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Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

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7-23-1987

**July 23, 1987**

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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Awareness and Action

# Arkansas Baptist

July 23, 1987



SOUTHERN BAPTIST HISTORICAL  
LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES  
Historical Commission, 1900  
Nashville, Tennessee

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(BP) photo

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One Arkansas church found a way to raise awareness about world hunger and move people to action.

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## IT'S UPLIFTING

### Arkansas Church Losses Down

A total of 42 new congregations have been launched in Arkansas in the last three years. Only two, or 4 percent, of these new ones have died. A total of 12 congregations have disbanded. That is a loss rate of 28 percent compared with new starts. Ten of the 12 were older churches that died. The 28 percent loss rate is down from 49 percent in the 1970s.

### Agriculturist Opens Madagascar Work

ANTANANARIVO, Madagascar—Agricultural evangelist Fred Sorrells and his wife, Sami, arrived in Madagascar May 12 to open Southern Baptist work there. About 10 million people live on Madagascar, the world's fifth largest island, located off the southeast coast of Africa.

### Patient Gives Heart to Jesus

HUAYAYBÍ, Paraguay—A man with a heart ailment walked to a medical clinic

where Southern Baptist missionaries William and Frances Skinner gave him medicine and booked him for a check-up. Months passed and he didn't return. Then, Mariano appeared for a church service and accepted Christ. The Skinners gave him reading glasses and he joyously read the Bible for the first time. Then he brought a friend who got glasses and the same joy. Mariano died of a stroke the next week. At his funeral, his only relatives present "were his brothers and sisters in Christ," noted Mrs. Skinner.

### Jordan School Holds First Graduation

AMMAN, Jordan—Eighteen Jordanian teenagers received diplomas during the first graduation exercises of the Amman Baptist School, Amman, Jordan. Three had attended the school since 1974, the year it opened with 14 students. The school has since grown to 450 students in kindergarten through grade 12. Paul Smith, founder of the school and now a Southern Baptist representative in Morocco, returned for the graduation exercises in May. The current director is missionary Wilson Tatum.

## GOOD NEWS!

### Foundations For Family Living

Ephesians 5:21 to 6:4

It would be a serious mistake to start a skyscraper without digging a deep foundation and anchoring it with steel and concrete. Yet many people make an even bigger mistake. They try to build a family by just placing the people together on the shaky ground of modern life. Paul suggested to the Ephesians some of the things required to hold family together and keep it from falling.

**God-given oneness.**—The basis of marriage is God's plan for a man and woman to be joined together as "one flesh." This term comes from Genesis 2:24. It indicates a close, personal relationship in which two persons function as one. The outward expression of this is the sexual relationship, but an inner, spiritual relationship is intended also. God no longer looks at the husband, without seeing the wife also. He does not look at the wife without seeing the husband also. One man and one woman are to be joined together for life. Together they seek the will of God for both of them.

**Christlike love.**—The home is to be a laboratory or proving ground where love can be demonstrated. Paul compared the love of husband for wife with the love of Christ for the church. This is love that sacrifices self for the good of the beloved. How different this is from the self-seeking romance that is seen in the mass media today.

**Mutual support.**—Husband and wife are to submit themselves to one another for Christ's sake. The husband must love his wife as his own self, since they are now one with each other. The wife is to give support to the husband. In patriarchal societies, wives took a secondary role to husbands. Both partners are to share in the leadership of the family. Both husband and wife must provide support for the family.

The same mutual support applies to parents and children. All members have a responsibility to God for doing their part in the family and for seeking the good of the other members.

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# Facing Temptation

J. EVERETT SNEED

Temptation comes to everyone. Often it comes in the most unexpected time and manner. Temptation often is a turning point in a person's life which should bring him closer to God. The result, however, depends on the decision which is made by the individual being tempted.

The word "temptation" in English means to entice a person to do wrong, to seek to seduce into sin, to try to persuade one to take the wrong way. But in Greek and Hebrew, it conveys the idea of testing.

Some mistakenly believe that God sometimes tries to entice people to sin. This idea is based on such Scriptures as Genesis 22:1 which says, "...God did tempt Abraham..." The problem is resolved when we understand that God was testing Abraham to make him stronger. Just as metal must be tested far beyond any stress it will be called on to bear before it can serve its purpose, so man must be tested before he can properly serve God.

Our Lord never tries to seduce anyone into sin. God desires that everyone will attain his highest purpose in life. Testing can help us to become all that God wants us to be.

