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November 2, 1978

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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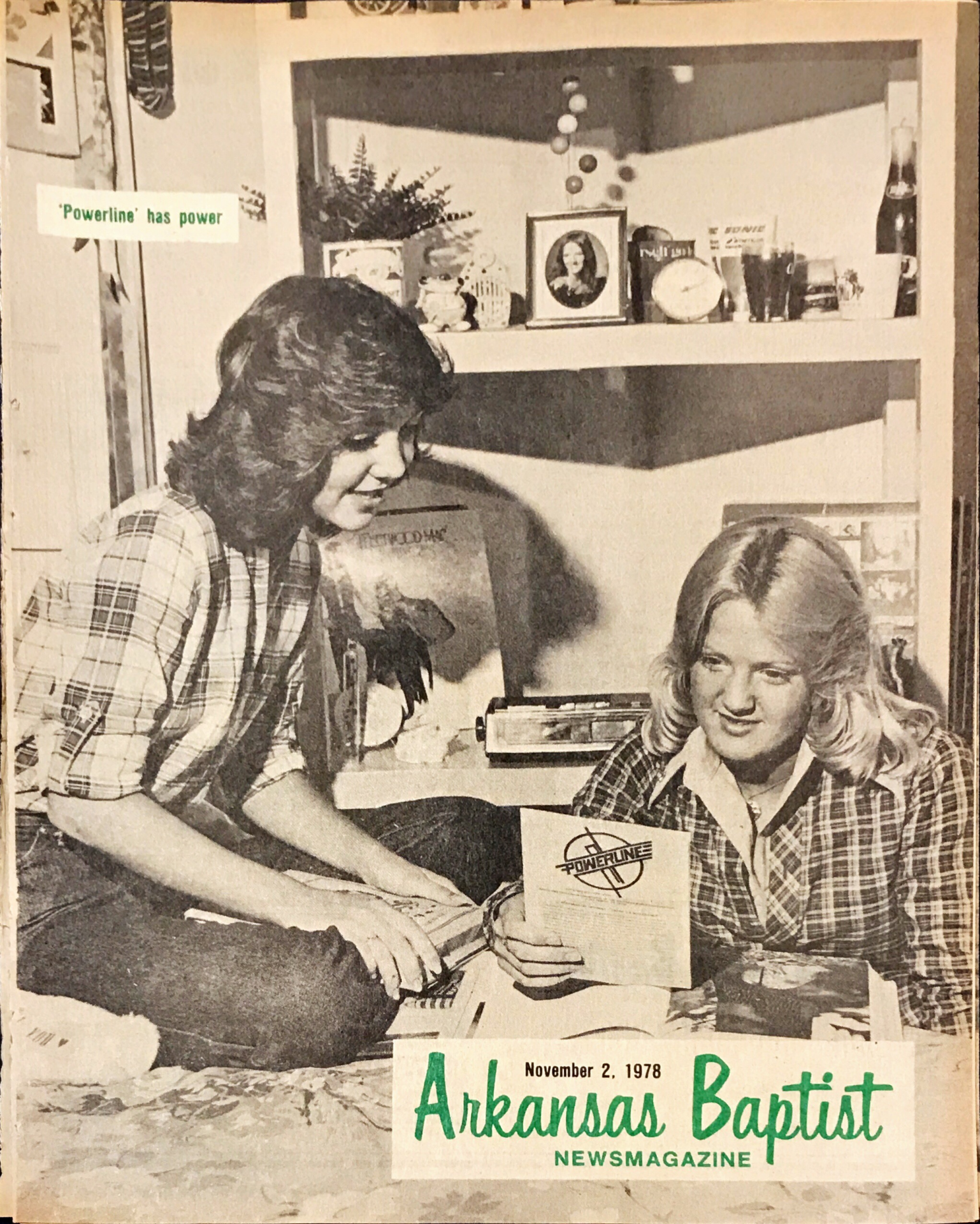
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'Powerline' has power



November 2, 1978

Arkansas Baptist

NEWSMAGAZINE



I must say it

Charles H. Ashcraft / Executive Secretary

The longest coffee break

The longest journey begins with one step, but to get anywhere there is always the next step. The mastery of "next steps" will bring the pilgrim home, but they must be taken in their turn. The Children of Israel had come to their next step, crossing the Jordan and taking their God promised homeland. The priests now must take their next step by resting the soles of their feet on the surface of the Jordan River. This step had to be taken before any other step could be taken (Josh. 3:13-17). This is life and it will not be changed. The principle of the next step is inviolate so we must consider in all our ways the next step.

The next step for one who has received Christ is to obey him in baptism and church discipleship. The next step for one who has been called into God's service is to prepare himself for the ministry to which God has called him. A call to preach is a call to prepare. The next step for one who has joined a church is to make his resources available to the church in a stewardship context. The next step for one who has been called to a specific mission project is to respond. What is your next step?

Great institutions also must determine their next step. This is facilitated by long range deliberation and planning. It is hard to go wrong when consistent, continuous praying and planning is a stated procedure and practice. The Executive Board of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention is charged with this continuous ministry of recommending projects and directions. Study groups, research committees and evaluation teams are working around the clock, between the annual sessions of the convention to keep it abreast of the best for Arkansas Baptists.

The integrity of the witness of Arkansas Baptists is effected directly by the relationship of the convention in session and its legal corporate Executive Board between sessions. It is no victory for the cause when the convention and its Executive Board, all cut from the same broadcloth, are involved in counteracting, countermanding or contravening each other. No one adds a cubit to his own stature by chopping of a cubit from another.

Recommendations preceded by years of long range study, great prayer and much deliberation presents a better hope for God's final answer on any issue than heated "emotional outbreaks" and "on the moment" decisions on the floor of the convention. The democratic rights of the most obscure member of the convention anywhere are not abridged so long as elected board members who are subject to recall do their homework. The past century has taught us no better way.

The next step then becomes a matter of great confidence and certainty. The Children of Israel stopped for a time of rest and replenishment. It lasted 40 years and may have been the longest coffee break ever recorded. The only virtue, they did take the next step. It was a long coffee break.

I must say it!

In this issue

People notes 6

News items tell Arkansans about Arkansans who have changed church staff positions, been honored, and are in the news for other reasons. This regular feature makes note, briefly, of inspiring actions by Baptist people.

On SBC Committee 7

A Benton man has been named to the committee which will search for a new executive director for the SBC Foreign Mission Board.

'Powerline' power



Two Ft. Worth teens are typical fans of "Powerline", the half-hour radio show produced by the Southern Baptist Radio and TV Commission which is heard on nearly 1,000 stations across the U.S. Some 2,000 young people indicated they made Christian decisions as a result of the program. (Radio-TV Commission photo)

Arkansas Baptist

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Arkansas' third largest publication

VOLUME 77

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A successful pastor

The editor's page

J. Everett Sneed



Sometimes a Pulpit Committee will restrict its inquiries concerning a prospective pastor to numerical information. Apparently such committees are only interested in knowing the numbers of persons baptized last year and the size of the Sunday School and of the church budget where the prospective pastor is presently serving. Though such information certainly is valid and useful, such criteria have led both pastors and churches to wrong conclusions concerning the success of a pastor.

While it is true that where there is spiritual life there will be growth, this must not be the only standard by which a pastor's success is evaluated. There are many factors which will affect the possibility of a congregation's growth. If numbers alone determine success then we must assume that Christ failed.

