jesus Christ, Hamblin said. "We need to demonstrate we genuinely care about them and want them to know Christ, not that we just want them to be in our church."

Third, church leaders need to "commit themselves to God for holiness," Hamblin said. Through the cleansing of confession of

sin, studying the Scripture, praying and worshipping God, church leaders will be prepared for a spiritual movement among the congregation.

Hamblin also said churches need to take at least a full week, preferably eight days or more, for their revival effort. As opposed to the shorter meetings more prevalent in recent years, Hamblin explained longer meetings give time both for bringing church members closer to God and then holding out the gospel to the lost.

Finally, Southern Baptists need to see "the church alone has the unique task of witnessing to the lost," Hamblin asserted. "And, contrary to popular opinion, this is the task of the laity," he said. "We act like we think evangelism is a preacher task."

"We need to train our people to witness," Hamblin added. "Witnessing isn't complicated. It's just telling what the Lord has done in your life. We need more laypeople doing one-on-one witnessing."

Although Southern Baptists claim to believe people lost without Jesus are going to Hell, Hamblin said they certainly don't act like it. "We spend most of our time ministering to ourselves," he charged. "We need to get out and get our hands dirty."

Too often, Southern Baptists fail to express the love of God for a lost world, Hamblin concluded. "We need to speak as people who love people. We need to move out of our middle-class satisfaction with our selves, our big buildings and our fine programs. We need to get our eyes on people who are lost, perishing and going to Hell without Jesus Christ."

Mark Kelly is a staff writer for the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine.



If Southern Baptists will prepare properly for the 1986 "Good News America" simultaneous revivals, the meetings could spark the greatest revival movement ever in the SBC, said Robert Hamblin.

1986 State Evangelism Conference features outstanding South

by J. Everett Sneed

The combined choirs of Little Rock National Baptist churches, directed by Sterling Ingram from St. Peter's Rock Baptist Church, performed Tuesday evening during the State Evangelism Conference.



O.C. Jones (left), of Mt. Pleasant Church, Little Rock, visits with Chester Thompson of Hampton and Reginald E. Parker of El Dorado.

The 1986 Evangelism Conference, which convened at Immanuel Church, Little Rock, Jan. 27-28, featured a host of outstanding National and Southern Baptist preachers. Most of those who were in attendance believed the preaching and music were truly outstanding.

O.C. Jones, pastor of Mt. Pleasant Church, Little Rock, and president of the Regular Arkansas Baptist State Convention, Inc., said, "Most of the problems confronted by the black community are similar to those faced by our white friends. There are a lot of black people who need the gospel!"

Jones says one of the greatest problems confronting the black communities in Arkansas is the breakdown of the home. "We have many one-family homes, and many young people have very little to do except to roam the streets. The breakdown of the home adversely affects the church. The only hope is an evangelistic thrust that will regain the ground we have lost," Jones said.

Jones stated a number of ways National Baptists are working to evangelize and confront the lost with the gospel. The convention over which he presides (there are two other National Baptist conventions) has developed an annual evangelism conference similar to that which is held by Southern

Baptists. Jones praised Robert Ferguson for the work he did in assisting them in developing this conference. The director of the Evangelism Conference is C. A. Woods, pastor of First National Baptist Church, Fort Smith.

"It is our hope in our evangelism conference," Dr. Jones said, "to provide both inspiration and information so that our pastors and leaders can go forth in a more effective way to reach the lost."

Jones said they were placing major emphasis on training young ministers in evangelistic and outreach methods. "It is difficult to improve on the methods Southern Baptists have used across the years. That is, find the prospects, go knock on the doors and tell them about Jesus. The best way to do evangelism has always been person to person."

Jones has developed outreach teams at his church, the Mt. Pleasant Church, Little Rock. He has 23 people trained to go out and to tell others about Christ. "When we go," he said, "both young people and young adults will respond to the gospel."

Jones said he had discovered it often required a period of cultivation before individuals could be reached for the Lord. "On occasion, our outreach teams have been cursed out, only later to be able to

ern, National Baptist preachers, choirs



ABN photos / Millie Gill

(Left and below) E.K. Bailey, pastor of Concord Church, Dallas, Texas, preached Tuesday morning from the book of Hosea on "God's Transforming Power." Bailey was the keynote speaker from the National Baptists.



reach the person for Christ. Years later, this same person may become a church leader."

