

Ouachita Baptist University

Scholarly Commons @ Ouachita

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1985-1989

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

9-3-1987

September 3, 1987

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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

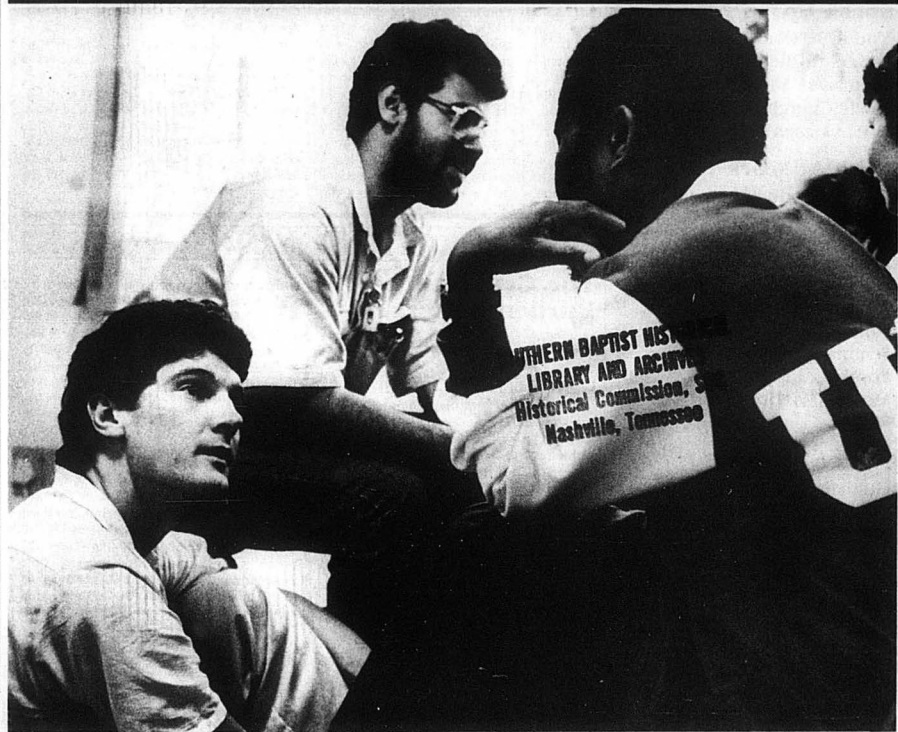


Part of the [Christian Denominations and Sects Commons](#), and the [Mass Communication Commons](#)

Antidote for Discord

Arkansas Baptist

September 3, 1987



In This Issue

Cover Story



(BP) photo / Robert O'Brien

Dispelling Discord . . . 14-15

A Baptist Student Union in Cape Town, South Africa, is helping students discover the antidote for the racial hatred which divides that country.

Editor's Page 3

Speak Up

You'll Be Glad To Know . . . 4

Letters to the Editor 4

Woman's Viewpoint 4

Small Church Emphasis 5

One Layman's Opinion 5

Faith At Work

Witnessing In the Army 6

Local & State

Budget Proposal Adopted . . . 7

Arkansas All Over 8-9

Indiana Trip 9

Noteburning 9

Seminary Studies 9

Foothills Progress 10

Morses Honored 10

Singles Conference 10

Nation

Guidelines Adopted 11

President Elected 12

July CP 10th 12

Lessons For Living . . 13

World

Policies In Line 16

IT'S UPLIFTING

Church-planting Strategies Vary

Missionary Terry Buford studied how others plant churches, but found he had to develop his own strategies for beginning churches in the province of Benquet, Philippines. The missionary's first attempt to start a new church began with the people of Talinguroy, a village in need of a water supply. Four of the village leaders came to Judy Yost, Southern Baptist missionary nurse in the area, requesting funds for pipes and reservoir. Judy used her allotted funds to purchase the necessary materials, and Buford began climbing the mountain to lead weekly Bible studies in the village. Attendance has usually run about 20-30 adults. "It was a thrill during one of our home visits to learn that after two months of Bible studies, two of the couples were reading the Bible together every night. "Three of these were baptized," Buford reports. Because people in the area respond better to an American when he is accompanied by a Filipino, and because Buford's Ilocano language skills are still new, he prayed for a Filipino to help him start a Bible study in a second location. After a while, several college students from his local church asked him to begin a second work in their home area. When a project was initiated to teach literacy to Ilocanos, Buford helped produce the primers used as an evangelical tool and

to assist in discipling those who before then could not read. He sees the literacy projects as a stepping stone to beginning and growing stronger churches in the area.

Missionary Struggled With God's Calling

Ken Collier cried as he told an appointment service audience about the day when he could no longer use his two little girls as an excuse not to serve overseas. At a pastors' conference and WMU conference, Collier's wife, Ginger, asked him, "Have you ever considered foreign missions?" Collier, a minister of education and outreach, gave his wife an emphatic no, explaining, "That's not God's plan for my life." But all week he struggled with that question. At home at bedtime, she again raised the question and "very frustratedly I told her that I was not interested and concluded by saying, 'I can't imagine raising my two little girls in some God-forsaken country. "Ginger turned over and went to sleep. But I couldn't," he said. He lay awake for hours. "Somewhere in the early hours of the morning, I felt God's presence in my room. I heard God say to me, 'Ken, if those two little girls that I gave you are in your way, I can take them back.'" Collier recalled with tears. "And I had to say, 'Lord, here am I, send me.'" The Colliers are in language school in Brazil.

GOOD NEWS!

The Cry of a Burdened Heart

Habakkuk 1:2-4

Even those of strong faith are tempted to cry out at times and ask where God is.

The prophet was overwhelmed by the injustice and violence he saw on every hand. The wicked triumphed over the righteous and God's judgement was not to be seen. The prophet cried out, "Why, Lord? How long?"

In the movie "Demetrius and the Gladiators," the new Christian Demetrius watches as the girl he loves is taken from him by Roman soldiers. As a lad who watched that movie, I too cried out with him as he asked God to intervene and save the girl. In that scene there was no help given. I wondered why God would not save the dedicated young Christian and hear Demetrius' prayer.

All pastors have heard this cry many times from God's children. A young father

is dying of cancer and will leave his wife and two small children. "Why?" he asks.

A 12-year-old boy suffered brain damage and was left crippled as a result of a car accident. His mother asks me, "Why?" It is one of the oldest philosophical questions of mankind.

God's Answers May Be Negative

Habakkuk 2:1-2

God's first answer to the prophet is hard to believe. The ungodly Chaldeans will be God's instrument of punishment. They will be so powerful and thorough in their destruction, they will seem superhuman to God's people. The wicked often seem this way to us, don't they?

Adapted from "Proclaim," July-Sept. 1980. Copyright 1980 The Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. All rights reserved. Used by permission. For subscription information, write to Material Services Dept., 127 Ninth Ave. North, Nashville, TN 37234.

Prayer Partners

J. EVERETT SNEED

During a revival several years ago in which I was the evangelist, the pastor selected a prayer partner for each new convert. Careful instructions were given to the prayer partners every time a profession of faith was made. Each partner was to pray specifically for the needs of the others and both were to pray for their church, the pastor, and the lost friends in the community. The plan is excellent from both practical and theological standpoints.

The prayer partner plan is helpful in that it immediately stresses the importance of prayer to new converts. One of the greatest unclaimed resources available to Christians is prayer. Everyone is a creature of habit. If a person fails to form the pattern soon after his conversion, he may never utilize this resource. Certainly, he will not have this blessing as soon as he should.

Paul stressed the importance of prayer as he said, "Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints" (Ep. 6:18). The apostle concludes that prayer is the greatest protection Christians have against the forces of evil.

Paul suggests three things which make prayer effective. First, it should be constant. The Christian is to utilize prayer "always." Yet, all too often, we only pray when we are confronted by the great crises of life. The prayer partner plan shows the need of prayer for daily strength.

Paul further says that the Christian is to pray with "all perseverance." Prayer must continue in the face of those things which sidetrack us or consume our time.

Finally, prayer should be unselfish. Paul instructs Christians to pray "for all saints" (every Christian). Sometimes our prayers are too much for ourselves and too little for others. We need to learn to pray as much and as intently for others as we do for ourselves. The prayer partner plan teaches new Christians the importance of praying for others.