Much can be learned about success by observing the life of our Lord and the apostles. Perhaps the most obvious characteristics of Christ's life was his desire to minister to others. Likewise, a successful pastor must be one who has a keen awareness of both spiritual and physical needs of people. He will then, through example and teaching, lead his congregation to minister. In this atmosphere, people will come to know Christ as Saviour and the fellowship of the church will be strengthened.

A successful pastor is also one who desires to learn. The individual who is no longer learning is intellectually dead. This is particularly tragic for the pastor, since his intellectual dullness will affect the entire church he serves. The Bible even describes the young Christ by saying, "And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man" (Luke 2:52).

Paul admonished, "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith . . ." (II Cor. 13:5). Again the apostle said, "Study to show thyself approved unto god . . ." (II Tim. 2:15). So the successful pastor is one who continually learns in order to properly lead and equip his congregation. First, and foremost, a pastor should be involved in regular Bible study, as well as in learning new leadership techniques.

A successful pastor must have the courage to deal with sin and injustice. Jesus found himself in conflict with the religious leaders of his day. He likened the Pharisees and scribes to "whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones . . ." (Matt. 23:27).

The successful pastor will be one who has a cooperative attitude. The growth of the early church was usually characterized by cooperation. Early Christians recognized their need for each other. Sometimes financial aid was needed. Always they needed the spiritual strength which came from sharing in the service of the Master.

One of the greatest strengths of Southern Baptists is the ability to cooperate without infringing on the autonomy of a local church. A successful pastor will lead his congregation to be involved in the work of the association, the State Convention, and the Southern Baptist Convention.

A successful pastor knows how to work. Paul recognized the importance of work. He said, ". . . we are labourers together with God . . ." (I Cor. 3:9). Again he declared, ". . . we are labourers, that whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him" (II Cor. 5:9). Jesus became weary at times and so will any obedient Christian. Witnessing, visiting, and ministering is hard work.

Finally, a successful pastor knows how to rest and relax. Even Jesus found it necessary to rest at times. Sometimes a congregation may aid Satan in nullifying the effectiveness of a pastor by not allowing him time to relax. A pastor is most apt to err when he is tired or exhausted. Moses disobeyed God by striking the rock when he was exhausted.

Certainly this is not a complete list of the characteristics of a successful pastor. However, it seems to show that success is not measured merely by the size of the church or other superficial standards. Ultimately, the success of either the pastor or the lay person is determined by the service one renders to the Master.

endowment with every personal attribute. Some Executive Committee members were heard to say nobody living measures up. Still the standards are appropriate, and although perfection is not attainable it is an ideal against which to weigh those considered.

Although the committee will not find a perfect man, it can find a good man able to give leadership in this most important office. God uses such men in all our places of responsibility to get the job done. — **Editor John Roberts in the "Baptist Courier" of South Carolina**

Guest editorial High standards

The Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee has set high standards for its chief executive. It adopted criteria presented last week by a special committee charged with finding a successor to W. Porter Routh. The committee has set a goal of being ready with a recommendation in February, well before Routh's scheduled retirement in August.

In summary the qualifications include impeccable character, unquestionable Christian commitment, thorough knowledge of church and denominational matters, expertise in every endeavor identifiable, and



One layman's opinion

Daniel R. Grant / President, OBU

Thinking out loud about Amendment 59

I have been giving a lot of thought lately to proposed Amendment 59, which Arkansas voters must approve or disapprove on Nov. 7. This is the amendment that would, if adopted, remove the three percent sales tax from groceries and drugs. I am told this would eliminate some \$60 million in taxes we now pay each year in this way. The argument for this is appealing at first glance, namely, that it is a "regressive tax" that hits people hardest who are least able to pay. It also is supported as a first cousin to "Proposition 13" in California, adopted in a much publicized taxpayers' revolt. It was said to be a desperation means of teaching a lesson

to complacent government officials who seem to feel taxes must always go up and never can go down.

In spite of these attractive arguments for Amendment 59, I think it would be irresponsible and unwise of us to vote for this particular tax reduction. Because the sales tax is so heavily committed to the public schools in Arkansas, everyone agrees that it is the public schools that would be damaged most immediately by this measure. As an administrator of a private school, without a special ax to grind in this matter, I cannot remain silent in good conscience. Arkansas needs a good strong public school system more than almost any-

thing else that our government provides. Nothing is more regressive and harmful to all our citizens, but especially to the poor, than a poor public school system.

If there is a better way to finance the public schools than the sales tax on groceries and drugs, then we should propose the new revenue source at the same time we propose to destroy the old one. To put it simply, Amendment 59 is a bad amendment. It will punish the very people it proposes to help. I hope the people of Arkansas will not vote to damage the public schools in order to achieve tax reform.



Woman's viewpoint

Mary Maynard Sneed

Relating to relatives

The French poet, Jacques Delille, may have not been entirely accurate in his statement, "Fate makes our relatives, choice makes our friends." With a little conscious effort, we could conceivably choose to enjoy the friendship of our relatives. The cultivation of any true friendship, of course, involves a faithful adherence to certain Christian principles.

Certainly, a couple's first loyalty should be to one another. The word of God declares, "Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh," (Gen. 2:24). When a young person marries, there is to be a shift of allegiance from his parents to his new life's partner. The purpose of marriage is the formation of a new family unit, and the willingness to accept the responsibility for one's own home first is a mark of emotional maturity.

Whether to "leave father and mother and cleave" to one another means residing across the street or across the country from one's parents depends upon the nature of the relationship. If the two families cannot live close together without interfering in one another's personal affairs, then re-locating at a proper distance may provide the solution.

However, it is possible to deprive one's family of rewarding relationships by too strict observance of personal independence. The biblical account of Ruth and Naomi describes the undying devotion of a young woman for her mother-in-law. Likewise, a close association between the children and their grandparents can greatly enrich the lives of both generations. It is wrong, of course, to impose on the kindness of the grandparents or to leave the children too much of the time under their too lenient discipline. God has placed the responsibility for the children's well being in the hands of their own parents. However, children can profit from their grandparents love, and the grandparents should not be deprived of this happiness.

If a relative is living with or is being supported by the family, care should be taken to maintain the family unit. Though an invalid relative needs to feel loved and cared for, family life should not be totally disrupted by his presence. If immediate family relationships are maintained as normally as possible, the children will be less likely to resent this intrusion.

In order to enjoy favorable relationships with our relatives, we should adopt a positive attitude of looking for

the good rather than finding fault. A good relationship can be established from the beginning with the belief that one is marrying into a good, though not necessarily perfect, family. Much joy can be derived from family reunions and celebrations, and a sharing of the family heritage can give one a sense of belonging. The extended family can also offer support, encouragement and assistance in times of crisis.

Couples, however, are well advised to keep the faults of their companions to themselves. In-laws, likewise, will do well to hold their suggestions and advice. The marriage is strengthened when the couple is able to solve marital conflicts without outside interference. Forgiveness is certainly simpler when the problem is worked out between the individuals involved than when it is shared with parents or other relatives. Running home to the parents in a time of conflict does very little for a marriage.

With relatives, as with other friends, we should make consistent efforts to be thoughtful, generous and helpful. That is, we should do unto others as we would have them do unto us. By conducting ourselves in accord with spiritual principles, we can make ours the Christian home that God would have it to be.