Jones observed black people usually listen, unless they are on drugs or alcohol. "So, usually our teams are not confronted with hostility," he said.

Jones felt the joint conference would assist everyone greatly. He said, "National Baptists are able to learn techniques from Southern Baptists that will assist them in doing a better job."

Jones feels that a second major assistance of the joint evangelism conference is fellowship. Jones observed, "In the past blacks and whites were fearful of each other. Many felt someone was trying to do them in. But today we have learned we can work together under the leadership of Christ."

Jones is hopeful National Baptists will develop a simultaneous program, such as Southern Baptists have this year, in the not-too-distant future. He said, "We have been geared to the city-wide revival where some outstanding preacher would come into town and conduct a campaign. But I am convinced simultaneous revivals would assist us in seeing more people saved."

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



Full-time evangelists—Among the Arkansas full-time evangelists present at the Evangelism Conference were (left to right) Charles Graham, 107 N. Hardy, Dermott 71638, phone 538-3125; Gene Ellis, Star Rt. 11, Box 103, Hot Springs 71901, phone 767-3689; David Preston, P.O. Box 550, Smackover 71762, phone 725-2345; and Ron Marcum, P.O. Box 732, Monticello 71655, phone 382-4416. Not pictured are Billy Walker, Southern Baptist College, P.O. Box 281, Walnut Ridge 72476, phone 886-6185; Clarence Hill, 104 W. Pine, Hot Springs 71901, phone 767-6489.

Relationships key to effective evangelism, discipleship

by Betty J. Kennedy

ABN photo / Millie Gill

While methods are necessary to evangelism, relationships are prerequisite, a group of black Baptists and white Baptists were told last week. The concept is the basis of relationship evangelism, and it was explained last week at the State Evangelism Conference.

Relationship evangelism is what works best, Randall Everett explained, citing a poll of 8,000 laypersons showing that as many as 90 percent of all conversions are the result of witnessing by family and friends.

On the other hand, he pointed out, only one out of 8,000 said they had made a profession of faith in Christ as a result of an evangelistic crusade, and only two out of 100 came through visitation programs. "Most of us are not won by a stranger, but by a family member or friend," he said.

Everett, pastor at Benton First Church, and Robert Willingham, pastor of the Mt. Pleasant Church in Little Rock, shared the concept of relationship evangelism with a group of Arkansas Baptists and National Baptists at Little Rock's Immanuel Church.

"And those won by strangers are not easily conserved," Everett noted. "Evangelism with integrity demands that we see these converts continue to grow. When they are won by family and friends, the concern for growth is there."

Another dimension of witnessing in relationships is that persons who reach out for help when their personal concerns become problems are reachable for the gospel, Everett maintained. Listening is important in building a relationship that can lead to sharing the gospel, according to Everett.

"I believe that we are going to have to earn the right to witness by listening," he asserts. He advocates learning methodology to witness, but sees relationship building as prerequisite.

Everett said the Christian must use the



Pastors Everett and Willingham explained the idea of relationship evangelism—focusing witnessing efforts along the lines of personal relationships—in their conference

"weapons not of this world" cited in 2 Corinthians 10—prayer, using the Word and sharing personal testimony—but the timing depends on how the relationship is developing. "Don't pick the fruit until it's ripe," he cautioned. "We're not after just a decision, but a decision that leads to discipleship."

Willingham prefaced the explanation of relationship evangelism by emphasizing the need to model Christian behavior. "We need to walk on Monday like we talk on Sunday," he said. He conceded some Christians, even pastors, need to start by exhibiting a more Christ-like spirit in the home.

The black Baptist pastor admitted that he took a "Clergy" bumper sticker off his car after he got concerned that his impatient driving habits might reflect badly on his

Christian witness.

Willingham admonished Christians to be careful how they model Christlikeness lest persons they witness to say, "If that's what you got, I don't want it."