The prayer partner plan recognizes the new convert's need for Christian friends and support. When a person is saved, he is a baby in God's kingdom, no matter how old he is chronologically. Often the new convert has many lost friends who will try to continue his involvement in worldly activities. The prayer partner plan immediately involves a Christian friend to help in this



difficult transition.

The prayer partner plan seeks to match a new convert with a person who has been a Christian for some time. The prayer partner should be of approximately the same age and sex. If possible, the pastor should match people who have the same interests.

The prayer partner plan can be effective in reaching lost people. Most new converts have a large number of lost friends. He may know more unsaved people at that time than ever again in his life. The prayer partner instructs him to pray for those people immediately. Often the Lord uses the new convert's prayers and zeal to reach his lost or unchurched friends.

It is important for persons who have made professions of faith to immediately become involved in witnessing activities. Experience shows that people who are not

involved in witnessing shortly after their conversion are not likely to ever become involved. Jesus recognized the close link between prayer and involvement as he said, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest" (Mt. 9:37-38).

Jesus emphasized his desire to reach men. The same challenge is for every Christian to become involved in reaping the harvest of lost. The prayer partner plan recognizes this need.

The prayer partner also enables individuals to mutually draw strength from God. Even our Lord on occasion sought the fellowship of prayer with others.

When Jesus faced the agony of the cross, he took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee with him to pray. He said, "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me."

However, the three fell asleep. Jesus came a second time and said, "What, could you not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak" (See Mt. 26:37-46).

There undoubtedly were two reasons why Jesus wished to pray with Peter and the sons of Zebedee. First, the disciples needed the strength derived from prayer for the ordeal that was to face them. Second, in his humanity, our Lord needed the strength and fellowship that could have been derived from the fellowship of prayer with those of the inner circle.

The prayer partner plan works. We would encourage churches to utilize this excellent plan of involving those who have matured in the Lord with those who are babes in Christ.

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

VOLUME 86

NUMBER 34

J. Everett Sneed, Ph.D. Editor
Mark Kelly Managing Editor
Erwin L. McDonald, Litt. D. . . . Editor Emeritus

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine Board of Directors:
Lyndon Finney, Little Rock, president; Henry G. West Jr.,
Blytheville; Joanne Caldwell, Texarkana; Charles Chesner, Carle,
Leroy French, Fort Smith; the Hon. Eljaine Roy, Little Rock;
Phelan Boone, El Dorado; Harold Gately, Fayetteville; and Don
Heuer, Batesville.

Letters to the editor expressing opinions are invited. Letters should be typed double-spaced 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 (ISSN 0004-1734) is published weekly, except Easter, Independence Day, the first week of October, and Christmas, by the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, Inc., Little Rock, AR. Subscription rates are \$6.48 per year (individual), \$5.52 per year (Every Resident Family Plan), \$6.12 per year (Group Plan). Foreign address rates on request. Second class postage paid at Little Rock, Ark.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, P. O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203. (376-4791)

DON MOORE

You'll Be Glad To Know

Arkansas Baptist agencies cannot solicit extra funds from our churches unless the convention in session votes for it to be done.

Bylaw 4, page 24, 1986 Annual, ABSC, states "No trusteeship shall conduct extra movements to raise money outside its regular revenue-producing sources... without the approval of the Convention..." A question is immediately faced. What are the "regular revenue-producing sources"? For many years individual gifts to agencies and institutions have been recognized, approved, and encouraged.

What has not been approved, except for the Ouachita-Southern Campaign and the BSU Third Century Campaign, has been direct appeals to churches. Recently a number of questions have been raised about some direct appeals to individuals. The precedent and interpretation as stated above is the basis for these appeals.

Before 1925 all of our churches were bombarded with direct appeals for support of each agency and institution in our state. The churches were under pressure, resentful and even hurt by the fact that no part of the dollars raised were left with the church. With the coming of the Cooperative Program, direct appeals to the churches for separate support of each institution was stopped, and now they are all supported through the one fund, the Cooperative Program.

However, the encouragement of individual contributions to our various institutions has continued. Cooperative Program support has never grown to where our institutions could survive on it alone. Our schools and Family and Child Care ministry are still in ministry because of individuals support beyond their church's gifts through the Cooperative Program.

Ouachita receives 18.3 percent, Southern Baptist College receives 20 percent, Family and Child Care receives 22 percent of their budgets from the Cooperative Program. It is clear they could not survive on Cooperative Program funds alone.

Until our churches catch the vision and grow in their stewardship through the Cooperative Program, our agencies and institutions will have to depend on individual contributions for their survival.

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



Letters to the Editor

Bi-vocational blessings

"Bi-vocational Frustrations" by Dale Holloway brought back memories about part time preaching, working pastorates, and so forth. I have always contended there was no such thing as part-time pastoring and wondered about bi-vocational. It seems to me that secular employment was always a tool for me in spreading the gospel of our Lord. Matthew 18:19-20 teaches us "as we go" about our affairs make, teach, and baptize.

For the first 12 years of my ministry I was a bi-vocational pastor and enjoyed most every minute of it. I never seemed to have to put on different coats of role playing as I came from job to pulpit, so to speak. As for respect you have to earn respect both in and out of the pastoral role. Ministry for me has been as great at work (secular) as it has in the church office or on the parish field. Counseling, witnessing, etc., were counted as ministry whether on the job or the church field. In fact a secularly

employed preacher can be an asset to any company which realizes such a person as God called.

I worked for one firm for a great number of years as a supervisor. I was not only respected by my employer but also by those directly under my supervision. Opportunities arose to represent Christ at the place of employment that never came about in the pastor's study or on his church field.

It was my custom to open the office where I worked about one hour before others arrived in the mornings. On many occasions someone would be there waiting to see me about a particular problem, such as family, finance, religious, etc.

So my advice to you if you are bi-vocational is this. You are one of God's chosen few as to have two fields of ministry (added responsibilities). God knows you are a special person or he would not put you where you are. You are his man for the hour. God bless you.—J.C. Singleton, Eudora

Woman's Viewpoint

God Will Bless America, If . . .

SHERRY THRASHER

"God bless America, my home sweet home": . . . just words from a song? Do we sing them without really thinking of what they mean to us?

Every year around the Fourth of July, our pride swells as we recall the historical events which have taken place to give us these United States. We remember pilgrims who had the courage to step forth into a new land, minutemen who fought against tyranny, forefathers who prepared and signed our great Constitution, and men who fought to preserve these rights in the wars of our great nation (World War I, II, Korean War, Vietnam). These were people of great courage and spiritual strength.

God told Joshua, another man of courage: ". . . Now therefore arise,



go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel. . . As I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. Be strong and of a good courage. . . Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, . . . turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest. . ." (Js. 1:2b, 5b, 6, 7).

Could we not apply this scripture to America? Our forefathers fought under

the banner of God to secure our freedom, liberty and justice. Do we dare let down now? We are a blessed nation, but look at what's happened to prayer in public schools. Look at the unborn children who die with no protection except our cries of "No, not in our country!" The list goes on.

We must fight back. We must teach our children to love God's Word, to pray without ceasing, and to witness. We must seek God's will and accept the challenges to support his will with our lives and the lives of our children for we are his instruments.

God has and will continue to bless America if we "turn not from it to the right hand or to the left."

Sherry Thrasher is the wife of the pastor of First Church, Booneville, and the mother of two children.

Stewardship and Evangelism

DALE HOLLOWAY

In our convention the great majority of our churches have less than 250 members. The median church size has 237 total members, 116 enrolled in Sunday School, and an average of 65 in Sunday School. The question arises can churches of this size have proper stewardship and evangelism programs?

Stewardship is the recognition that as children of God we have been created and commissioned to care for the earth and all that is within it. God does not just expect us to return 10 percent of our possessions to him. On the contrary, we are responsible for the use of 100 percent of our time, talent and possessions. The psalmist captured it well as he said, "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein" (Ps. 24:1).

Many small churches do a good job at stewardship. They have frequently been conservative in the best sense of the word, that is, they have conserved what is valuable and needed. Studies have shown that people in small churches give a higher percentage of their income and work harder than many people do in the larger churches. In addition, many small churches give a higher percentage of their income to the Cooperative Program than do larger churches.