Our decisions — God's priorities or man's?

On what basis does any church, association or state convention make its decisions to spend money for the furtherance of the gospel?

Churches statewide, and nationwide, are beginning Recreational Buildings and other buildings. Is there a "building-Buildings" emphasis that is taking the place of the New Testament teachings on ministry? Is there a growing emphasis in ministry to "our own kind", to the exclusion of many?

Why are families, individuals, not asked to be involved in community missions for N. T. Re-creation? Why not more money, and programs, for those more in need, instead of for those already richly served? Why not churches . . . ministering more, without building?

As documented by one association —

it is true of all to some degree — there is an absence of missions projects, evangelism, Christian education, and special ministries to many groups of people.

God's Word proclaims the hard proof of love, of discipleship. Our decisions proclaim differently. The prophets called for acts of mercy, justice, and love in the community. Christ lived a complete revelation of his redemptive love for every human life. What does Matthew 25:31-46 mean?

It seems blasphemous: are we to believe that if Christ were here He would walk through our community . . . and (1) first, build a Recreational Building?, or (2) first spend money for land and a church for a people already served?, or (3) look upon our multitudes

and fail to minister first to so much Unmet Need? Do our priorities show that Christ is here through us?

With the needs, and Christ's teachings, do we not see Christ ministering differently to the spiritual, physical and emotional neglect inadequately served by our churches? The frightening part is there seems always to be justification for our overindulgent, self-centered spending, and one church follows another.

We pride ourselves on the autonomy of each body, as if each body can be right before God with any decision made. There is no autonomy to violate God's will. What criteria, what standard, do we use to say "this is God's priority"? — name withheld by request

Arkansas all over

briefly

Elmdale Church, Springdale

will have special Bible teaching sessions Nov. 15-22. Edward G. Robinson will be teacher.

Mississippi County Association

will have a youth rally on Oct. 28 at First Church, Wilson. Jill Beshears, "Miss Tennessee, 1978" will be featured speaker.

East Main Church, El Dorado

is in revival Oct. 22-29. Tom Leggett is evangelist and Larry Long is directing music. Donald Cotten is pastor.

Trinity Church, Benton,

recently purchased, with its chime memorial fund, a 21-note set of Mass-Rowe cathedral chimes. Mrs. Margaret Ramsey and Mrs. Mary Alice Woodall are church organists. Mrs. Mary Jo Burnett, music director, said that a service to dedicate the new chimes will be held in the near future. They were played for the first time on Sunday, Sept. 24.

Dolph Church

was in revival Oct. 16-22. Paul Huskey, pastor of First Church, Norfork, was speaker. Manuel Max is pastor.

Arkansas Valley Association

youth, in a recent rally, elected Todd Slaughter as associational president. Serving with him for the following year will be Mark Fawcett, vice-president, and Fran Henderson, secretary.

Levy Church, North Little Rock

has added a new performing group. An instrumental ensemble has been or-

ganized with 11 young people selected to play a variety of band instruments. They will provide hymn accompaniment and special music for worship services on a regular basis.

Highfill First Church

is in a three-month enrollment campaign. "Put Your Heart in Sunday School" is theme with an enrollment goal of 200 expected to be reached by the latter part of December according to Gordon Long, Sunday School superintendent. Gwendynne Miller, Church Training director, has also planned special promotional emphasis that includes a musical program each fifth Sunday evening. This campaign will be conducted within a 10-mile radius of the church building. A fish fry for men of the community was held Oct. 27.

Woodland Heights Church, Harrison

conducted a lay weekend revival Oct. 27-29. Speakers were Clayton Routledge of Joplin, Mo.; Tom Johnson of Bruno; and Harry D. Trulove, Foundation Department director, an agency of Arkansas Baptist State Convention. Bob Cone directed music. Joseph A. Hogan is pastor.

McGehee First Church

held ordination services recently to ordain Ray Wynn as a deacon. Mason Craig is pastor.

Floral Church

was in revival Oct. 9-15. Mike Kemper, pastor of Mt. Zion Church, Arkadel-

phia, was evangelist. Music was directed by Billy Davis, minister of youth/music at Calvary Church, Batesville. There were 10 professions of faith; three joined by letter; seven joined by statement. There were three commitments for special service and one surrendered to special ministry. William Passmore is pastor.

Central Church, Jonesboro

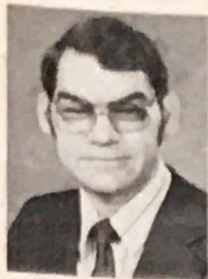
is organizing a wind ensemble that will perform at various services of the church. Laverne F. Pickett Jr. is minister of music. R. Wilbur Herring is pastor.

Dell First Church

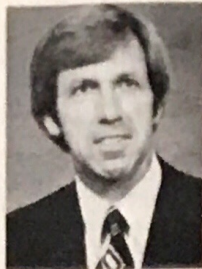
held its evening worship service at the Mississippi County Baptist Encampment. Bill Ward, pastor, in the five p.m. worship service spoke on "Why I Am A Baptist," emphasizing the need to reach youth through the camping programs. A potluck supper was served at 6 p.m. A two hour tour of the camp grounds and buildings preceded the worship service.

Dallas Avenue Church, Mena

recently began a puppet ministry under the direction of Mrs. LaTrecia Linsey. This group had a float and booth in the Polk County Fair and parade. The church has also accepted a proposal from the planning committee to enlarge its building space by approximately 5200 square feet. Max W. Deaton is pastor.



Bell



Evans

Hardy Bell

has been called as minister of media/outreach by Sylvan Hills First Church, North Little Rock, according to Don Moseley, pastor. Bell comes to the church position following a career with Channel 7 in Little Rock. He is a deacon and former chairman of deacons at the Sylvan Hills church. His wife, Nina Bell, is the director of the new Abundant Life Day Care Center there.

Don E. Evans

became pastor of the First Church of Bentonville on Nov. 1. He came to Bentonville from the Metropolitan Church, Wichita, Kans. A native of Oklahoma, he has pastored churches in Missouri and Oklahoma. He is a graduate of Northeastern State University, Tahlequah, Okla., and Southwestern Seminary. He and his wife, Lana, are parents of three daughters, Mandy, Lori, and Whitney.

Bryon Eubanks

has accepted the pastorate of the Chidester Church. He is a student at Ouachita University and son of Bob Eubanks, former pastor of Southside Church, Lead Hill.

Wendell Bradford

has been called to serve as the first full time director of missions for 11-year-old Van Buren County Baptist Association. A native of England, Ark., Bradford moved from a pastorate at First Church, Kennett, Mo., to Clinton on Nov. 1. He attended colleges in Wichita, Kans., and received his master of divinity degree from Golden Gate Seminary. He and his wife, Shirley Lea, are parents of four married children.

Paul Hill

of North Little Rock has been called as pastor of First Church, Oppelo. He and his wife, Shirley, are parents of three daughters, Karen, Sherry, and Christy.

John Lowell

of Springdale has been called as pastor of the Lowell Church. He assumed his duties there on Oct. 29.

Mitchell W. Bryant

has accepted the call to become pastor of the North Crossett First Church. He is a graduate of Kansas State College and Southwestern Seminary with a master of

divinity degree. He is a native of Missouri. Bryant and his wife, Sandra Lynn, are parents of one son, Jeffrey Michael.