He said Christians should develop friendships with non-Christians. "Invite them to your parties along with your Christian friends," he advised. "But you must be patient," he cautioned. "Don't browbeat them into accepting Christ."


The good news about sharing the Good News, then, is that relationship evangelism is an effective way to witness, win people and then lead them into real discipleship.

Betty J. Kennedy is managing editor of the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine.

Tapes provided—Myra Garner, a member of Immanuel Church, Little Rock, was on a crew that worked long and hard meeting the demand for tapes of the sessions of the State Evangelism Conference. More than 1,000 tapes were sold from the two-day conference Jan. 27-28.



ABN photo / Millie Gill



**AMAR
Prayer list**

Project date: Feb. 9-22

Group: Lawson and Juanita Hatfield, Fordyce, First Church


Project: ABCS president visiting AMAR mission project sites, addressing Amazonas-Roraima Baptist Convention, leading evangelistic services.

Places: Sao Luis, Belem, Santarem, Parantins

For information about the Amazon-Arkansas Partnership Mission, contact Glendon Grober, P. O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203; (501) 376-4791.

Florida Bus Tour
11 days • Depart April 2 • \$725
Free brochure:
Ralph's Travel Club,
P. O. Box 914, North Little Rock, AR 72115,
Phone: (501) 753-8280

Used church pews for sale
24 pews 13', dark oak, upholstered seat, excellent condition • 20 pews 10', light oak • 22 pews 15', light oak.
Central Manufacturing Co
North Little Rock, (501) 374-6088



Quality Van Sales
Used 12 and 15 passenger vans, special prices to churches, (501) 268-4490, 1500 E. Race, Searcy 72143. Larry Carson, owner

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



BAPTISTRIES
& BAPTISTRY
HEATERS

**CENTRAL
Manufacturing Co.**
P. O. Box 695 - Fifth and Vine
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72115
(501) 374-6088

Needs assessed for continuing growth trend

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—Now that Southern Baptists have ended an enrollment emphasis which led to the highest Sunday school enrollment ever, it's time to evaluate Sunday school materials and seek new ways to reach people, according to Harry Piland, director of the Sunday School department at the Baptist Sunday School Board.

With an enrollment of 7.9 million, Southern Baptists are riding the wave of a six-year increase with four years of record high enrollments. That has paved the way for continued growth, but enrollment will need to increase more rapidly to reach the goal of 10 million by 1990, Piland said.

A Bible study plan for non-Christians will be introduced in October as a new approach to outreach that will help increase enrollment, Piland said.

Piland said meeting the needs of churches ranging in size from as few as 10 members to 10,000 or more is a difficult task. "We are the servants of the churches, and we gladly serve in that role. We want to produce what helps them," Piland said.

Changes developed from this study will not be apparent in the literature until about 1990. No matter what changes are made, Southern Baptists will continue to have the same basic text for Sunday school Piland said, adding: "The Bible is our textbook, and everything else is resource materials."

While the literature is under scrutiny, the teacher may be the most important element of a successful Sunday School. "When people remember Sunday School, they may not remember what was taught, but they always remember a teacher," Piland pointed out.

Included in the 1985-90 Bold Mission Thrust goals is a plan to develop evangelistic Bible studies at time other than the traditional Sunday morning hour. Outreach Bible Study is an effort to reach unsaved persons through Bible study groups in homes and other places away from the church where non-Christians might be more comfortable.

"Outreach Bible Study and other such projects will be necessary if Southern Baptist Sunday schools are to continue to grow," Piland said.

The complex society of today makes Sunday School growth more difficult than it might have been in the 1950s when Southern Baptist Sunday schools experienced rapid growth with a campaign called "A Million More in '54," according to Piland.


"The church no longer is the focal point of community life. As we work in new areas and with different ethnic backgrounds, we are moving away from the church tradition. That makes outreach, discipleship and new methods important in reaching people for Christ," he said.