It has been said that Christians who are not proper stewards would be if they were taught what the New Testament teaches about stewardship. In a smaller church it is often easier to teach the meaning of New Testament stewardship to the church leadership. This is because the church leaders are fewer in number and are often good New Testament students.

Particularly in rural churches where many or most of the members are gardeners or farmers, people have a great appreciation for life processes, the goodness of the soil and the importance of living with God's natural laws. In situations such as this members can easily be taught to understand the stewardship of both time and possessions given by individuals such as Abraham, Paul and Barnabas.

A budget for a small church is just as essential as it is for a larger one. Subscrib-

ing a budget in a small church, however, often must be approached in a different manner than it is in a larger church. Many small churches react negatively to an every member canvas or to a loyalty Sunday. A sermon on stewardship and one letter encouraging members to pledge is often much better received.

The stewardship revival in which a guest speaker discusses various facets of stewardship during a three to five day series of meetings often reaps excellent results in small churches. In such an effort the guest would discuss the biblical basis for stewardship, the work of the Cooperative Program, and the necessity of each individual being the kind of steward God would have him to be.

Sometimes small churches have been criticized for their lack of evangelism. In a very few instances such criticism may be valid. In most instances, however, warm and vital small churches have not grown because of their location. Many churches are small because they are planted in small communities. There are not a large number of prospects. In such a situation the church will always remain small.

Evangelism is sharing and living out the good news that God cares for all people and sharing your personal experience with those within your community. Fortunately today Southern Baptists have developed a number of methods by which individuals can share their witness with others. Among these are the Lay Evangelism School and Continuous Witness Training (CWT).

Can small churches carry on effective stewardship and evangelism programs? The answer is a resounding yes! Fortunately today there is a fresh breeze in the SBC in the direction of small churches. Our agencies are providing encouragement, materials and leadership training. We are now amplifying what we have always known. The small church is exceedingly important to Southern Baptists. Apart from them Southern Baptists could never be all that God wants us to be.

Dale Holloway is a national consultant for bi-vocational ministries for the SBC Home Mission Board. He was a bi-vocational pastor for 33 years.

DANIEL R. GRANT

One Layman's Opinion



Leaders As Teachers

We hear a lot these days about the need for our classroom teachers to be

leaders. Probably the best way for teachers to achieve their classroom objectives is to be a personal living example of what is being taught. The other side of that coin is probably an even greater truth. Persons in high positions of leadership—in government, business, church, and the community—do their best work when they teach.

In a funny little way I think I saw an example of this a couple of years ago. It was given only one inch of space in the daily newspaper, but it represented a long leap forward for the country of Thailand in Southeast Asia. The little news item in the paper reported that Queen Sirikit of Thailand took 34 guests, including 20 ladies-in-waiting, to a performance in New York of the long-running Broadway musical production of "The King and I." This is the play in which Yul Brynner played a 19th century ruler of Thailand (then Siam), who fell in love with an Englishwoman, and was influenced to institute democratic reforms in the absolute monarchy. After the performance Queen Sirikit was quoted as saying she thought the show was "fun."

Many people do not know what a sharp break with tradition Queen Sirikit was taking. When I lived in Thailand for a year, the movie of "The King and I" was playing in all the major cities of Southeast Asia—all, that is, except in Thailand. There was a strong royal taboo against the film, which was not allowed to show in that country. It was considered to be insulting to the dignity of Thailand, and it was not seen as innocent humor at all. What a shame it was that millions of Thai people were denied the privilege of seeing such a delightfully humorous movie, even if fictitious and seriously bad history.

Queen Sirikit took a long and remarkable step when she decided to ignore the taboo and see the play. It was even more commendable when she spoke of the show as fun. The world will be a better place for all of us when our leaders can teach us to take ourselves a little less seriously.

Daniel R. Grant is president of Ouachita Baptist University.

Seminary Students Witness In Army

by Breena Kent Paine
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

NEW ORLEANS (BP)—Witnessing in the military is not easy, according to two seminary students who have experience in the field.

David Coram, who is a helicopter pilot in the Army National Guard, said the military is "one of the most unreached units. . . . It's more difficult to be a Christian in the military and to make that known. . . . You can be isolated soon" because of the constant pressure to participate in "secular-oriented" entertainment. "Lifestyle witnessing is the most effective by far."

Coram, from Tampa, Fla., may be a chaplain one day, but right now he feels he can best minister in the military as a helicopter pilot. A student at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, he said: "I considered going into the chaplaincy program when I came here, and I'm still thinking about it when I graduate, but I felt that I could better witness as a pilot. I felt I would have better rapport being one of them."

Recently, Coram swore a fellow seminary student, Jerald McGowin, into the chaplain's candidacy program. Although McGowin will not actually be a chaplain until he graduates from seminary, he has been a chaplain's assistant in the U.S. Coast Guard and knows the special needs of military personnel.

"It's difficult to witness to someone in a lower grade," said the Brookwood, Ala., native, because it would seem like pressure. "And it's difficult to witness to someone higher, because you're telling him he's a sinner and going to die."

McGowin observed, "Witnessing is such a long haul" in the military. "One fellow I led to the Lord had already been witness-



David Coram (left) recently swore fellow New Orleans seminary student Jerald McGowin (right) into the chaplain's candidacy program.

ed to over a period of three years at different bases, and I just happened to be there at the time to lead him to the Lord. . . . Very rarely do you see the results of your own witnessing. It's the idea of planting a seed" — some plant, some water, some reap, "but most of it is watering," he said.

Coram and McGowin also have discovered effective witnessing through their wives. As their wives witness to the spouses of military men, bridges are built

for Coram and McGowin to witness. McGowin said his wife "helps my ministry to be more effective."

Both Coram and McGowin received their calls to the ministry while on active duty, both are students at New Orleans Seminary, both teach at Cameron Community College, and their wives are both students at the seminary.

But most important, both have dedicated their lives to sharing the gospel with men in the military.

Pastors and Wives Conference

led by Paul and Mary Burleson

Central Baptist Church, Jonesboro
October 5-7, 1987

Conference Topics

- How to have a Godly marriage and be a pastor at the same time
- How to develop a positive spirit within a church
- Principles of staff relationships: How to develop a family spirit within a staff
- How to be a pastor's wife and not be bitter
- Raising children, "Those PKs"



To register, write: Rex Holt, Central Baptist Church
1010 S. Main, Jonesboro, AR 72401, or call 501-935-1950



Paul Seal

"From Me To You"

- ✓ Help insure the success of your special event: church, civic, or school
- ✓ Supply preaching
- ✓ After-dinner speaking
- ✓ Retreats

Call 501-425-9879
for further information

Budget Proposal Adopted

by Mark Kelly

Managing Editor, Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

The Arkansas Baptist State Convention Executive Board adopted a proposed budget of \$12.87 million for 1988 in a meeting Aug. 25 at the Baptist Medical Center in Little Rock.

The proposed budget represents an increase of 5.5 percent over projected receipts for 1987 and will send 40.89 percent of Cooperative Program receipts on to Southern Baptists' worldwide mission program.

ABSC Executive Director Don Moore told Executive Board members that 1987 receipts are running at 98.34 percent of the year's \$12.2 million budget. That represents an increase of 4.07 percent over 1986.

ABSC Associate Executive Director Jimmie Sheffield pointed out that the 1988 proposal attempts to strike a balance between fiscal realism and a "faith challenge" for the churches of Arkansas. The new budget is based on the fact that state convention receipts have increased an average of 5 percent each year since 1983, Sheffield noted, and attempts to correct the fact that Arkansas Baptist churches have not met a state convention budget since 1981.

At the same time, however, the 1988 budget anticipates a higher than average annual increase in receipts due to the "Missions Advance 87-89" campaign currently underway across the state. State convention leaders expect receipts to climb above the average annual increase as congregations respond to challenges from the Missions Advance team of speakers.

ABSC Business Services Director Dan Jordan outlined for board members the adjustments required by the introduction of increased amounts for Southern Baptist College and the Expanded Annuity Plan in the budget formula. When messengers

voted in 1983 and 1984 to increase the percentage share of receipts for these two areas by \$50,000 and up to \$188,000, respectively, all other budget areas had to be reduced accordingly. The actual amount for the Expanded Annuity Plan for 1988 will be \$187,500.