J. Lowell Ponder

is pastor of First Church, Winslow.

Charles Jones

has resigned as pastor of the Salem Church, Central Association.

Ray Branscum

has resigned as pastor of Bryant First Southern Church.

Jim Elliff

has resigned as pastor of the Indian Hills Church, North Little Rock. Elliff, who has pastored the North Little Rock church for three years, has been called as pastor of Florida Shores Church, Orlando, Fla.

Jessie McKee

has been called as pastor of the Antioch Church near Colt. He assumed this pastorate on Oct. 8.

Gary Henson

is serving as pastor of the Fitzgerald Church near Wynne.

Terry Floyd

has been called as pastor of the Beck Spur Church near Forrest City.

William W. Black

is pastor of the Ouachita Church at Sparkman. Black, who served as a missionary to Korea and Vietnam, has pastored churches in Georgia and Alabama. He and his wife, Martha, attended Baptist Bible Institute, Graceville, Fla. They are parents of three children.

Batesville pastor retires after 21 years

Rev. and Mrs. R. A. Bone

R. A. Bone was honored on Oct. 29 by Calvary Church, Batesville, in recognition of his retirement from the active pastorate. Mrs. Bone also received special recognition from the church which her husband has pastored for 21½ years.

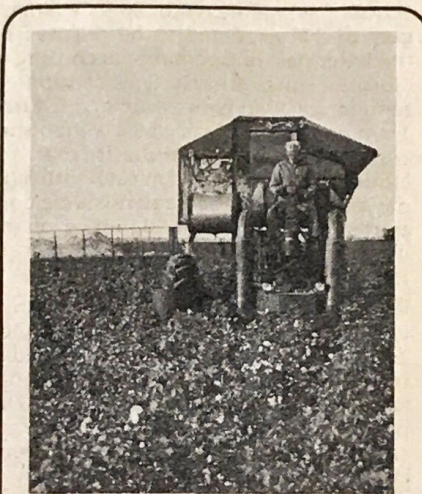
Bone, who came to Calvary Church in April of 1957, has also pastored the Floral Church for 4½ years, and the Clinton Church for four years. He received his high school education at Melbourne and Mt. Pleasant, and attended Southern College, Walnut Ridge, and Arkansas College, Batesville.

During his pastorate at Calvary Church, the church has more than doubled in resident members, the present membership being over 600. The income of the church in 1957 was \$13,600 and this year the receipts totaled \$139,980. Gifts to mission causes in 1957 were \$2,503, and this year they are \$37,189.

Physical improvements to church property include the erection of 12,000 feet of educational space; purchasing and blacktopping of property for a parking lot; purchasing of three other lots with houses adjoining the church property; additional parking space on 18th Street; and a new 4,000-foot dining room and kitchen.

The Bones have three sons, Paul, a businessman in Clinton; Gayle, church administrator and director of education in Tampa, Fla.; and Larry, director of admissions and counselling and development assistant at Ouachita University.

The Bones plan to make their retirement home in Clinton.

**Proper credit**

This photo, which appeared on the cover of the Oct. 26 issue of the Newsmagazine was taken by Curtis Duncan of Curtis C. Duncan Photography, Dell.

Arkansan included 15-member search group named to seek Cauthen's successor

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — A 15-member search committee headed by M. Hunter Riggins Jr. of Poquoson, Va., was named Oct. 11 to begin seeking the person who will succeed Baker J. Cauthen as executive director of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board when he retires at the end of 1979.

James F. Sawyer of Benton was among those named for the task.

The committee, appointed at the board's annual meeting in Richmond, was asked to bring a progress report to the board's April meeting in Kansas City and a full report at the August or October meetings.

Cauthen, who has guided Southern Baptist foreign missions in its period of greatest growth, will continue to serve through 1979. He will reach the board's mandatory retirement age of 70 on Dec. 20, 1979.

Six laypeople and nine clergymen make up the search committee. Four women are among its members. All are members of the Foreign Mission Board. It was appointed by Board President William L. Self in consultation with the two board vice presidents at the initiation of Cauthen.

Members in addition to Riggins include Raymond L. Spence Jr. of Richmond; Joyce (Mrs. James A.) Ponder of Jacksonville, Fla.; Joe Neil McKeever of Columbus, Miss.; Doris (Mrs. Ray) Mullendore of Bowling Green, Ky..

Also, John W. Goodwin of Kansas City, Mo.; Joe E. Trull of Garland, Texas; Travis Otey of Jackson, Tenn.; Wynk (Mr. L. G.) Hicks of Clarksville, Ga.; Travis S. Berry of Plano, Texas; John W. Patterson of Richmond; Evelyn (Mrs. J. E.) Collette of Winston-Salem, N. C.; Lonnie H. Shull Jr. of West Columbia, S. C.; and Charles T. Carter of Birmingham, Ala.

Self announced the search committee at the close of the board's business meeting and joined Cauthen in asking Southern Baptists to "pray earnestly for God's leadership in the election of the executive director." The board meeting closed in a time of prayer as the 15 committee members stood at the front of Baker James Cauthen Chapel at the board's home office building.

When Cauthen became the board's chief executive officer Jan. 1, 1954, Southern Baptists had 908 missionaries in 33 countries and a budget of \$9.2 million. Today more than 2,800 missionaries are at work in more than 90 countries or territories and the board has just approved a 1979 budget of over \$71 million.

Under Cauthen's leadership Southern Baptists are working toward a goal of proclaiming the gospel to all people of the world by the year 2000. To help accomplish this, the board hopes to have 5,000 missionaries, assisted by increasing numbers of lay volunteers, serving in 125 countries by the end of this century.

A native of Lufkin, Texas, Cauthen served more than eight years as secretary for the Orient before assuming his present position. He and Mrs. Cauthen, the former Eloise Glass, were missionaries to China from 1939 until his election to the area secretary's post.

In September, 1977, Cauthen suffered a heart attack while speaking at Jackson Way Baptist Church in Huntsville, Ala. He had recovered from the attack and resumed his duties last April when he contracted the shingles, handicapping him for several months during 1978. But this fall he has again begun carrying his full load of responsibilities.

Petty accepts N.C. position

RALEIGH, N.C. (BP) — Charles V. Petty, an Arkansas native, who has been executive director of the Council on Christian Life and Public Affairs of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina since March 1, 1973, has resigned to accept appointment as director of Gov. James B. Hunt's Office of Citizen Affairs.

Petty, 38, who originally turned down the appointment, said that Hunt wanted a minister to work with the 10,000 churches in North Carolina "encouraging people to be involved in the hurts of others."

Petty, a native of England, Ark., is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University, and earned the bachelor of divinity and the doctor of theology degrees from Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth.

He is the first full-time executive director of the Council and came to Raleigh from Dallas, Tex., where he was an associate director of the Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission.

The 38-year-old minister has served in pastorates in Arkansas and Texas and is married to the former Jamie Brewer of Jonesboro. They have two sons, Anthony Charles, 10 and Jeremy Charles, 7.

Petty has directed the council's programs in family life, human relations, moral issues, economic life, citizenship and public affairs. He and his family are members of First Church of Raleigh.