A conference for women

Joy Discovery

**Park Place Baptist Church
Hot Springs
March 22, 9 - 3:30
(Registration begins 8:30)**

Led by author and noted speaker
Barbara Lee Johnson
of Orlando, Florida



Topic
*Adrances to Joy
Count it all Joy
Three ways to grow up
How to wait on God*

- Bookstore
- Music by Dayspring
FBC, Little Rock

Clip and enclose with check make payable to: Park Place Baptist Church.
Registration \$5 (Includes lunch. Not refundable) DEADLINE: March 7

Name _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Mail to Joy Discovery, Park Place Baptist Church,
721 Park Avenue, Hot Springs, AR 71901

State court suit filed against Southern Baptist Convention

ATLANTA (BP)—A lawsuit has been filed in Superior Court of Fulton County, Ga., against the Southern Baptist Convention and its Executive Committee by five Southern Baptist laypersons from five states.

The suit, filed Jan. 23 by the Atlanta law firm of Bondurant, Mixson and Elmore on behalf of plaintiffs from Georgia, Louisiana, North Carolina, Kentucky and Texas, is identical to one filed Dec. 5 in Federal District Court for the Northern District of Georgia by Robert S. and Julia Crowder of Birmingham, Ala., and Henry C. Cooper of Windsor, Mo.

Attorney Jane Vehko told Baptist Press the new suit "is a parallel action in state court. Both suits seek exactly the same relief."

Bondurant, Mixson and Elmore represent the Crowders and Cooper in the federal suit as well as the plaintiffs in the new suit in Fulton County Superior Court.

Both suits center on the election of the SBC Committee on Boards, Commissions and Standing Committees at the 1985 annual meeting of the SBC in Dallas. Both seek to have that election declared invalid, to have

the courts interpret convention bylaws and to "enjoin the defendants from further violations" of the bylaws.

Plaintiffs in the new suit are Katherine F. White, of Atlanta, a member of Second Ponce de Leon Church; Lucy Azlin, of Alexandria, La., a member of Emmanuel Church; Betty Ann L. Upshaw of Winston-Salem, N.C., a member of Knollwood Church; Terry Black of Louisville, Ky., a member of Buechel Park Church, and Jim B. Black of Lewisville, Texas, a member of First Church. All five were messengers to the 1985 annual meeting of the SBC.

Vehko said: "The defendants (the SBC and Executive Committee) have announced their intention to try to have the federal suit dismissed, contending the federal court does not have jurisdiction. While we definitely feel the federal court does have jurisdiction, we have taken the precaution of filing suit in state court here.

"We have taken this action because of the importance of this matter and also because

we are trying to have it heard before the June meeting (the 1986 annual meeting of the SBC, scheduled June 10-12 in Atlanta)."

The SBC was to file its answer to the federal lawsuit in Atlanta Jan. 27. Representing the SBC are James P. Guenther of Guenther and Jordan, Nashville, Tenn., and former U.S. Attorney General Griffin Bell of King and Spalding, Atlanta.

"We will seek to have the case dismissed on the basis the First Amendment to the Constitution prevents the court from addressing this case," Guenther said. "Also, in the federal courts, the plaintiffs must show that they have suffered \$10,000 in damages, and we do not believe they can do this."

Plaintiff Jim B. Black, a manufacturer's representative, said he was "offended by the parliamentary procedures" of Stanley and entered the lawsuit with a goal of "ensuring that Robert's Rules of Order are followed in Atlanta and that what happened in Dallas doesn't happen again."

Call for Free BROCHURES



BAPTISTRIES
HEATERS, PUMPS
FACTORY DIRECT

TOLL FREE 1-800-251-0679
TN CALL COLLECT 615-875-0679
FIBERGLASS BAPTISTRY CO
5511 HIXSON PIKE • CHATTANOOGA, TN 37415

Area Disciple Life Conferences

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
February 10, 1986	February 11, 1986	February 12, 1986	February 15, 1986
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	9:00 a.m. - 12 noon	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

10-day
Holy Land Tour
\$1,341

July 29-August 7

For further information write:
E.M. Whittington
Rt. 2, Box 114
Vilonia, AR 72173

For:

- Youth Church Training Leaders
- Youth Leaders
- Pastors
- Staff Members
- Church Training Directors

Learn About:

- Implementing DiscipleLife Celebration
- Using Youth Church Training Curriculum
- DiscipleYouth
- Short Term Training Resources

What you do today
will affect tomorrow:

Enroll now
LINKOUS SCHOOL
OF REAL ESTATE
12115 Hinson Rd.
224-1234

Licensed by:
Arkansas Department of Education
Instructor: Lyn Peebles, Attorney at Law

Linkous

Conference Leaders



Wayne Jenkins
C.T. Dept.
BSSB



Bill Falkner
C.T. Dept.
Little Rock, AR

Note: For Individual Church Consultations Prior To Conferences Contact:
Church Training Department
P.O. Box 552
Little Rock, AR 72203 376-4791

Vero Beach layman joins federal suit against SBC

VERO BEACH, Fla. (BP)—A Vero Beach man has joined three other persons in a federal lawsuit against the Southern Baptist Convention and its Executive Committee.

H. Allan McCartney, a retired Marine and deacon in First Church, Vero Beach, told the *Florida Baptist Witness*, the newsjournal of the Florida Baptist Convention, "I'm not trying to stir up trouble. I got involved for the

simple reason that slowly I had seen things happen (in the convention) that disturb me.

"My rights were violated in Dallas," he said, referring to the 1985 annual meeting of the 14.4-million member denomination.

"I don't care who wins the fight within the denomination," McCartney said, "but I believe there is an obligation to play the game fairly. Unless we challenge (the alleg-

ed abuse of power), it becomes a precedent, and then we have no ground rules."

McCartney said one objective of the lawsuit is to ensure that future meetings of the SBC employ "an impartial parliamentarian who knows what he is doing."

McCartney said his interpretation of Scripture allowed for such a lawsuit when all of the means of resolving a conflict have been exhausted. "I know earnest and sincere appeals were made to seek recourse," he said. "But it takes two people to waltz," he added, claiming neither Stanley nor others involved in the suit have made any effort to resolve the dispute.

A vote of the SBC Executive Committee to uphold the controversial rulings "tipped the scales," McCartney said, leading Crowder and the others to file their complaint. "There are a lot of things we ought not do, but this is an imperfect world," he said.

"I don't think Christians ought to file suits or stand outside doors (to the SBC convention hall) passing out ballots."



Ted and Mary Stanton
Argentina



Gerold and Barbara Schitts
Zimbabwe



Winona Cobb
Texas

Lillian Isaacs
Alaska/Kentucky

Arkansas Woman's Missionary Union Annual Meeting

Park Hill Baptist, North Little Rock

March 18-19

Theme: *God's World... My Place Today*

Four Sessions

Tuesday: 10 a.m., 2 p.m., 7 p.m.

Wednesday: 9:30 a.m.

Features

"Lottie D" drama, Tuesday night

AMAR, Rev. Mickey Anders

F.A.T., The Jerry Thompson Family

State Missions, Jack Washington

Nursery for preschoolers



IMS

Church Management Software

For PC/XT or AT Format

\$2500 retail now \$695

Terms available free software support

(PC with 20 meg. - \$1995)

RAZORBYTE

P.O. Box 1203,
Fayetteville, AR 72702
or call 756-0649

Two tax seminars



Led by
Harold Richardson
Treasurer
Annuity Board SBC

February 10

9 a.m.

Jonesboro, First

February 11

9 a.m.

Pine Bluff, First

Sponsored by
Annuity Stewardship Department

Presenting the Seventeenth Annual CHURCH MUSIC WORKSHOP

February 20-21, 1986

Ouachita Baptist University

Featuring

- ◆ Robert Burton, choral clinician
- ◆ Mabel Warkinton Sample, children's choir clinician,
- ◆ Joe King, instrumental clinician

For further information please contact:

Dr. Paul Hammond
Ouachita Baptist University
Box 3710
Arkadelphia, AR 71923

Single Adult Ministry
of Little Rock's
First Baptist Church
Invites You to



NEW BEGINNINGS

for Tough Times

A DIVORCE ADJUSTMENT SEMINAR

WITH

DR. CHARLES SMITH
AND

ANN ALEXANDER SMITH

February 28-March 1, 1986

— AUDITORIUM —

Baptist Medical Center

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

Please mail-in this form by February 14,
1986 to Single Adult Ministry, First Baptist
Church, 62 Pleasant Valley Dr., Little Rock,
Arkansas 72212.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

GROUP REGISTRATION

CHURCH NAME _____

LEADER _____

NUMBER ATTENDING _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

Cost for the seminar is \$15 per person and includes a banquet on Friday evening, and a continental breakfast Saturday morning. Overnight accommodations can be made at the Medical Plaza Hotel which is just across the street from Baptist Medical Center. For more information contact Chris Elkins, Minister to Single Adults, or Theresa Anderson, Singles Associate, First Baptist Church, 62 Pleasant Valley Drive, Little Rock, AR 72212, Telephone 227-0010, ext. 12.