Consequently, the 40.89 percent of receipts passed along to the national Cooperative Program represented a mixed figure. Although an increase of 0.25 percent over the previous year's percentage, the national CP percentage was reduced proportionally along with all other budget areas because of the additional monies allocated to Southern College and the annuity plan. Apart from the adjustment, the national percentage share would have been 41.66.

In other business, board members adopted recommendations to allow the Arkansas Baptist Foundation to use for operating expenses during the next five years any income earned through the investment of undesignated trust funds. The Foundation receives no additional funding outside the Cooperative Program, and the additional \$3,000 the proposal would generate is needed for operational expenses, explained Jerry Wilson, chairman of the Finance Committee.

Board members also reviewed goals for 1988 state convention programs and approved a recommendation to convert remaining funds designated for the study of a proposed state convention conference center for the purpose of helping furnish the motel-style guest housing currently under construction at Camp Paron.

An ABSC Nominating Committee report also was approved which filled four vacant Executive Board positions. David Moore of Pine Bluff replaced Jack Ramsey, Terrill Huff of Jonesboro replaced Mikel Carrier, Bill Riddle of Green Forest replaced Rich

Kincl, and Beth Reynolds of Alicia replaced J.R. Hull.

A recommendation also was adopted to participate in the 1990 nationwide simultaneous revivals planned around the theme, "Here's Hope, Jesus Cares For You." The recommendation encourages churches in eastern Arkansas to schedule revivals the week of March 18-25, 1990, and in western Arkansas the week of April 1-8.

Board members received a report from Allen Thrasher that 146 Arkansas Baptist congregations had invited speakers participating in the Missions Advance 87-89 emphasis. Of the 40 churches which had already conducted an emphasis, 26 had made commitments to increased Cooperative Program giving, Thrasher explained.

Four men who have been recently hired to fill vacant ABSC staff positions shared their testimonies with board members. David James, state director of Baptist Student Union; Scott Willis, BSU director at Arkansas Tech; Bruce Venable, associate BSU director at Arkansas State; and John Belken, chaplain at the Arkansas Department of Correction Cummins Unit all related their Christian experience for the board.

ABSC Executive Director Don Moore also told board members that projections for 1987 indicate an increase in baptisms for the state. In addition, Moore noted that 14 new mission efforts had been launched during 1987. A goal of 45 new works has been set for 1988, followed by 30 new starts each year.

An increase in the number of church staff members receiving assistance after forced termination has been noted in 1987 also, Moore explained. Twelve such staff persons have received monetary assistance from state convention funds designated for that purpose. In addition, Moore said 502 persons have received counseling assistance from the state convention's Ministry of Crisis Support, an increase of at least 40 over 1986.

Recommendations adopted by the Executive Board will be presented to messengers at the state convention annual meeting Nov. 17-18 at First Church, Fort Smith.

A SMILE OR TWO

"My son wants to be an entrepreneur. He says that's someone who begins with nothing, gets an idea, raises money, works 80 hours a week—and gets rich. And he's made a good start—already he's got the nothing.

—Herb True

LETZGO SKIING

— Providing the atmosphere for effective ministry —

We specialize in planning ski trips for church groups.

Marvin Spees — Tom Petersen
P.O. Box 2262
Topeka, KS 66601
(913)234-3410

Arkansas All Over

MILLIE GILL

People



Damron



Branum



Walker

Alan Damron, minister of evangelism of First Church, Springdale, has assumed the added responsibility of University Minister. Sunday, Sept. 13, will be kick-off Sunday for the church's new university Sunday School class.

Irene Branum of Arkadelphia participated in the missions vespers portion of the Woman's Missionary Union Conference Aug. 22-28 at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center. Branum is a retired Southern Baptist foreign missionary, having served for 36 years in China and Korea.

Murl Walker will observe 50 years in the preaching ministry Sept. 12. He is serving as pastor of North Park Chapel in Van Buren, a mission of Van Buren First Church that is averaging 65 in attendance. Walker's ministry has included 41 years of service in Arkansas, 16 of these on the staff of Van Buren First Church. He served for nine years in Oklahoma.

Jerry Ray was ordained to the preaching ministry Aug. 23 at First Church, Beebe. He serves as pastor of New Hope Church.

W.W. Dishongh has resigned Aug. 30 as part-time pastor of Lancaster Road Church in Little Rock. He will continue his service as chaplain for Pulaski County Jail.

Polly Moore has been elected by Osceola First Church to serve as church organist.

Donald W. Parks resigned Aug. 31 as associate pastor of music and senior adults at Jacksonville First Church to join the staff of Central Church in Marshall, Texas, as minister of music and senior adults.

Billy David George died Aug. 18 at age 52 at his home in Little Rock. He was a member and deacon of West Side Church in Little Rock and was a veteran of the Korean War. His funeral services were held Aug. 20. Survivors include his wife, Jean Tate George; and a son, Darren George;

both of Little Rock; a daughter, Becky Roberts of Jacksonville, Fla.; his father and stepmother, Mr. and Mrs. D.M. George of Ola; two brothers; and two sisters.

Joe Wofford will join the staff of Pickles Gap Church, Conway, Sept. 6 as minister of music and youth, going there from First Church, Marianna.

E.H. Puckett is serving as pastor of Petty's Chapel, Marianna. He was ordained to the preaching ministry Aug. 2 by First Church, Marvell.

D.C. McAtee of Forrest City began serving Aug. 16 as interim pastor of First Church, Marvell.

Buddy Carter is serving First Church, Clarendon, as interim pastor. He is a student at Mid-America Seminary.

Gerald H. Garrett was ordained to the preaching ministry July 26 at Cherokee Village First Church where he was a former member. Garrett is now serving as pastor of Ash Flat First Church. He is a retired U.S. Postal Service employee, following 29 years of service, and has attended Criswell Institute of Biblical Study. Participating in the ordination service were Jesse Taylor, director of missions for Rocky Bayou Association, D. Bernard Beasley, pastor of Hardy First Church, and Robin Allen, pastor of Cherokee Village First Church.

Rick Domerese is serving as pastor of Gamaliel Mission in White River Association. He and his wife, Debbie, and their children will reside in a mobile home purchased for the mission by East Side Church, Mountain Home.

Patty Huston was recently recognized by Rosedale Church, Little Rock, for her nine years of service as church organist. She also was presented with a certificate for eight years of perfect attendance in Sunday School, morning worship services, Church Training, and evening worship services, completed on July 26, 1987.

Elbert Williams is serving as pastor of Royal Oaks Mission in Sherwood. Williams, a bivocational pastor for 15 years, will be assisted with the work by 28 members from First Church, Sherwood, mission sponsor, and three Baptist Student Union members attending the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

Doug Martin is serving as pastor of East Wynne Church.

Truett King is a new consumer sales representative in the Broadman division of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board. A native of Arkansas, he is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has been minister of education in three Arkansas churches, including Second Church, Hot Springs. In addition, King served for two years as a Southern Baptist foreign missionary in Seoul, Korea.

Mark Sadler is serving as pastor of Bowman Church. He attended Southern Baptist College and has served as a pastor in Missouri. Sadler and his wife, Marsha, have four daughters.

Sherl Blake is serving as pastor of Blaney Hill Church, Conway.

Jim Stockdale has joined the staff of Second Church, Conway, as minister of education, coming there from Memphis.

Howard Lancer has resigned as pastor of Batson Church.

Briefly

Cabot Second Church recently held a service to ordain J.W. Taylor to the deacon ministry.

Rosedale Church in Little Rock will celebrate its 40th anniversary with homecoming Sept. 13. A potluck dinner will be served following the morning worship service.

Ward First Church held a Bible Conference Aug. 9-12, according to Pastor Bill Hilburn. W.O. Vaught of Little Rock was leader.

Cross Road Church in Little Rock experienced a record breaking attendance in Church Training Aug. 16 when 125 were present. The church will hold a special music program Sept. 6, beginning at 7 p.m. and featuring the Melody Boys.