Arkansas pastor named to seminary faculty

KANSAS CITY, Mo.— In their semi-annual meeting, the board of trustees of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary here elected an Arkansas pastor as a new professor of Christian Ethics and named the school's first vice-president for Business and Development.

Pastor of First Church, Fayetteville, since 1975, N. Larry Baker will begin teaching on or before Dec. 1 as associate professor of Christian Ethics. Midwestern has been without a full-time ethics professor since John Howell became Academic Dean in 1976.

Dr. Baker has served in various denominational posts in Northwest Arkansas, as Vice-Moderator for Washington-Madison Baptist Association, 1976-77, and a member of the Steering Committee for the Third Century Campaign of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. In addition, Baker serves as Professor of Bible for the Ouachita Baptist University Extension Center in Fayetteville.

Also active in Fayetteville civic and community affairs, the 41-year-old Baker has served as a member of the Bicentennial Committee, the Rotary Club, and the Chamber of Commerce.

Assistant professor of Christian Ethics and Pastoral Ministry at Southwestern, 1973-75, Baker also taught at Midwestern as visiting professor of ethics in 1976. He holds the bachelor of divinity and the master and doctoral degrees in theology from Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex.

He has held pastorates, interims, and associate positions throughout Arkansas, Texas and Louisiana.

C. W. Scudder will assume duties as vice president for Business and Development immediately. In the newly created position, Scudder will be responsible for the initiation and continuation of an institutional development program. He will continue to be in charge of business affairs, auxiliary services, and physical plant operations.

Golden Gate alumni meeting set

The annual meeting of the Arkansas Alumni Chapter of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary will be held in Little Rock Nov. 7 in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

The meeting will be held at the First Baptist Church, Little Rock.

Chapter officers are Dan Threet, president; George Fletcher, vice president; and William V. Garner, secretary.

Child Care

Baptist agency seeks to help children and families in trouble

"This year more children will die from injuries inflicted by their own parents than will die from all infections and diseases combined. More than half of these children will die before they are three years old. Of the rest, fewer than 25 percent will reach the age of nine." These statistics from a reliable national resource are alarming. In Christian America we find these ugly facts hard to believe. How could anyone mistreat a child?

America's families are in trouble — trouble so deep as to threaten the future of our nation, declared a major report during the most recent White House Conference on Children. Many are asking, "Can the family survive?" Older children and teens are on the run; it is estimated that last year 1½ million teen-

agers ran away from home. These loud sounds from our society point to the pressing needs of America's families and children. Arkansas Baptists are responding to these needs with a relevant ministry in keeping with current trends and needs in services to families and children and based on the unchanging example of ministering to others as taught in God's Word.

During the past year, we provided care and direction for 86 children at the Home in Monticello. Ten boys lived at the Group Home in Jonesboro. Fifteen children lived in agency-approved foster homes. During the first 9½ months of operation, 165 children received care at our Emergency Receiving Home in Little Rock.

Through our area offices located in Little Rock, Jonesboro, and Fayetteville, many families turned for help and direction with family and marriage problems. Helping to resolve parent-child conflicts and marital difficulties deserves our best efforts. Our professionally trained counselors combine their skills with their Christian caring to bring about healing in these broken relationships. These offices averaged 90 case interviews each month. A major responsibility of these offices is to conduct intake evaluations on children who need care in one of our residential services. Consultation to churches and agencies relating to problems with children and families is available through these offices.

Because of the pressing needs and the ministry we are able to provide, we are asking Arkansas Baptists to give generously to the Thanksgiving Offering. We encourage each church to adopt and

reach the suggested goal which you have received. If you will do so, we will reach our \$240,000 goal. This is necessary to sustain our present level of ministry and to help us expand into some other areas of pressing need.

Thank you for your support. — Johnny G. Biggs, Executive Director, Arkansas Baptist Family and Child Care Services.



GIFT PRESENTED — Charles Ashcraft (left), executive secretary for the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, presents a check for \$2000 to Rudy Duett, president of the newly formed Nevada Area Baptist Convention. The contribution presented on behalf of Arkansas Baptists was part of over \$26,000 given to the 34th state convention during a day and a half constituting convention held recently in Las Vegas, Nev. (Photo by Don Hepburn)

Looking ahead: Arkansas events

November 1978

- 2-4 Marriage Enrichment Retreat (Church Training)
- 4 Parents and Pastors' Day (Southern Baptist College)
- 5-11 Royal Ambassador Week
- 6 Royal Ambassador Supper, Immanuel, Little Rock
- 6 Day of Prayer (BWA)
- 7-9 Arkansas Baptist State Convention, Little Rock, First
- 18 Ouachita Baptist University-Henderson State University Homecoming
- 19 Child Care Day
- 19-22 Graded Series Study (Foreign Missions)
- 20-21 Weekday Early Education Workshop, Park Hill, North Little Rock (Sunday School and Missions)

- 23-24 Mission Career Conference, Camp Paron (Pioneer age boys)
- 27 "M" Night
- 28 Recognition Banquet for Directors of Missions, Ouachita Baptist University
- 30-Dec. 1 Evangelism Workshop, Camp Paron
- 30 Church Leadership Training Seminar (Church Training)

December 1978

- 3-10 Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

Stewardship Questions to ask about the budget

Church leaders expect questions when the annual budget is presented. Members of the budget planning committee are usually prepared to answer. Questions should be asked. How often do these questions surface?

Does the church budget represent ministries in keeping with Christ's command to his church? Where does the church place its priorities? Does the budget affirm the church's going and telling?

Can the church budget be promoted among the members with biblical stewardship principles? When members see the budget, does it have the ring of authority or a commercial Wall Street approach?

Does the budget challenge the members to give? Has inflation been considered? Do the figures show real growth or only an increase that equals inflation?

What does the budget say about the balance between local and world needs? Are some local wishes placed in line for more support than urgent world necessities? Does it take almost as much to run the kitchen as it designates for mission support?

Is the budget simple enough to be understood by the fifth grade member but broad enough to cover all the ministries of the church? Will it prevent emergency business meetings to approve unapproved projects?

Who was responsible for preparing the budget? Did the same small committee adjust last year's budget or is it representative of the time and prayer of many members?

Did the budget consider local economic trends? Is it realistic? Is it within the realm of possibility? Will the members rejoice when budget gifts equal budget requirements knowing that they've sacrificed?

When outsiders see the budget, what do they think? Does the church come through as a selfish institution? Does the budget project a caring fellowship that reaches out in love?

Has your church planned a budget? — **James A. Walker, Secretary of Stewardship**

MATURE ADULTS, SINGLE OR COUPLES WHO WOULD LIKE A CHALLENGE WORKING WITH CHILDREN. HIGH SCHOOL OR G.E.D. WRITE OR CALL: BILL ASHLEY, DIRECTOR OF CAMPUS LIFE, BUCKNER BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME, 5200 S. BUCKNER BLVD. DALLAS, TX. 75227, A/C 214-327-6617 night or weekends.

Mabees give SBC \$250,000 for multi-purpose building

The Mabee Foundation of Tulsa, Okla., has donated to Southern Baptist College a \$250,000 grant for their multi-purpose building project.

The SBC Mabee Student Center was the first to receive a gift from J. E. and L. E. Mabee. They doubled their first donation when they made the second grant.

This gift brings the total funds to \$510,260, which is half of what is needed to pay for the structure.