Obviously, temptation is not something one enjoys. However, it can be a time when a Christian is strengthened in his walk with Christ. As one is tempted, one can gain new insights and understanding.

It is vital that we understand the source of our evil pressures. While Satan is elated when anyone sins, the ultimate choice is under the control of each person. It is untruthful to say, "The devil made me do it," since every person is a free moral agent.

Temptation is always more an internal struggle than an outer experience. The decision to sin or to refrain from sinning is made in the mind. This is not to say that there is no personal tempter which confronts each of us. Martin Luther felt so attacked by the devil that he threw his ink pot. It is said that the ink stain is still on the wall of the castle at Wartburg in Germany.

Obviously, there is no sin in being tempted. Whether we understand the word in its ancient or modern usage, sin occurs when we transgress God's will.

Temptation often comes at the most unexpected time. Jesus, temptation came soon after his baptism (Mt. 4:1-11). Elijah's worst period of testing came after God had



used him as an instrument to defeat the prophets of Baal on Mt. Carmel (I Ki. 18:17-40). The prophet, who had stood steadfastly against the hosts of Baal, fled in terror and depression from Jezebel. We, too, may be faced with temptation soon after a great moment of victory.

No one will ever triumph over temptation to the extent that he will never be tempted again. The Scripture records several occasions when Jesus was tempted. Jesus was tempted in the wilderness at the beginning of his ministry (Mt. 4:1-11). Jesus was tempted by Peter, who tried to dissuade him from the cross (Mt. 16:23). Jesus was tempted in Gethsemane (Lk. 22:42-44).

Since our temptations will come at the most unexpected time and at points where we are most vulnerable, it is imperative that we are continually prepared to deal with

them.

There are a number of keys to overcoming temptation. First, an individual should give his life to the living Lord. Every Christian must remember that one cannot overcome evil on his own. It is only through the help of Christ that we can be victorious over the Evil One.

Second, Christians must resist temptation which emanates from the devil. James, the half-brother of our Lord, said, "Submit yourselves, therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you" (Ja. 4:7). In order to protect oneself against temptation, one must willfully submit to the Lord and resist the activity of Satan.

Third, Christians should rebuke Satan in the name of the Lord or with Scripture. When Jesus was tempted by Satan, in each instance he responded to the Evil One with Scripture. No one can outmaneuver the devil. But through the Word of the Lord and the power of Christ, we can always be victorious.

Finally, it is important for Christians to set their minds on the things of the Lord. Everyone needs to recognize that personality consists of native ability plus everything with which one comes into contact. If one chooses to meditate, study, and participate in spiritual things, one will be prepared for the temptation of the devil. But if, on the other hand, one continually consumes those things which are of the flesh, one is likely to yield to temptation.

Though temptation will never be ended while we live in the flesh, we should grow and mature as we overcome temptation. Each of us, like Jesus, must decide there can be no compromise when temptation comes. Each victory will provide us with new strength.

## Arkansas Baptist NEWSMAGAZINE

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J. Everett Sneed, Ph.D. . . . . . Editor

Mark Kelly . . . . . Managing Editor

Erwin L. McDonald, Litt. D. . . . . Editor Emeritus

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Letters to the editor expressing opinions are invited. Letters should be typed double-space and must be signed. Letters must not contain more than 550 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 will 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.

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## Letters to the Editor

## Working Together

I would like to share what I feel is an important observation of our recent convention in St. Louis. I would like to commend the trustees who were in the minority in the recent election of Dr. Larry Lewis as head of the Home Mission Board for not bringing a minority report. I would like to commend the minority Peace Committee members for not bringing a minority report to the convention. Both minority groups surely could have brought such reports, but it seems that in the interest of genuine peace within our fellowship they refrained from doing so.

It is sad, on the other hand, that the minority trustees on the Christian Life Commission felt that they had to bring to the convention a minority report which reflected their dissatisfaction with the election of Dr. Larry Baker. Such action did not reflect the honest attempts by many to find reconciliation and prayerful support of our leaders.

It remains my hope and prayer that all of our agency trustees will work together in support of our leaders and ministry programs as we continue to find creative ways to reconcile our differences and live in peace and common ministry for the sake of the coming Kingdom of God.—Mark Hopper, Louisville, Ky.