Danville First Church honored Mrs. R.C. Parks Aug. 2, prior to her move to Bryan, Texas, where she will reside with a daughter, Jean Glazener. Mrs. Parks, who has been a member of the church for 41 years, was presented with an engraved Bible by Pastor Bobby Walker. Her son, Keith Parks, president of the Foreign Mission Board, was guest speaker at the morning

worship service. Her grandson, Randall Parks, and his wife, Nancy, spoke at the evening service on their work as missionaries to Egypt. A 2 p. m. reception also honored Mrs. Parks. During the morning worship service a grand piano was dedicated in honor of F.D. Majors Jr., a former music director.

Atkins First Church held a Youth Explosion Rally Aug. 29-Sept. 2 with LeRoy Wagner and Stan Lee serving as leaders. The church will observe homecoming Sept. 20 when Ben Elrod will be speaker. Bob Richardson is pastor.

Markham Street Church in Little Rock honored Steve Patterson Aug. 23 in recognition of his service as interim music director.

Ward Calvary Church will observe "Super September at Calvary" with activities which will include a churchwide potluck with recreation for all ages Sept 5; a gospel singing Sept. 11 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.; a youth pizza supper Sept. 19; and a revival led by Johnny Jackson of Little Rock, Sept. 26-30. John Sammons is pastor.

Pulaski Heights Church in Little Rock ordained its minister of education and outreach, Mark B. Dose, to the ministry Aug. 23. Pastor Bill Elder moderated the service at which Glenn Hickey, director of missions for Pulaski Association, was speaker.

Little Rock Second Church youth choir presented "The Prodigal" at Osceola First Church Aug. 16. Tom Wideman is director.

Forrest City Second Church recently launched a remodeling program which includes fellowship hall and classroom improvements, installation of carpeting and

lighting in the sanctuary, and the addition of a music room, three offices, a conference room, and an activity room.

Widener Church ordained David Meltona and Larry White to the deacon ministry Aug. 2.

Gladden Church observed homecoming Aug. 9 with a special program and dinner.

Altus First Church ordained Coy Kirkpatrick to the deacon ministry Aug. 16. Participating in the service were George Domeser, director of missions for Clear Creek Association, Roy Law, Pastor Irby Bryan, David Morris, Ron Clark, Wallace West, Bobby Bond, and Sam Howell.

Coal Hill First Church ordained Parrish Bridges to the preaching ministry July 19. Participating in the service were George Domeser, director of missions for Clear Creek Association, Georgeann Robertson, Larry Robertson, Bill Powell, and Jack Nichols.

Jacksonville First Church has launched a Korean-language ministry led by Sam Young Lee, who recently arrived in this area from a church in Korea. Approximately 25 meet weekly in the church's educational building for worship.

East Side Church in Fort Smith women have planned a prayer retreat at Lake Tenkiller in Oklahoma Sept. 1-12. Dee Weddle from Bellvue Church in Memphis will be speaker.

Liberty Association had 51 registered for its annual Royal Ambassador Camp Aug. 10-13 at Beech Springs Camp near Texarkana. The camp resulted in 24 professions of faith, one rededication, and one commitment to a Christian vocation.

Three Courses For Fall Term

Three courses will be offered in the Little Rock Seminary Studies Program when the fall term begins on Sept. 21. All classes will meet each Monday through Dec. 7.

Malcolm McDow, the L.R. Scarborough Professor of Evangelism at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, will teach "Personal Evangelism" from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The course will use Continuing Witness Training (CWT) materials, and all who complete the course will be fully certified in CWT.

Harold Freeman, professor of preaching at Southwestern Seminary, will be teaching "Principles of Preaching" from 2-5 p.m. of sermon preparation.

S. Cary Heard, pastor of Park Hill Church in North Little Rock, will teach "New Testament Studies: Synoptic Gospels" from 6-9 p.m. Heard serves as an adjunct professor for Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City, Mo.

Persons interested in enrolling for one or more of the three courses should apply immediately through Lehman Webb, director of continuing theological education for the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203 (501-376-4791), or the Seminary Studies Department, 901 Commerce Street, Suite 500, Nashville, TN 37203 (615-242-2453). All admissions-related materials, including a \$10 application fee, must be received by the Seminary Studies Department by Sept. 14.

Matriculation fees are \$200 for one course and \$350 for two or more courses for Baptist students. Non-Baptist students pay double these amounts.



North Arkansas Association Brotherhood mission team was in Indiana July 18-25 to assist Oak Hill Church in Evansville with re-roofing its present sanctuary and completing its new educational building. Team members installing sheet rock and insulation to classroom walls were (left to right) Paul Dart, Glenn Sattler; Nolan Brisco, associational Brotherhood director; Tim Cooper; and Albert Thompson.



First Church, Midland, celebrated Independence Day with a noteburning service and a barbecue at the home of John Ray and Doris Hearron. Pastor Robert Presson presented the devotional. The note was burned by, (left to right) Pam Voss, Clarence Holt, Doris Hearron, Sharon Schleiff, and Mildred Dake. It signified payment of a \$20,000 indebtedness on a new addition, which has been in use since November 1985.

Foothills Chapel Making Progress

Foothills Chapel at Mountain View reported 21 decisions in a week-long revival led by Wes Kent of Dufferin, Texas Aug. 16-21.

According to Pastor J.R. Hull, the congregation had five additions by letter or statement, nine rededications, and now has eight awaiting baptism following the services, which were held out of doors under an old-fashioned brush arbor. Friday night attendance at the services reached 125.

The mission, launched in August 1986 by Mountain View's First Church, has more than doubled its initial membership of 17, Hull said. During July, the chapel averaged 60 persons in Sunday School, 70 in worship, 41 in Church Training, and 51 in evening worship. Ten persons have already been baptized in 1987.



ABN photo / Mark Kelly

Wes Kent, evangelist from Dufferin, Texas, preaches during the opening service of Foothills Chapel's weeklong revival Aug. 16. The remaining services that week were held under an old-fashioned brush arbor next to the mission's mobile chapel.

Morses Honored

Jan and Jeff Morse, resident managers of the Little Rock Emergency Receiving Home, recently were recognized as the Private Agency Family of the Year. The award is given annually by the Arkansas Action for Foster Children, a state advocacy group, at its annual training conference.



In their four years as houseparents, the Morses have provided immediate care and protection for some 300 abused, abandoned, and neglected children, ages birth through 12 years. The Morses were selected on the basis of special skills, community involvement, participation in training, advocacy for children, and teamwork in working toward family reunification.

The award marks the second time in three years an Arkansas Baptist Family and Child Care Services staffer has received an award from Arkansas Action for Foster Children. Doug McWhirter was recognized as Social Worker of the Year in 1985.

Singles Conference Sept. 11-12

"Living Above Mediocrity" will be the theme of a city-wide singles conference hosted Sept. 11-12 by Immanuel Church, Little Rock.

Immanuel Pastor Brian L. Harbour and Christian recording artist Kay DeKalb Smith will headline the conference program. Harbour is the author of numerous books and is a popular keynote speaker at singles events nationwide. Smith has been featured at Billy Graham Crusades and has a solo album, "The Best Is Yet To Come."

Interest conferences will include

"Friendship, Intimacy, and Sexuality," "Witness of Your Fitness," "Suddenly Single," "Successful Steps to Single Parenting," "Stress Management," and "Excellence in Your Single Life."

The conference will begin at 7 p.m., Friday, Sept. 11 with a worship service and fellowship, and will conclude at 7 p.m. Saturday with a free concert by Mrs. Smith. Child care will be provided. A \$10 pre-registration fee will cover the cost of the entire conference.

To register, the pre-registration fee should be mailed to: Immanuel Baptist Church, 1000 Bishop, Little Rock, AR 72202. For more information, contact the church at 501-376-3071.

CELEBRATE MISSIONS!

**Baptist Women Retreats
Camp Paron**

October 22-23, 1987 October 23-24, 1987

Program Guests

Pat Glascock, North Little Rock
Patty Lane, Texas
Angela Lowe, Little Rock
Katsy McAlister, El Dorado
Joyce Mitchell, WMU, SBC
Betty Rice, Waldron
Bettye Spann, Brazil
Rhonda Stega, Fort Smith
Mary Ida Tidsworth, Little Rock

Celebrate!