The Mullins Lectures on Preaching & The National Conference on Biblical Preaching

March 11-14,
1986



David Allan Hubbard,
president of Fuller Theological
Seminary, will present the 1986 Mullins Lectures on
Preaching in conjunction with the first National Conference
on Biblical Preaching at Southern Seminary in Louisville, March 11-14.

A variety of conferences and workshops will highlight ways to develop your preaching ministry, with leaders like: Ken Hemphill, pastor of First Baptist, Norfolk; Ron Higdon, Broadway Baptist, Louisville; Roger Lovette, First Baptist, Clemson, SC; D. L. Lowrie, First Baptist, Lubbock, TX; J. Alfred Smith, Allen Temple Baptist, Oakland, CA; James Barry, Baptist Sunday School Board; plus Southern Seminary preaching faculty.

For information on cost and registration, call the seminary, toll-free, 800-626-5525 (in KY, call 502-897-4315).



The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
2825 Lexington Road • Louisville, KY 40280

Attending a Home Missions Teleconference Is Almost Like Being There In Person

February 8, 1986
12:00-1:30 P.M. CST

Teleconference Highlights:

- Interview with Dorothy Sample, William Tanner, James Smith
- Interviews with home missionaries
- Theme interpretation which can be taped and used during the week of prayer
- Spotlight on a church which promotes strongly the Week of Prayer for Home Missions and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
- Questions called in from teleconference viewers answered by missions leaders

Broadcast over Baptist Telecommunication Network, Spacenet I, channel 21-transponder 11; and ACTS, Spacenet I, channel 15-transponder 8. The signal will not be scrambled for this event.



International

Use possessions wisely

by Nan Ashcraft, Hurricane Lake Church, Benton

Basic passage: Matthew 6:19-21; Luke 12:13-21,27-34

Focal passage: Luke 12:13-21,27-34

Central truth: Possessions are used wisely in accord with Jesus' teachings.

This unit of study focuses on practical disciplines of Christian life. Included in these directions is the wise use of possessions.

Jesus instructed his disciples not to expend energies pursuing wealth and possessions, "But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Matt. 6:20-21).

The believer's first consideration is the kingdom of God, with implications that the whole of one's life is to be brought under his government. The sheer loving of this treasure is not misplaced: unlike transitory material possessions, this treasure is ours now and hereafter.

In today's setting, Jesus was teaching eternal truths to an innumerable multitude of people who jammed around him, when a voice from the crowd called out: "Master, speak to my brother that he divide the inheritance with me" (v. 13).

Jesus' answer brought his truth clearly into focus with a parable that spoke to the man's need. In this parable of the rich fool, Jesus exposed the sin of covetousness of material things. This already-rich farmer was in a quandary because his already-full barns would not accommodate the bumper crop his farm had produced.

The self-seeking farmer had a problem. He had made material possessions his god and had failed to store up true riches. He had lost sight of duty to God and neighbor. His time was up. God called him a fool.

God is owner of all things. Man's position in God's world comes under management; therefore as managers we will give account to him. We evaluate how wisely we use possessions by light of Jesus' teachings.

Jesus warned against covetousness and against anxious thought to physical needs. "For all these things do the nations of the world seek after; And your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things. But rather seek ye the kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added unto you" (Luke 12:30-31).

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

Life and Work

Trust Christ

by C. Michael Anders, First Church, Sherwood

Basic passage: Matthew 11:1-30

Focal passage: Matthew 11:2-6,25-30

Central truth: Trust in Christ relieves doubts and fulfills expectations.