## They Voted For It

Would you believe the Southern Baptist ministers at St. Louis voted not to reconsider having the '89 convention in Las Vegas? Southern Baptist preachers voted to put \$4.5 million to \$8 million dollars of God's money into the pockets of those who promote gambling, prostitution, and pornography and into a town built on those premises. Yet these same preachers will have the unmitigated gall to stand in their pulpits and preach against gambling, prostitution, and pornography.

What they did makes the preacher's affair with that little old girl look like a Sunday School picnic. Thousands of young preachers, their wives, and children will stay in rooms where demon spirits roam at will. Many of the young preachers' children will come home demon possessed and oppressed because these Southern Baptists fear lawsuits by man more than God.

In all honesty, I would hope a demon would get after all the older preachers who go there and run them home because they should know better. God didn't send Abraham down to investigate Sodom; he

sent two angels, and the Sodomites even tried to take them on. Those of you who want to take a peek ought to go there on your own resources, not church money. Those of you who think you are stronger spiritually than Abraham and can change Las Vegas ought to ask your church for a leave of absence and schedule a revival there.

You young preachers, if you decide to go, you will to leave your family at home and get yourself a room with some Christian family outside of Las Vegas. By all means, don't let your wife and family handle your clothes you wear there, but you should burn them before you get home. Better yet, why not schedule this week to work in a pioneer area of Southern Baptist work?

Those of you Southern Baptists who set up the Las Vegas convention ought to resign your positions. For this terrible vote to go to Las Vegas, the Southern Baptist Convention should go into a year of mourning, repentance toward God, and ask for forgiveness.—James O. Young, Warren

BEN EARLY

## Southern Accent



## Life Like A Bucket

While walking through a hardware store recently, a shiny, new bucket being displayed caught my attention.

As I examined the bucket, I could tell the master tin smith had worked long and hard.

My eyes followed the bucket's perfect shape as I realized there were no flaws.

The master tin smith, however, cannot guarantee against abuse. If the person who purchases the bucket doesn't take proper care or doesn't use the bucket often enough, bit by bit the shiny new finish is worn away and rust begins to form. If we let the rust continue, before too long our bucket will have a hole in it. Next, the whole bottom will rust out and the bucket will be good for nothing except to be cast aside.

Life is like that shiny new bucket. God created each of us with love and has given us the best of everything, and then he says, "Now you must decide what you'll do with all I have given you."

One of the best ways we can keep our

buckets in good condition is to keep the bucket full of the Word of God, the Holy Spirit, and his love.

Each of us needs also to be willing to minister to others while letting others minister to us.

There is always the need for acceptance and approval. We each have what I would call the approval section of our bucket.

It is essential to our well-being that this section of our bucket be periodically replenished. As the approval section of our bucket is filled either by the Lord or by people around us, our entire personality flourishes. But if that section remains empty, rust begins to form, the personality withers and suffers deprivation.

In short, we experience a psychological and spiritual drought. The Father knew that and I believe Jesus knew it too. That is why he deliberately praised people on certain occasions.

The entire bucket must be cared for and used properly to reach its full potential.

I've used the bucket analogy to show that the youth of Arkansas and throughout the world are searching and learning how to best use their lives for their creator.

One of the greatest resources our youth have is in our Baptist colleges. Our mandate as Christians is to help these youth reach their full potential as they keep their buckets shiny, full, and fit for the Master's use.

Ben Early is public relations/alumni director for Southern Baptist College.

### June Cooperative Program Report

Received ..... \$855,250.42  
Budget ..... \$1,028,489.58  
Under ..... \$170,818.08

#### Year-to-date

Under ..... \$71,652.03

#### Same time last year

Under ..... \$275,294.72

The Cooperative Program receipts for the first six months of 1987 represent a continuing commitment of our churches to mission work in Arkansas and around the world. Based on the history of Cooperative Program gifts, we have a good chance to reach our 1987 budget. Thank you, Arkansas churches, for your faithfulness in giving.—Jimmie Sheffield, associate executive director

## CHARITABLE GIVING: *Second of a four-part series*

### Wills and Insurance

by John Ross  
Family and Child Care Services

As Christians we already know that everything that we own belongs to God. We are simply stewards of those possessions. Often, many of us can do more for the Lord's work after death than we could during our lifetime.

There are many different ways in which a Christian will can be implemented and a Christian cause provided for. Probably the most frequent option used involves designating some percentage of one's estate for the Lord's work. A person who has given a title of his income over the years can specify in his will a percentage of his estate as a bequest to a favorite Christian cause.