AMAR Prayer Times
Bible Study
Centennial Birthday Party
Fellowship
Missionaries
Music
National and State WMU
Centennial Features

Sponsored by Arkansas WMU, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203



**Quality
Van Sales**

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

Guidelines Adopted

Organizations will be more accountable under new legislation

by Kathy Palen

Baptist Joint Committee On Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (BP)—The U.S. House Ways and Means Committee has incorporated into its proposed budget-reconciliation package a bill that would make tax-exempt organizations more accountable for their lobbying and political activities.

The legislation would tighten guidelines governing tax-exempt organizations' political and lobbying activities and would impose stricter public-disclosure requirements on those groups. The bill was sponsored by the two ranking members of the House Subcommittee on Oversight, which has held a series of recent hearings on tax-exempt organizations.

Under current tax law, the most stringent restrictions on lobbying and political activities are applied to religious, charitable and educational organizations, which are exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and are eligible to receive deductible charitable contributions.

Those organizations are prohibited from engaging in political activities, which are defined as participation or intervention on behalf of any candidate for public office. They also are prohibited from devoting a substantial portion of their total activities

to lobbying, which is defined as any attempt to influence legislation.

Currently, the only sanction for violation of prohibitions on political and lobbying activities is loss of tax exemption.

The Ways and Means bill would add the imposition of a 5 percent excise tax on organizations, as well as their managers, whose tax-exempt status was revoked because of substantial lobbying. The excise tax would not be imposed if the IRS determined an organization's decision to engage in substantial lobbying was not willful and was not due to reasonable cause.

In addition, the bill would expand the definition of political activity to include actions undertaken to oppose any candidate. It also would make organizations and their managers subject to an excise tax if they engaged in political activity.

The legislation would broaden the definition of political expenditures to include money spent for speeches, travel expenses, polling, advertising, fund raising, voter registration and voter turnout on behalf of any candidate for public office.

The bill would empower the IRS to revoke immediately the tax-exempt status of any organization the agency's commissioner ruled had flagrantly violated the rules on political activity.

Jobs Exchange

Certified Public Accountant with 26 years experience in both public and private accounting seeks employment as controller or accounting manager in the Central Arkansas area. Contact Leland Zimmerman, CPA, Route 2, Box 261, Vilonia, AR 72173; phone 501-796-2067. 9-3

Nurse's Aid—Would like five to six days live-in with elderly or handicapped. Also do housechores. Certified nurse's aid. Four years experience. Reasonable charges. Good references. Contact Christine Cox, Brinkley, AR 72021; 501-734-2575. 9-3

Notices of employment sought or available will be posted for three consecutive weeks without charge for members of Arkansas Baptist churches. Church staff positions will not be included. Send name, address, telephone number, and statement of qualifications, experience, and type of employment sought or available to "Jobs Exchange," Arkansas Baptist News magazine, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203. Placement of a notice in the Jobs Exchange does not constitute an endorsement by the ABN.

Classifieds

Church needs experienced secretary weekday mornings. UALR area. 565-5536. 9-10

For Sale—1967 bus, 48 passenger, excellent condition. Ruddell Hill Baptist, Batesville, 793-6416, 793-4034. 9-3

Book Bargain—Billy Graham's "Angels," \$7.95 value, only \$3.95 + \$1 shipping & handling, 5% sales tax. P.O. Box 1001, Benton, AR 72015. 9-3

Classified ads must be submitted in writing to the ABN office no less than 10 days prior to the date of publication desired. A check or money order in the proper amount, figured at 85 cents per word, must be included. Multiple insertions of the same ad must be paid for in advance. The ABN reserves the right to reject any ad because of unsuitable subject matter. Classified ads will be inserted on a space-available basis. No endorsement by the ABN is implied.

Better Bible Teaching in the Small Sunday School

Sept. 14-15, 1987

Dermott, Bellaire Church
Wilton, First Church

7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

- Two sessions of continuous training at each location
- A study of *The Small Sunday School at Work*
- Conferences for General Officers and teachers of adults, youth, children, and preschoolers
- Attend both sessions and get study course credit

Sponsored by the ABSC Sunday School Department
P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203

Help for Small
Sunday Schools



Arkansas Baptist on Tape

Do you know someone who is sight-impaired? Give them a gift they'll truly appreciate: a subscription to the *Arkansas Baptist* on tape! For more information, contact the ABN at P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203; phone 501-376-4791.

President Elected

HANNIBAL, Mo. (BP)—Paul Brown, executive vice president and academic dean of Hannibal-LaGrange College for 11 years, has been elected president of the Missouri Baptist school.

The college's board of trustees unanimously elected Brown to succeed Larry Lewis, who became president of the SBC Home Mission Board. Brown had been acting president of the school since June 1.

Brown has been admissions counselor for Union University in Jackson, Tenn., and chairman of the division of languages and arts at Clarke College in Newton, Miss. He also has been pastor of churches in Mississippi and Tennessee.

He is a graduate of Mississippi College in Clinton, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and the University of Mississippi in Oxford, where he earned a doctorate in higher education and student personnel.

Brown said his goals for his administration are to maintain the college's Christian distinctives and Southern Baptist identity; to offer "a wide range of academic programs that encourage our Christian graduates to go out and bear a strong witness for Christ;" to increase enrollment

from between 750 and 800 to between 1,200 and 1,500; to provide adequate facilities for the expanded academic programs and student population; to increase the school's financial base; and to lead the school to "continue giving a strong witness for Jesus Christ in today's world."

July CP Ranks 10th On List

NASHVILLE (BP)—July contributions to the Southern Baptist Cooperative Program ranked 10th on the list of monthly receipts for the convention-wide missions budget, announced Harold C. Bennett, president and treasurer of the denomination's Executive Committee.

The Cooperative Program finances Southern Baptist evangelistic, ministry and educational efforts worldwide. The national receipts come from 37 Baptist state conventions, which receive contributions from Southern Baptist congregations.

July receipts were \$10,778,300, Bennett said. They represent an increase of slightly more than \$1.5 million over receipts for July of 1986, a gain of 16.24 percent.

Five of the top-10 Cooperative Program monthly totals have been reached in the

1986-87 fiscal year, which began last October. The monthly record is almost \$13.1 million, set in January of this year.

After 10 months of the 1986-87 fiscal year, the Cooperative Program has received \$108,893,265. That is a gain of almost \$5.3 million over the same period last year.

The Cooperative Program's strong showing in July pushed the year-to-date increase to 5.09 percent, compared to the current U.S. inflation rate of about 4 percent.

No apparent reasons explain the increase of more than 16 percent in July, said Tim A. Hedquist, Executive Committee vice president for business and finance: "No states made extra payments; nobody was catching up. Very few states did not have an increase last month."

"I was surprised and gratified at the size of last month's increase," Bennett said. He noted that in recent months the inflation rate had climbed while the Cooperative Program gain had fallen, bringing them almost dead-even at the end of June.

He gave credit to the state Baptist conventions for maintaining the Cooperative Program's increases: "I must commend the state convention leaders for the way they have continued to increase the percentage of their contributions to Southern Baptist Convention causes."

THE UNIVERSITY MINISTRY FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SPRINGDALE

University Alive

*University
Alive*

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
1709 JOHNSON ROAD
P. O. Box 786
SPRINGDALE, AR 72765-0786
(501) 751-4523

ONLY 15 MINUTES AWAY
FROM THE
UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS



ALAN DAMRON
UNIVERSITY MINISTER

"AND THE DRIVE IS WORTH THE DIFFERENCE"

LESSONS FOR LIVING

Convention Uniform

God's Gifts

by Gene Crowley, First Church, Newport

Basic passage: Genesis 1-3

Focal passage: Genesis 2:4b-8,18, 21-22; 3:1-7

Central truth: God's gifts require proper use.

In his infinite wisdom and love, God chose to create man. Within this man God placed a spirit able to have fellowship with him and a soul able to choose to follow and serve God. In the opening chapters of this book of beginnings, one finds the first man's struggle with choice and his understanding of the goodness of God.

The Scriptures teach that God is the giver of "every good gift and every perfect gift" (Ja. 1:17). However, with every gift that God gives comes the responsibility to live within the limits placed by God. "Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: but of the eat of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it" (Ge. 1:16b-17a). Adam's struggle in the garden and the struggle that continues today is to see God's love and concern in the limits he places.