"There is no way you can sum up the value of this contribution. It's just great; that's all you can say about it," said Jim Tillman, vice-president for development.

The multi-purpose building will be an athletic/recreation/convocation center for all students at Southern.

The Mabee's through their foundation in Tulsa, have made contribution to other institutions also.

Weekday early education workshop

Nov. 20-21, 1978

Park Hill Church, North Little Rock

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Directors and teachers of kindergartens
and day care

Pastors

Other interested persons

Ratton



TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

WEE materials

Providing a good emotional environment

Childhood diseases and first aid

Special activities

Guiding spiritual growth

Handling problem situations

PROGRAM PERSONNEL

Bob Couch

Dr. Terry Swift

Dr. Bob Gosser

Mark Moore

Dr. Maurice Hurley

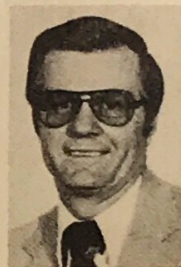
Nashville, Tenn.

El Dorado

North Little Rock

North Little Rock

Arkadelphia



Petty

FIVE SESSIONS

Monday, Nov. 20

10:00-12:15

1:00- 4:00

7:00- 9:15

Tuesday, Nov. 21

9:00-12:15

1:00- 2:45

Sponsored by

Sunday School and Missions Department, Arkansas Baptist State Convention

For more information call or write Pete Petty or Pat Ratton at 376-4791.

Tiny New Orleans church earns remarkable record

By Jim Newton

NEW ORLEANS (BP) — Located in the heart of the New Orleans French Quarter, Vieux Carre Baptist Church has achieved a remarkable record in ministering to the needs of people, even

though the tiny store-front church has only 17 members on roll.

In recent years, those 17 members have:

... sponsored 142 Cambodian

refugees, finding lodging and jobs for most of them;

... led the Louisiana Baptist Convention in per capita Cooperative Program giving two years ago;

... led 59 persons to Christ last year, even though the tiny little church reported no baptisms for the year;

... hosted and sponsored a group of about 40 laymen and seminary students who stayed in the church at night, and did personal witnessing and street preaching during Mardi Gras last year, leading an additional 158 to Christ;

... paid hospital and dental bills exceeding several thousand dollars for a foreign missions volunteer and a nursing student from Kenya ...

... and on and on the list could go. How could such a small church do so much with so few resources?

"We don't put our emphasis on nickles and noses," declares Roy Humphrey, pastor of the Vieux Carre church. "We put our emphasis on people."

The pastor draws no salary, only receiving reimbursement for his expenses. Humphrey, a jolly, hulking man who stands six feet tall and weighs 296 pounds, supports himself as a brick and real estate salesman, and owns several rental houses and a masonry contracting firm.

"I work a 22-hour day but spend more time eating than I do working," he quips.

Humphrey, an outgoing friendly pastor who confesses he has never met a stranger, obviously cares about people.

He jokingly refers to himself as "a big fat man," and doesn't hesitate to tell you he weighs 296 pounds: "and every pound of it is sweet!"

He has strong views about the need for the church to minister to the poor and suffering people in society — "those who can't do anything for you in return."

"A minister has to be interested in poor people more than in building a big church," he declares. "I've been in the ministry for 29 years, and I've never seen a man interested in financial gain for himself I would trust enough to talk to concerning my personal problems.

"One of the things I like about this church is that we don't care if you wear Chanel No. 5, or if you smell like you



IN THE HEART OF THE FRENCH QUARTER — Pastor Roy Humphrey (right), who helps an 84-year-old black woman with her coat, says the church is able to accomplish so much with so little resources "because this is a church that loves people." (BP) photo by Jim Newton

just walked out of a bar. We want to love you and tell you about Jesus."

Humphrey has a story to tell about almost every person present.

It was Granny, the 84-year-old black Catholic lady, who broke down the barriers that made blacks in the French Quarter feel welcome at Vieux Carre Church.

"I was walking down the street one day when a big old dog — half German Shepherd and half St. Bernard — about ate me up," Humphrey recalls.

"Granny came out and called off the dog, and I started talking to her. When I invited her to church, she said she couldn't come because she was Catholic." When Humphrey assured her that made no difference, she started coming regularly and has spread the word that blacks are welcome at Vieux Carre Baptist Church.

Shortly after the communist takeover of Vietnam and Laos, the 17-member church sponsored 142 Cambodian refugees, taking money out of their own pockets to rent them a place to stay. Humphrey found many of them jobs, using his contacts in French Quarter

hotels. They stayed only a few months, however. Most of them moved en masse to California to join a Cambodian community there.

His is a missions-minded church, Humphrey says. The church has helped pay medical bills for both a mission volunteer, and a product of Baptist missions.

Linda Venus, a New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary student, did volunteer mission work in New Orleans before discovering a malignancy.

Southern Baptist Hospital in New Orleans allowed her a discount, and members of Vieux Carre Church raised \$2,700 to help pay her medical bills.

"It almost broke our hearts when she died," Humphrey confides. "She was such a beautiful person."

Muthony Mugu, a nursing student from Nairobi, Kenya, who was a product of British Baptist missions work, was "living on oranges" when the church came to her aid financially. Over a period of several years the members raised \$3,400 to pay her tuition at Tulane University and later raised another \$1,600 to help pay for extensive dental

work. Now she is back in Kenya, ministering to her own people.

"The finances is nothing but a miracle," says Ted Mortimer, credit manager at the Plush Fairmont Hotel who serves as church treasurer. "Nobody believes we can do it, but we do. As the need arises, the money just becomes available."

At one time the church was deeply in debt, with three notes outstanding, but by the end of the year, the 17 members will have paid off all the indebtedness and completed remodeling of the outside facade to make the store-front building look more like a church, Mortimer says.

Usually, there are more visitors than members attending worship services at Vieux Carre. "We reach a lot of street people, win them to the Lord, and send them home," Humphrey explains.

That's why the church could have 59 professions of faith last year, but no baptisms.

"This is a church that loves people," he insists. "And if you don't believe me, just visit with us next time you come to New Orleans."

All year long, we
tell it out with gladness



And, since Christmas brings a focus on the glad tidings which are at the heart of our ministry, we invite you to share with others the vehicle for news and information about Baptists' work. Please turn to the back of this page for information.

Southern Baptist College begins newspaper

What is the *Christian Ambition*? It is the new newspaper to be published every other week at Southern Baptist College and will be distributed free to the students.

The name *The Christian Ambition* was derived by editor, Tina Stassin. She said she felt that "it paralleled 'The Campus of Christian Purpose' and this is the idea that we want to get across when the students read the newspaper; the *Christian Ambition* paralleling the school's motto, 'The Campus of Christian Purpose'."

Each issue will consist of news, sports, features on different talents, editorials, letters to the editor, humorous stories, cartoons, a woman's section and classified ads. This publication will also sponsor a writing and photography contest. Categories are personal experience, short story, poetry, and photography. One classification will be featured each month. The winning entries will be printed at that time.

About what she hopes the newspaper is going to do for the school Stassin says "Hopefully it will increase participation in club activities and in ball-games. The spirit of the school can also be lifted and I really think that is important for the kids to stand behind the school."

The paper will be a miniature broadsheet format which will have the appearance of a small newspaper printed of bookweight paper instead of newsprint.