In this passage, John the Baptist serves as an example of a very real problem in the Christian life, the problem of doubts. We can be encouraged to know that we share our struggles and our doubts with such a prominent character in the Bible. We can also learn from him how to handle our doubts.

As this chapter opens, we find John in prison. Surely John did not expect to be in prison after the Messiah had finally come. When his expectations were not met, he began to doubt. He sent a messenger to inquire whether Jesus was really the Messiah or whether his expectations were wrong.

John shows us a healthy way to handle our doubts. He was not afraid of admitting his doubts. He did not try to deny his honest disappointment. Most importantly, he did not attempt to shield his feelings from God. Boldly, John presented his case before Jesus, fully expecting an answer.

In the same way, we do not need to fear admitting our honest doubts. God is not so easily threatened he cannot handle our little doubts. We, too, can tell Jesus about our doubts and expect him to hear and answer.

Jesus responded to John by pointing to the positive experiences of others. It was as if Jesus were saying, "John, just now circumstances are not going well for you, but that does not mean that God is not at work. You can take heart in the testimonies of others who are experiencing the extraordinary power of God at work in their lives. Their testimony should keep you going."

In the second focal passage, Jesus gives the answer to doubt. The way of faith is not revealed to those who are merely intelligent and wise, but to those who can have a childlike trust even in the face of doubt. Trust in Jesus is the only way to know God. Smart men may always be able to raise objections and doubts, but the kingdom of God is given to those who have faith.

The person who comes to Jesus in simple faith will find the promised rest of God. Jesus wants to make our yoke easy and our burden light. Life is hard for everyone. But even heavy burdens seem light and intense suffering seems easy when we know we are walking with Jesus at our side.

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

Bible Book

True faith and riches

by Jim Byrum, Toltec Church, Scott

Basic passage: 1 Timothy 6:2b-21

Focal passage: 1 Timothy 6:6-20

Central truth: False teachers can be distinguished from godly by their motives.

False teachers have certain tell-tale characteristics.

(1) They are conceited. They magnify self, not Christ, and they seek popular acclaim. Their work is self-centered, not Christ-centered. They often attract large crowds but the results are never lasting. When they leave, the crowds leave.

(2) They are shallow and superficial. "Controversial questions and disputes about words" comprise their teachings. They glibly discuss the theology of the atonement but have not experienced its cleansing. They argue and speculate upon the commandments of God, but the Law remains upon tablets of stone instead of becoming implanted in their hearts.

(3) They always cause trouble. In the wake of their teaching arise envy, strife, verbal abuse, evil suspicion and constant friction. Instead of bringing peace they bring disorder and confusion.

(4) They are greedy. They commercialize religion, supposing that "godliness is a means of gain." They preach for profit. It is clear the Bible teaches God's preachers should be properly paid, but they must never preach for money.

The true man of God, on the other hand, has certain identifying characteristics.

(1) He is content. There is a peace in his life that is evident. He has certain basic needs, of course, but he knows that God will supply his every need. His joy comes because his name is written in Heaven, not because of some personal achievement.

(2) He is not greedy. He serves Jesus because he loves him, not because there is profit in it. He knows the love of money is the cause of all evil, and those who are deceived by it fall into all kinds of sin-traps of Satan leading to their ruin and destruction.

(3) He has a noble character. He lives by faith, and he loves the Lord and his Christian brothers. He stays with his assigned task until it is completed, and he acts in gentleness toward all.

(4) He fights the good fight of faith. Because he is a faithful soldier, he keeps his King's commandments and teaches faithfully the whole counsel of God.

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.

Subscriber Services

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

Every Resident Family Plan gives churches a premium rate when they send the Newsmagazine to all their resident households. Resident families are calculated to be at least one-fourth of the church's Sunday School enrollment. Churches who send only to members who request a subscription do not qualify for this lower rate of \$5.40 per year for each subscription.

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

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

Name _____
Street _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____

through the group plan pay \$6 per year.

Individual subscriptions may be purchased by anyone at the rate of \$6.36 per year. These subscriptions are more costly because they require individual attention for address changes and renewal notices.

Changes of address by individuals may be made using the form above, which appears regularly in this space.