God never places limits on the use of his gifts to man out of vindictiveness, selfishness, or pride. Limits are placed for the welfare and the happiness of mankind. To go beyond the limits placed by God is to sin, and sin brings unhappiness and death.

One might ask, "Why did God set limits? If no limits had ever been set, sin would never have entered the world," one might surmise. If God never had set limits on his gifts to man and never held him responsible to abide by those limits, then man never would have faced any choices. If man never had to choose, then man could never have shown his obedience to God. According to Jesus, it is through man's obedience that he demonstrates his love (Jn. 14:15). God did not create man to be a robot but instead to be free to make choices. God is willing that none should perish (2 P. 3:9), but the choice is man's.

One defies the limits of God at his own peril—"for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die" (Ge. 2:17b)—but the choice is and will always be man's. Peace and joy are received by those who trust the goodness of God as gift giver and obey the limits set by God as an omniscient Father.

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

Life and Work

Bold Living

by Carl Goodson, Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia

Basic passage: 2 Timothy 1:1-18

Focal passage: 2 Timothy 1:6-14

Central truth: A Christian life-style is characterized by bold ministry without brashness.

At the moment of death one's life is summarized and the bottom line is examined by God and men. In this letter, considered by most to be Paul's swan song, the Apostle is still advising Timothy to continue in the same boldness that was evident at his ordination. Timothy would most likely survive and succeed Paul.

Something gets into Christians from time to time which hinders ministry. Satan inspires shame of our Lord and of his lifestyle. We become reluctant to witness, to tell the truth about our becoming children of God by faith in Jesus Christ. We become reverse hypocrites. Not like the Pharisees who acted more piously than they really were, we act less believing and caring than we really are.

We are counseled by Paul to "rekindle the gift of God" (v. 6). This is not, as he expresses it, timidity. It is power and love and discipline. It takes all these to rise and to say to a hostile world, "I was lost but now I am found by Jesus Christ. I am, as you are, a sinner. But I am saved by grace."

Ministry means nothing unless it serves the deepest need of a lost person. This need is the need of the soul.

Paul was a preacher, apostle, and teacher of a Christ who was crucified as a criminal. Somehow being associated with an accused person is cause for shame. But Paul always declared that the same Christ was alive and triumphant over death. Every Christian is also called to be a bold confessor of the Christ who saved him.

Paul further advises Timothy to continue to hold up the "standard of sound words" (v. 13). Doesn't this address our current concern about the authority of the words of Scripture? Are we forgetting in our concern for the jots and tittles that the Bible is the only authoritative record of the gospel of Jesus?

A ministry of the word which does not exalt Christ is not ministry at all. Words are empty when they do not bear witness to the Word. Brashness is mistaken for boldness. Boldness is for living, not for name calling.

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

Bible Book

The Fall of Babylon

by Jack Kwok, Indianhead Lake Church, Sherwood

Basic passage: Revelation 17-18

Focal passage: Revelation 17:6-13; 18:2-5

Central truth: Babylon, the future worldwide Antichrist system, will fall suddenly and surely at the hand of the judging God.

An overview of the rise and fall of the worldwide Antichrist system comprises Revelation 17 and 18. This system will be called "Babylon" which is a code word to indicate something ungodly or unholy.

Before the future destruction of Babylon was unveiled, John saw the future development of Babylon. Apparently, two entities will constitute this unholy worldwide government: religious Babylon (17:3-7) and political Babylon (17:8-18).

The royally adorned woman riding the beast of government represents a religious-political alliance with reprobate and polluted abominations. This universal church will offer a mixture of astrology, occultism, humanism, and immorality as its belief system. Such a message will be highly compatible with the world and will result in a large communicate body. Religious Babylon with its worldwide structure will lend cohesiveness to the emerging political Babylon.

Political Babylon will emerge when the Antichrist revives from a mortal wound. He will establish himself as sovereign and will quickly organize a worldwide structure with 10 nations as the centerpiece. The strategy of this government will be to war with God. This war will be waged around the world for people from every nation will become subjects of the Antichrist government. When the government is secure, the political rulers will turn in sedition against religious Babylon. The Antichrist will take over as religious and political ruler.

The destruction of religious Babylon will portend the destruction of political Babylon, too. Impurity, immorality, iniquity, and indulgence will be the reasons for her destruction (18:1-8). Amazement at the swiftness and sureness of her fall on the part of monarchs, merchants, and mariners will be the reactions to her destruction (18:9-19). The results of her destruction will be the exuberance of the saints and the extinction of the system (18:20-24).

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.

ANTIDOTE FOR DISCORD

Accepting Each Other

by Robert O'Brien
SBC Foreign Mission Board

CAPE TOWN, South Africa (BP)—A multiracial band of university students in Cape Town has begun developing an antidote to the deadly ingredients brewing in South Africa's cauldron of racial unrest.

They're doing it through a Baptist Student Union (BSU) group, which began about two years ago under the leadership of Southern Baptist missionaries Keith and Terry Blakley near the University of Cape Town.

Since then, the BSU at the University of Cape Town has grown from a small, struggling group to more than 100 students. BSU members there and in smaller programs at Western Cape and Stellenbosch Universities have begun to set aside prejudices and look at each other as human beings.

They're slowly forging a formula for racial harmony in a crucible of growing relationships among an unlikely mix of white Americans and a rainbow of South Africans—black, white, Asian, and "col-

ored" (South Africa's term for people of mixed race).

Whether South Africans in general heed that formula or not, the students are learning firsthand that wrath produces per-



(BP) photo / Robert O'Brien

Understanding and appreciation break down barriers of all kinds.

sonal and societal destruction and love produces an environment in which life can blossom.

The blossom has opened slowly and tentatively under patient nurture by the

Blakleys, former Texas Baptist student workers who operate the BSU in their home, where students come into daily contact with them and their three children.

"I felt I was more accepted at BSU than anywhere," said a black student, who was skeptical at first. "Acceptance creates acceptance."

Acceptance by the Blakleys primed the environment for the students to accept each other, though they circled each other warily in the beginning. But the Blakleys' American nationality and their approach to ministry and spiritual nurture also had a lot to do with their success.

Many students gave them a chance they wouldn't have given a South African because they perceived them as open, non-racial outsiders.

"I wouldn't have joined BSU if they had been South African whites," said a black student who had built up barriers of hurt and distrust.

Students also responded enthusiastically to BSU's concern for ministries to spiritual and physical

needs—especially to Terry Blakley's successful effort to start Khayamandi, a home for South Africa's starving black street children.

"When Terry talked to us about the

☆☆ Buses ☆☆

New and Used Mini-Buses



Luggage models
Restrooms
Air Conditioning
Reclining seats,
many more options

Arkansas Bus Exchange

P.O. Box 9006, Grider Field Rd.

Pine Bluff, AR 71611

(501) 536-7795

Outside Ark. 1-800-851-5054

DISASTER RELIEF MEETING

September 19, 1987

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Baptist Building, Little Rock



Disaster Relief Training & Orientation

Special guest: Cameron Byler
Brotherhood Commission

"Disaster Meal" will be served for lunch

For more information, contact:
Brotherhood Department, Arkansas Baptist State Convention
P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203; phone 501-376-4791

needs of the black children, we just envisioned giving them a cup of soup," a white student said. "It's phenomenal to see a building with 33 kids living in it. It convinces us the Lord will work through us."

Spiritual nurture has included a wide variety of approaches, but two things—the MasterLife discipleship training plan and BSU retreats—have done most to show students positive counterparts to the cauldron's negative ingredients.

"If we didn't do anything else, I'd do MasterLife," Keith Blakley says. "Students

'...we have begun to become colorblind'

have come into it too shy to talk and come out as maturing Christians who witness to persons of all races and win them to Christ. It's the backbone of everything."

The students agree. "Keith wasn't only interested in numbers, he was interested in me and wanted me to become a disciple of Jesus Christ," a black student said. "MasterLife turned me around."

Against that background, BSU retreats opened up a new way of relating. One retreat, built on the theme, "Father Make Us One," forced them into creative confrontation. Students of all races credit it as a turning point.

Keith Blakley echoes that: "We dealt with what the Scripture says about oneness in Christ and then how we can make that a practical reality in the South African context. We hammered it out in real confrontation and honest sharing—and it was a life-changing experience."