New Sunday School starts total 1,174

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — A total of 1,174 new Southern Baptist Sunday Schools were started during the year ending Sept. 30, more than doubling the 567 begun last year.

¶ The two-year total of 1,741 new Sunday Schools means that 1,219 must be started by Sept. 30, 1979, to reach the three-year goal of 3,000 set by the Sunday School Board Sunday School growth section.

Texas led all state conventions with 152 new starts. The next highest were Ohio, 84; Northwest, 71; California, 65; Illinois, 64; Michigan, 63; and Florida, 61.

Three of the top seven — Ohio, Illinois and Michigan — are part of the North Central Thrust, a major growth project of six state conventions and fellowships. The other three are Indiana, Iowa Fellowship and Minnesota-Wisconsin Fellowship. Together, the North Central participants started a total of 290 new Sunday Schools last year.

"The doubling of our work by 1983 is a state convention goal," said Joe Watson, director of Sunday School work in Michigan. The state convention staff used an ACTION enrollment campaign for the third straight year to start a new Sunday School, this time in Marshall, Mich.

Your Will and Ouachita

You do have a will, but is it your own?

If you do not make a will, then after your death the state will make one for you. And that means that the state will distribute your possessions in the way the law demands...which may or may not be what you had in mind.

Write for our interesting booklet, "37 Things People Know About Wills That Aren't Really So."

For more information on *Your Will and Ouachita*, write to Lloyd Cloud, Director of Planned Giving, Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Ark. 71923 or call 246-4531, Extension 169.

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Money is power

Nov. 5, 1978
Luke 16:1-15
by Roy V. Cook
South Highland Church,
Little Rock

The passage to be studied is a parable of Jesus, a parable about the power of money: a neutral power that becomes power for good or evil depending upon the use men put it to; a parable with a point for all disciples of Christ. Money is a stewardship from God that should be used to accomplish God's purpose, a purpose of using money in this world for the benefit of the world to come. The point is given in verse 9 that money is to be used by the Christian to spread the Gospel, making unto themselves friends of those saved through their response to Christ. These then become friends in eternal life, glad to receive their benefactors.

The passage is a parable of contrasts in which the landowner corresponds to God; the shrewd steward corresponds to the Christian steward; the children of this world correspond to the children of light; and those receiving into their homes correspond to those receiving into everlasting habitations.

The passage is a parable where money is power in both this world and in the

world to come.

Money is power in this world

The unjust or rather shrewd steward receiving a just penalty of the loss of his stewardship because of his misuse of his master's money makes plans for his future. That is a future with doubtful prospects until his need, for something other than manual labor or begging, mother's invention, an invention that because of his ingenuity, diligence and thoroughness assures him of a tolerable time to come. By using his power of money to decrease the debts of fellow debtors, he makes them the wealth of his future. They would care for him either because favor deserves favor, or accomplices in crime form a brotherhood of honor.

It is his concern and provision for his future that his master commends. There was a man who really was a businessman.

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Money is power in the world to come

Through the parable and following verses Jesus asks Christians:

(v. 8) To prepare for their future with as much inventiveness, concern, and diligence as the shrewd steward;

(v. 13) To recognize that God's plan for money's power is so different from the plan of this world that it is impossible to follow both plans at once;

(v. 10-11) To be so faithful even in the little that the Lord would be able to trust more of his wealth with them; and

(v. 12) If they will be faithful in their stewardship of that which is God's he will one day give them that which will be their own — a place, a name, a work of love.

Money is power, power for here and hereafter. If you can't serve God and mammon then serve God with mammon.

Bible Book Lesson

The deliverance of Noah

Nov. 5, 1978
Genesis 8:1 to 9:29
by Don Cooper
Sunday School Dept.

The key to Noah's deliverance was because he followed God's commands. Noah proved by his actions that his faith was real. God's announcement of the flood required Noah to act before the first drop of rain ever fell. As someone has reminded us, "It wasn't raining when Noah built the ark." Noah put his faith on the line and carried out God's commands. Such action always brings the deliverance of God.



Cooper

God keeps promise (8:1-19)

God had promised to deliver Noah. God kept his promise. Noah's part was to build the ark. God's part was to end the flood. God delivered Noah. After assurances that the water had receded, Noah left the ark. Comparing 7:11 and 8:13-14 it appears that Noah was in the

ark one full year and 10 days.

Noah worships God (8:20-22)

Noah's response to deliverance was worship. He built an altar and made proper sacrifices. Noah is described as one with acceptable integrity, correct behavior, and humble conduct of his life in God's presence. Noah was obviously a religious man. It was well within his character to build an altar and worship.

God makes covenant (9:8-13)

The covenant was with men. God had judged man for his sin, but God spared one family. Noah was to be the link with all future prosperity on earth. God's promise was to all of Noah's descendants.

The covenant extended to all living things. God had destroyed the animal creation because of man's sin. Now they

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will share in the promise of the covenant.

The covenant was the promise that never again would all life be destroyed by water. It was an unconditional agreement on God's part. God's grace is shown in his care for man and also in his care of the physical creation.

The covenant would be represented by a sign, the rainbow. The sign would be universal. The rainbow is another token of God's living communication with us. It remains as a continuing representation of God's mercy and grace.

Sin and curse (9:20-27)

Noah's drunkenness and nakedness results in a curse on Canaan, descendants of Ham. The dispossession of the Canaanites by the Hebrews under Joshua was seen as the end result of his curse.

Does God still deliver?

God still delivers today! Noah was obedient and God delivered him. As we are obedient, God will deliver.

Integrity of relationships

Today's scripture text takes us to two mountain tops — Mount Sinai, where God gave the Ten Commandments to Moses; and a mountain in Galilee where Jesus preached the Sermon on the Mount. These two mountains should remind us again that honesty, integrity and uprightness cannot be limited to any generation or period of history. "He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee,

but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God" (Micah 6:8).

Overcoming barriers (Matt. 5:11, 12)

The passage from the Sermon on the Mount teaches us how we are to respond to persecution and insult. (1) The cause of the persecution is Christ (v. 11) "for my sake". Jesus had false accusations brought against him. Stephen, the

Nov. 5, 1978

Matt. 5:11-12

James 3:6-14

Exodus 20:16

by Gerald Taylor, pastor,
Life Line Church, Little Rock

first Christian martyr, was falsely accused for Jesus sake (Acts 6:13). "... And all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution" (II Timothy 3:12). (2) The attitude is to be one of rejoicing.

The believer can rejoice in persecution because he knows he is persecuted falsely and because God will minister to him an abundance of grace while enduring persecution. Peter said, "If any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf" (I Peter 4:16). (3) The response of the persecuted or reviled is to look beyond the moment of discouragement and see that the problem is not confined to one generation or incident. The prophets endured persecution. Stephen asked, "Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted?" (Acts 7:52). God will reward you when he balances the books.

Be on guard (James 3:6-14)

The persecuted believer must be on guard against falling into the same trap of reviling others. James points out that the unruly tongue is not only destructive (like the poison of the asp), but it defiles the whole body. Notice further the scope of destruction — it sets on fire the course of nature. Like a forest fire raging out of control, it spreads and destroys all that it touches. If then the tongue has such destructive power, the believer must set up a constant vigilance against this deadly sin.