One might choose to give to a Christian charity a share equal to that bequeathed to each of his children. There could be no better partnership than that. If there is one child, then the charity would receive half; if there are two children, the Lord's work would receive one-third, and so on.

Everyone has a will, either a personal one or one provided by the Arkansas legislature. In other words, if you don't designate the division of your estate in your own will, the state of Arkansas will do it for you.

By having a personal will, you can be assured

that your wishes will be carried out. There are choices available to you once you decide to prepare a will. For a Christian who wants to support the Lord's work after death, a will is not only important; it is a must.

Most of us are acquainted with the pressure and self-denial we experience from a lifetime of providing the essentials of life to our families. It often seems that the savings we accumulate are small, but whether large or small, they represent our estates. Because these savings represent God's provisions to us, we must be conscientious stewards in deciding their ultimate disposition.

If the statistics are correct, over 70 percent of Americans fail to plan for the future and don't prepare wills. Many people intend to write wills, but don't due to negligence and irresponsibility.

Insurance can provide another good opportunity to provide support for the Lord's work. As time goes on, some of the life insurance one may own may be unnecessary because the need for which it was purchased no longer exists. For example, a policy which was purchased during early earning years as security for a young family may not now be needed because of savings and investments. If one's mortgage is paid off, life in-

surance purchased to provide its satisfaction can now be considered for other things.

If you have such life insurance, you may want to consider giving to help needy children, Christian education, foreign or home missions, or other Baptist causes. The charitable gift of a paid-up life insurance policy allows an income tax deduction equal to the policy's replacement value.

If you have thought about making a gift to a Christian cause, but can't afford a gift as large as your commitment, you can take out a life insurance policy naming the charity as owner and beneficiary that will eventually be worth a great deal. The cost for the premium will be nominal each month and deductible as a charitable gift from your taxable income.

If you want your Christian stewardship to live forever, remember the Lord's work in your will or consider the use of life insurance to make such provisions.

If you would like to know more about wills or life insurance as methods of charitable giving, or need counsel regarding your estate planning, call or write John Ross, Arkansas Baptist Family and Child Care Services, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203, phone 376-4791, ext. 5166.

## Missions Advance 87-89

### 'Prayer Partner' Plan Begins

The "Prayer Partner" plan for "Missions Advance 87-89" has been launched. You have the opportunity to become a part of this statewide effort aimed at increasing mission support through the Cooperative Program.

"Missions Advance 87-89" proposes to reach every Arkansas church with the challenge of increased giving through the Cooperative Program. The challenge will include a study of the biblical basis for the Cooperative Program as well as its effectiveness. The potential crisis found in Arkansas also will be interpreted through this emphasis.

Over 100 persons have been trained to share the message of "Missions Advance 87-89." These people are available upon request at no cost to your church. Call 376-4791 or write Jimmie Sheffield, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203.

In order for this effort to succeed, it must be undergirded with prayer. Thus, a "Prayer Partner" plan is underway to enlist thousands who will make a commitment to pray for "Missions Advance 87-89."

If you will make that commitment, complete the form below and return it to: "Prayer Partners," P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203.

You will receive informational material and the names of the task force members when you mail in your commitment form.

### Prayer Partner Commitment



Yes, I want to make a commitment to pray for "Missions Advance 87-89" on a regular basis.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:  
"Prayer Partners"  
P.O. Box 552  
Little Rock, AR 72203

### A SMILE OR TWO

A visitor from Holland was chatting with his American friend about the red, white and blue in the Netherlands flag. "Our flag symbolizes our taxes," he said.

"We get red when we talk about them, white when we get our tax bill, and blue after we pay them."

"That's the same with us, the American said, "Only we see stars, too."



WORLD HUNGER DAY

## Awareness and Action

by J. Everett Sneed  
Editor, Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

First Church, Charleston, under the leadership of Pastor Larry Horne, conducted a successful World Hunger project recently. Horne said, "Although our church had an item in the budget for world hunger, our leadership felt many of our church members were unaware of our gifts." We also hoped to make our members more aware of the needs around the world.

The church, under the leadership of Pastor Horne, who is chairman of the World Hunger Task Force for Arkansas, developed a three-month emphasis on world hunger. The program was kicked off with a fellowship dinner in which rice bowls were distributed to participating families to be used as banks in which donations for world hunger would be placed. The rice bowls also represented the maximum amount of food received each day by many people in the world.

Assigned activities were distributed to participating families each week. At the beginning, the projects were light and designed to produce levity within the families that were participating.