A white student explained how it set the tone for reconciliation: "We broke into interracial groups and shared how we felt. Blacks admitted hatred. Whites admitted prejudice. It changed the atmosphere. Since then, a spirit of acceptance has begun to jell and we have begun to become colorblind."

"Only two here still treat me as a 'colored,'" added a "colored" student, "and I still see some as 'whites.' But I'm learn-

ing to see the merits of what a person can do rather than look at color. Sometimes a human error by a white still causes me to be defensive, but now I try to deal with it instead of being automatically defensive."

Now he has turned away from violence as an option for solving South African problems toward a career in ministry. A big step toward that came when he repented of deep hatred he felt for anyone in the South African military, which has battled "coloreds" during racial unrest.

At the end of the retreat, he told a white student who served in the army: "Now I can love you and understand you. I realize you're a person like me. You have the same struggles and problems I do. Maybe you don't really want to be in a casp (large armored vehicle)."

The white student responded that he could never fire on blacks or "coloreds" now that he had learned to see them as people like himself.

The young "colored" man's willingness to give up anger and forgive wasn't easy. Non-whites in South Africa have dealt with deep hurt and feelings of unworthiness from childhood in a society which sends messages in many ways that whites are superior.

"We don't have answers for all problems, but at least we can be with students as they seek them," Keith Blakley said. "Hopefully, BSU can be a melting pot where some misunderstandings can be soothed, some questions answered, some anger dissipated, some prejudice taken away, and a bond of love developed. Only as people come together in oneness in Christ can God really use them and guide South Africa toward revival rather than revolution."

Many South Africans yearn for a revival which would convert their cauldron into a melting pot and discord into the kind of oneness of spirit students find at the Baptist Student Union in Cape Town.

"BSU is a place you can come and be colorblind and unravel your prejudice," a white student said. "You may cringe inside the first time a black puts his arm around you, but then you realize he's the same as you."

Houseparents needed:

- Arkansas Baptist Home for Children
- Needs couples to minister to the needs of boys and girls
- Prefer middle-aged couples with the experience of rearing their own children
- Individual family life cottage for each age group
- Excellent staff quarters in cottage that will accommodate couples only
- Questions and interest should be addressed to Charlie Belknap, P.O. Box 180, Monticello, AR 71655; phone (501) 367-5358
- Couples desiring to serve 2 or 3 years as a mission project will be considered
- **Current needs:** ☆ a middle-aged lady to work with teenage girls
☆ a couple for grade school and junior high boys and girls
☆ a couple to work with junior high girls

Psychology For Christian Life



JOHN EWING HARRIS, M.D., Ph.D.
Licensed Psychologist, Christian

Freeway Medical Center - Suite 706
1800 West Tenth Street
Little Rock, Arkansas 72204

By Appointment Only
(501) 684-3095

FIBERGLASS BAPTISTRIES
STEEPLES—CROSSES
WATER HEATERS



DIAL TOLL FREE
1-800-231-6035

Free colored brochure
LITTLE GIANT MANUFACTURING CO., INC.
Dept. 61 / Box 518 / Orange, Texas 77630
IN TEXAS: (409) 883-4246

Van Winkle
Church Furnishings
and Pew Upholstery

Pews
Baptistries
stained glass
carpet
stools
lighting
tiding doors

Box 501, Fulton, MS 38843
Outside Miss. Toll Free 1-800-821-7263

Call for Free
BROCHURE



**BAPTISTRIES
HEATERS, PUMPS
FACTORY DIRECT**

TOLL FREE 1-800-251-0679
TN CALL COLLECT 615-875-0679

FIBERGLASS BAPTISTRY CO
3511 HIXSON PIKE • CHATTANOOGA, TN 37415

DEPRESSED?

Wanda Stephens, M.D.
Christian Psychiatrist
501-225-9750

**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) 374-6008

Subscriber Services

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

Every Resident Family Plan gives churches a premium rate when they send the *Newsmagazine* to all their resident households. Resident families are calculated to be at least one-fourth of the church's Sunday School enrollment. Churches who send only to members who request a subscription do not qualify for this lower rate of \$5.52 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.

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

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Subscribers through the group plan pay \$6.12 per year.

Individual subscriptions may be purchased by anyone at the rate of \$6.48 per year. These subscriptions are more costly because they require individual attention for address changes and renewal notices.

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

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

WORLD

FMB Says Policies In Line

Parks says no need to change appointment procedures

by Bob Stanley
SBC Foreign Mission Board

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP)—The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board in August pledged to remain committed to fulfilling the denomination's mission goals in a manner that is "biblically sound, evangelistically focused, and faithful to our Baptist heritage and conviction."

A resolution introduced by Mark Cortis of Winston-Salem, N.C., affirmed the work of the Southern Baptist Convention Peace Committee and acknowledged the positive affirmation the committee has given the board's work.

The action was taken after FMB President R. Keith Parks had explained in the four-day meeting that he sees no need to change the board's procedures for missionary or staff appointments as a result of the Peace Committee's report to the convention in June.

The board's staff and officers have taken the Peace Committee's report seriously and reviewed it carefully, Parks said. "In light of the Peace Committee's on-the-spot evaluation of how we are doing things and the fact that the committee itself gave us affirmation, I would simply report to you that I think we're in good shape, and the Peace Committee report does not require any action from this board," he said.

The Peace Committee, appointed in 1985 to discover sources of the controversy in the 14.6-million-member denomination and make recommendations for reconciliation, called upon Southern Baptist institutions to build professional staff and faculties from people who clearly reflect the dominant theological position of Southern Baptists at large, as reflected in the Baptist Faith and Message Statement of 1963.

Parks noted that as the Peace Committee did its work, a subcommittee visited the Foreign Mission Board in Richmond, Va. After its visit it reported, "You're doing a much better job than we had any awareness you were doing." He said no recommendations were made regarding the processes the board has followed in the appointment of missionaries and the selection of staff.

For many years, the board has had each missionary candidate write out a doctrinal statement, Parks said. Since 1963 there also has been the specific request, "Is your doctrinal position in agreement with the Baptist Faith and Message Statement, and if not, please explain why not."

"And occasionally," he added, "there is a job or a title that some missionary will want to argue about. But that is the basic standard we have followed. I think our

position is stronger than simply saying, 'Do you agree with the Baptist Faith and Message?' or 'Would you sign this statement?' Because we go well beyond that in requesting them to verbalize personally what they believe."

All these statements are carefully reviewed, and the missionaries appointed represent what has been accepted as a Southern Baptist doctrinal position, Parks noted.

Through the years, the doctrinal beliefs of a few missionaries already under appointment have been questioned, he said. In a couple of instances, he added, the conclusion has been the missionaries' beliefs no longer represented that of Southern Baptists, and they have resigned.

Missionaries and staff come under intense scrutiny as they speak at churches, associations and conventions and there are "lots of antennas out there checking us out," Parks said. But every time a question is raised by someone, a thorough investigation is made, and "I can report to you without any hesitation that your missionaries and staff are sound, solid, Bible-believing Southern Baptists," he noted.

The trustee meeting concentrated on dialogue sessions, with business held to a minimum. The board appointed 66 new missionaries, reappointed two and employed two for Cooperative Services International, the entity through which Southern Baptists can respond to requests from countries where missionaries cannot work.

One of the new couples will serve on the southern Pacific island of New Caledonia, the denomination's 111th mission field. The new personnel bring to 314 the number approved so far this year.

The board also moved ahead with steps to seek a vice president for communications. Nannie Lou Crofts of Phoenix, Ariz., chairman of the communications and public relations committee, said after a joint meeting with the strategy committee, any input on qualifications for this vice president or suggestions of names to be considered should be submitted to Parks by Sept. 1. Parks has indicated he hopes to nominate the vice president before the end of the year.

For the past year and a half, FMB Executive Vice President Bill O'Brien also has headed the communications and public relations office. An associate vice president and two assistant vice presidents have helped handle administrative detail. But in May the board's transition committee, as part of the recent reorganization, recommended the need for a separate vice president be studied.

017557 COMP
HISTORICAL COMMISSION
901 COMMERC ST #400
NASHVILLE TN 37203