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

Court upholds aid to blind ministerial student

WASHINGTON (BP)—The U.S. Supreme Court ruled Jan. 27 the Constitution's First Amendment ban on an establishment of religion does not mean that a blind student may not receive state vocational funds because he is studying for the ministry at a Bible college.

At the same time, the high court informed the Washington Supreme Court it may apply that state's stricter ban on any form of aid to sectarian institutions if it chooses to do so.

In a unanimous ruling, the court nevertheless reversed a Washington Supreme Court decision that the federal constitution forbids assistance such as that claimed by Larry Witters, the blind ministerial student who has pursued religious training at Inland Empire School of the Bible, a private Christian college in Spokane, Wash.

Justice Thurgood Marshall, who consistently has voted against state efforts to fund sectarian schools at the elementary and secondary levels, disagreed with the lower court's finding that Witters' use of state funds for religious training had the primary effect of advancing religion.

Noting the "well-settled" precedent "that the Establishment Clause is not violated every time money previously in the possession of a State is conveyed to a religious institution," Marshall wrote that Witters' choice to spend vocational funds for

religious education was his, not the state's. He wrote further that no "significant portion" of the funds expended under the Washington program "will end up flowing to religious education," and that Witters' choice does not "confer any message of state endorsement of religion."

At the same time, Marshall stopped short of ruling that the First Amendment's free exercise clause requires states to provide vocational funds to students like Witter. To do so, Marshall wrote, would be to "leapfrog" to a conclusion not warranted, especially because the Washington Supreme Court may choose now to apply its own state's "far stricter" prohibition against spending state funds for sectarian purposes.

In his opinion for the court, Marshall studiously avoided using the rationale expressed by a bare 5-4 majority two years ago in upholding a Minnesota law providing state income tax deductions for parents who send their children to parochial schools. Taking note of Marshall's omission, Justice Lewis F. Powell Jr.—speaking for himself and Chief Justice Warren E. Burger and Justice William H. Rehnquist—said he joined the opinion "on the understanding that nothing we do today lessens the authority" of the Minnesota ruling.

Justices Byron R. White and Sandra Day O'Connor also issued separate concurring opinions.

Conference calls for peace making

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (BP)—Christians searching for ways to work for peace in a nuclear age were challenged at a conference on peace with justice to turn their homes and churches into "workshops for reconciliation."

E. Glenn Hinson, professor of church history at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., urged fellow Southern Baptists "to practice peacemaking where we are." To be effective advocates for peace, "we must know the God of peace and the peace of God ourselves," he said. "We can't offer the world something we don't have."

Hinson and other speakers offered suggestions for peacemaking during the two-day meeting at Charlotte's Providence Church. Approximately 135 pastors, educators and lay leaders attended the regional conference sponsored by the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission.

Hinson emphasized that Christians who are concerned about peace must face "the fear factor" which often undermines peacemaking efforts. Fear has caused "irrational things to happen in defense of nuclear arms proliferation or in defense of things we as a nation have done (militarily) in the past," he said.

Fear also "can cause us to be subject to manipulation," Hinson added. Both religious

and secular leaders frequently employ intimidation to try to control other groups or individuals, he said. The Bible, he stressed, teaches that "it is only love that can cast out fear. The question is whether we and our churches are really putting people in touch with the source."

Jim Hug of the Center of Concern, a Catholic think tank on social and economic issues in Washington, said, "It is time for us to wake up and admit we are doing something terribly wrong." While "billions and now trillions of dollars" are poured into the Pentagon and the military-related industry, 33 million people—one out of every seven persons—are living in poverty, he noted.

The strategy of "peace through strength," Hug said, requires a tremendous industrial infrastructure dedicated to military production. He claimed this commitment to arms production is inflationary, produces goods that are not productive for society, drains talent from society that could be used to help meet other areas of human need and produces fewer jobs for less people than other forms of industry.

"As we build up our military capabilities, we are actually waging war on our women and children, the poor and the powerless, the very people with whom Jesus identified most," he said.

017557 COMP 2230
HISTORICAL COMMISSION
901 COMMERCIAL ST #400
NASHVILLE TN 37203