The first project was for each member of a participating family to give a penny for world hunger each time he or she opened the door of the refrigerator. Obviously a family is unaware of the numerous times its members go to the refrigerator. This project did two things: (1) it made the family aware of how much food it ate; and (2) it made the family aware that much of the world has no refrigerator.

The church also gave fact sheets on world hunger to the congregation. One of the facts which was given out states, "There is enough food for every man, woman, boy, and girl to have 300 calories per day. The problem is distribution and government control."

Another project was for every family to give five cents for each cookbook in the house. This illustrated that in America we have plenty. Some families had one cookbook; one family had 62.

The project progressed in the amount of money to be given near the end. One project called for a family to give 50 cents for each loaf of bread purchased during a given week. Finally, each person was to miss a meal and give the money for that particular meal to world hunger.

There were 40 families who started the project, and 35 units completed all of the

number of times a day they opened the refrigerator, the number of candy bars they ate or the number of sandwiches they consumed. Horne said, "At first some of our people thought that the purpose of the project was to encourage us to cut back on the amount we ate. But as the project progressed, they saw that the purpose was to make us aware of the fact that Americans have so much and many other countries have so little."

Horne observed, "The project had a positive impact on our congregation. The

(BP) photo



### World Hunger Day—So much need, so much to share.

activities. Pastor Horne observed that this was an excellent percentage from a church that averages approximately 200 in Sunday School.

The effort raised \$673.47 by the end of the thirteenth week. Some of the families asked to keep the rice bowls so they could give additional money for world hunger. Some of the people want another series of projects which emphasizes world hunger.

Pastor Horne emphasized the church gives approximately the same amount of money to world hunger through a budget item, but this raised the awareness of the congregation regarding world hunger.

The facts used in the world hunger program were received from the Foreign Mission Board through the Human Needs Ministry Department headed by John R. Cheyne.

Horne has fact sheets containing approximately 30 ideas to be used by congregations for the 13-week project. The rice bowls also are available, and Horne can provide information on where to obtain them. Of course, any container, such as a butter dish, can be used.

Many of the people were amazed at the

money will help to feed a good number of people, but the real positive effect was to make our people aware of world hunger.

"Our people are now aware that all of the money they give through the Foreign Mission Board for world hunger goes directly to buy food. None of it goes to pay salaries," he added.

In October, a World Hunger Sunday is on the calendar. The World Hunger Committee is suggesting that churches might want to start a 13-week project which would end on Oct. 11, World Hunger Sunday.

On the last Sunday, First Church, Charleston, had its families bring the offering they had saved. They had a time of dedication of the gifts, and Pastor Horne preached on "Feeding the World." In his message, he emphasized feeding the people physically as well as the Word of God. He said, "This was a very special time for our church. I believe a church of any size can use these materials effectively."

Those interested in receiving materials may write to: Rev. Larry Horne, First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 297, Charleston, AR 72933, or may phone during business hours 965-2533.

## DEPRESSED?

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

# August Offerings

by Don Moore  
ABSC Executive Director

**What had you planned to accomplish in the 1986-87 church year? How well have you done?**

When this periodical comes to you, only two months will be remaining in the church year. It may not be too late to do something about what you wanted to accomplish. You should do a quick review of how you have done in enrolling people in Sunday School. Have you seen a growth in effectiveness in winning the lost? Have you led your people to grow in stewardship? Can you say that progress has been made in the spiritual fellowship?

Perhaps you didn't set any goals for the year. If that is the case, you are probably in a daze of just not knowing where you are, what you are accomplishing, or where you are going. If this is true, then now is the time to begin setting goals and making plans for the new church year. It will be great if you will take others with you in your dreaming and goal setting.

For those who had some goals and are evaluating where you are, with a little more faith and effort on your part and on the part of those you influence, you could reach or surpass those goals by the end of September. More power to you!

Our program staff, which is some 27 persons, has conducted 1,184 separate conferences with a view to helping you succeed. If we can do anything else in these closing months, let us know. We can certainly help you in reaching your goals in the new year, if you will give us an opportunity. Note the good offerings for you in program helps in August.

**"Some is better than none!"** Isn't that a tremendous truth? A lot of people do not believe that. "All or nothing at all" is what they believe. Here is proof. Many believe that since you do not ordinarily have good attendance in Church Training, then you should just not have it at all. Some trained is better than none. Others having had a bad experience with some of the programs or materials judge it all to be bad and therefore give up Church Training totally.