It is noteworthy that we see the total inconsistency of a believer who has an unruly tongue. How can we bless God and curse man? How can sweet water and bitter water flow from the same spring? How can figs and olives grow on the same branch? How can salt water and fresh water come from one source? No wonder James concludes by saying, "These things ought not to be."

Be truthful (Ex. 20:16)

James concludes with an admonition, "Lie not against the truth." Moses, 1400 years before, gave the same instructions, "Thou shalt not bear false witness..." Being truthful is always right; it may not be popular, easy or convenient, but it is best because it is right.



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Attendance report

Oct. 22, 1978

Church	Sunday School	Church Training	Church adds.
Alexander, Viny Ridge Immanuel	89	53	
Alma, Clear Creek Southern	133	60	4
Alpena, First	77	17	
Ash Flat, First	96	30	2
Atkins, First	75	23	
Batesville, First	270	116	
Bentonville, Central Avenue	73	42	
Berryville			
First	142	38	
Freeman Heights	152	53	
Booneville			
First	284		
Blue Mountain	23		
South Side	107	59	
Bryant, First Southern	213	69	2
Cabot			
First	416	130	7
Mt. Carmel	412	145	5
Conway, Second	416	193	3
Crossett			
First	479	99	4
Mt. Olive	324		2
Temple	181	64	
Danville, First	191	58	1
El Dorado, West Side	462	461	1
Ft. Smith			
First	1532		8
Grand Avenue	1076	262	6
Mission	32		
Trinity	142	47	
Westside	91	54	
Fouke, First	122	83	
Gentry, First	180	52	
Gosnell	718	123	3
Halley	43		
Hampton, First	169	83	2
Hardy, First	142	42	
Harrison			
Eagle Heights	269	103	1
Woodland Heights	91	54	2
Helena, First	194	71	
Hot Springs			
Harvey's Chapel	164	92	
Park Place	318	90	
Hughes, First	134	38	
Huntsville, First	74		
Jacksonville, First	422	92	
Jonesboro			
Friendly Hope	146	97	
Nettleton	285	138	7
Lavaca, First	336	131	1
Little Rock, Martindale	92	34	
Magnolia, Central	654	205	
Monticello, Second	284	63	
Mulberry, First	265	137	
Murfreesboro			
First	179	32	2
Mt. Moriah	45		
North Little Rock			
Harmony	90	48	
Levy	454	88	7
Park Hill	984	238	2
Stanfill	31	22	
Paragould			
Calvary	252	160	
Center Hill	105	103	
East Side	370	209	
First	447	110	5
Paris, First	353	53	
Pine Bluff			
Centennial	152	64	1
Central	127	48	
East Side	144	148	1
First	690	79	2
Hardin	143	71	2
Lee Memorial	261	92	
Watson Chapel	457	142	5
Rogers			
First	582	194	3
Immanuel	550	85	2
Russellville			
First	466	113	
Second	157	80	3
Sandusky, Okla., Faith	42	29	
Springdale			
Berry Street	68		
Caudle Avenue	95	39	
Elmdale	289	92	1
First	1574		5
Sweet Home, Pine Grove	104	49	1
Swifton	71		
Texarkana, Shiloh Memorial	203	101	
Van Buren, First	570	150	8
Vandervoort, First	93	53	
Ward, First	126	68	
Wooster, First	127	73	
Yellville, First	165	78	

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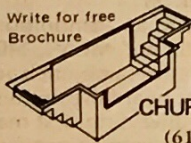
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Foreign fields send plea for 1,451 missionaries

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Missionaries on 92 fields are calling on Southern Baptists to reinforce their ranks with 1,451 new missionaries in the next 12 months.

The new personnel requests seek half again as many missionaries as the 2,832 already serving overseas through the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

With 45 more new missionaries expected to be approved at its October meeting, the Foreign Mission Board, which approved 279 in 1977, is almost assured of topping the 300 mark in appointments this year for the first time. But even these record numbers will fill less than a fourth of the overseas needs for career missionaries emphasizes Louis R. Cobbs, secretary for missionary personnel.

"Southern Baptists are going to have to face up to some very significant decisions about the role that God may be expecting them to fill in this day of Bold Missions," Cobbs declared. Although unsettled conditions prevail in many areas, he noted that such periods often are the time when people are most open to changes in their way of life — including the willingness to hear the gospel message.

Some mission fields waited years to fill critically needed jobs. So far this year, only five persons — two couples and a single literacy worker — have been sent for all of West Africa.

"This has been a lean, lean year for us," says John E. Mills, area secretary who coordinates the work of 328 missionaries in the nine countries in that sector. "We do have another couple and a single person being considered for appointment later this year, but our missionaries are asking us, 'Hey, what does all this Bold Mission Thrust really mean to us out here on the field?'"

They're still waiting to see Southern Baptists' commitment to Bold Missions, made at the denomination's national convention earlier this year, express itself in missionary appointments for their areas, Mills said.

This year's personnel requests include 315 general evangelists, 68 teachers for seminaries, institutes or Theological Education by Extension, 25 religious education promoters, 16 student workers, 15 musicians, 13 youth workers, 7 English-language pastors, and 15 others to do work related to evangelism and church development.

Medical requests are again urgent, as the board seeks 29 physicians, 8 dentists, 14 nurses and 12 other medical personnel. Forty non-theological educators are needed — 11 for the elementary level, 13 for secondary, 12 for college, and 4 in other categories related to this specialty.

The list also points up needs for 24

media workers, 18 business personnel, 5 in support ministries, and 40 in a variety of other positions, including 16 for agricultural evangelism.

To find the total number of people requests from the missions represent, the board just about doubles the request total since most can be filled by a couple. In addition, the total includes requests for about 125 missionary journey-men, those who go for a two-year period after college.

Cobbs also cited many opportunities available for single men and women. Almost a fourth of the total job requests could be filled by single women, and 41 requests specify single women. A total of 201 requests are open to single men.

Major needs in areas hurting most for new personnel include:

East Asia — General evangelists and urban evangelists are needed to assist in evangelization of Hong Kong; six general evangelists and two student evangelism workers are needed in Korea; and 10 general evangelists top the personnel needs for Japan, where half the career and associate missionary force will reach retirement age within 12 years.

Upper Volta and Ivory Coast — General evangelists are requested to take advantage of responsiveness in these French-speaking West African countries. Cities with 25,000 to 70,000 population have no Baptist witness.

Bangladesh — Four general evangelists are sought for rural outreach in the villages where people are particularly responsive now, and a food-production specialist and a biochemist also have high priority.

Thailand — Nine requests are listed for missionary evangelists to work in the Bangkok metropolitan area to implement an urban strategy program that seeks to start a house church in every neighborhood of the city. Others are needed to help develop churches in rural areas near the cities and to work with refugees.

Rwanda — Two teams of two couples each are needed to work in the rural areas of this small but densely populated country in central Africa. Each team would include an agriculturalist and a veterinarian. In addition, at least one more general evangelist would be needed to work with the teams.

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More than 70 percent of the job requests are in the evangelism and church development category, with general evangelists again heading the list of priority needs.

But the range of needs is wide, with requests being made for new personnel in 59 different kinds of jobs. These range from a food production specialist in Bangladesh to a French-language editor to help prepare printed materials needed in the French-speaking countries of West Africa.

The requests, decided upon in meetings of missionaries on each field, were reviewed as the board's missionary personnel department brought in its regional personnel representatives to meet with home office staff and area secretaries.