I want to challenge pastors and Church Training directors to give up their "all or nothing at all" philosophy and take another look at the help they can receive through Church Training. The Pastor-Director Retreat at Camp Paron, Aug. 7-8,

is the best time and place to make some decisions together about how to help your people in their Christian growth.

**Who will see to the retirement needs of pastors and staff?** Most will not bring up "money matters" to committees and to deacons where their personal needs are involved. If they will not, who will? Most churches provide a 1940's economy retirement benefit. No one can live on that today. Church treasurers, deacon chairmen, budget and finance chairmen or personnel committee people must do something or a critical area of need will go neglected. Those of you in central and southeast Arkansas should attend an informational meeting on this matter Aug. 31, at Emmanuel Church, Pine Bluff. Churches must not fall further behind in this basic provision.

**They will be gone before you know it!** Whatever you are going to do to help your college students get off to a good start spiritually in college you will have to do soon. August 2nd has been designated as "On To College Day." There will be about 25,000 Baptist students going to college this fall. Ninety percent of them will be attending state schools or non-Baptist schools. You could have some recognition of these in your church, and also a prayer of commitment for God's direction and protection in their life. One more thing, you could send their name, school, and address to the BSU office so they could be contacted and encouraged and involved in Christian growth and ministry.

**Hey, men!** Those of you in a position to inspire men in missions should be watching for the Area Brotherhood Conferences coming soon. These begin Aug. 31 and conclude Sept. 29. One is sure to be near you. Men can and must be informed and involved in missions. Revive that hope of a great missions enterprise among your men. Attend a conference near you!

**Pan-American Games** are similar to the Olympics. This year they are held in Indianapolis, Ind. Guess what? Our Pioneer RA Mission Action Project this summer is a witnessing mission to the games. Visitors from all over the world will be there. I thought you would be proud to know about this project and also would want to pray for these young men.

**Impact 87**—Nine area conferences for WMU Leadership from our churches will be held between Aug. 31 and Sept. 30. The latest and best in information and training will be shared with you so that you may be equipped to have an effective WMU in your church. WMU is worth doing. It is worth doing right—"With all your heart"

(Co. 3:23).

**Are you an associational worker?** Special training is available for you in August if you work with the Associational WMU or Church Training. Directors and age-group leaders should participate. The WMU training will be in a retreat setting at Camp Paron, Aug. 14-15. The Church Training Conference will be at Park Hill Church, North Little Rock, Aug. 28-29.

**Music Memorandum**—Nine Adult Choir Festivals will be held Aug. 31 - Sept. 3. Every one of these festivals ought to be an exciting celebration of praise as choirs sing separately and collectively under professional leadership.

**Volunteer/Part-time Music Leader Workshops** will be held for directors and accompanists Aug. 8, First Church, Smackover, and Aug. 21-22, Southern Baptist College.

Children's Choir Leader Workshop will be held Aug. 14-15, Park Hill Church, North Little Rock. Coordinators, directors, leaders and accompanists should benefit greatly from these.

Why not make Aug. 23-29, Church Music Emphasis week in your church? You could express appreciation to a great group of people who give a lot of time and effort in service to the Lord and his church.

**Small Sunday School Leadership updates.** These will be in five locations. The date is Aug. 6. This is only for churches with less than 150 enrolled in Sunday School.

**Three Area Growth Spiral Workshops** will be held Aug. 17, 18, 20. Further information may be found elsewhere in *Helpline*.

## Positions Available

Wayland Baptist University in Plainview, Texas, announces the immediate opening of teaching positions in Finance and in Marketing in its Division of Business. Both appointments are effective in the fall of 1987.

Both require doctoral degrees, although ABD candidates will be considered. Preference will be given to candidates with experience in business or industry.

Successful candidates will be responsible for teaching undergraduate and MBA courses in the Division, as well as actively participating in development of Wayland's business program. Frequent contact with local business and industry can be expected.

To apply, contact Dr. Aline Arnold, Chairman, Division of Business, Wayland Baptist University, Plainview, TX 79072; (806) 296-5521, ext. 355. Application deadline is July 25, 1987.



## Brotherhood

### Men Ought Always To Pray

Lloyd Elder, Sunday School Board president; Larry Lewis, newly elected president of the Home Mission Board; Keith Parks, Foreign Mission Board president; and James Smith, Brotherhood Commission president, were together prior to the SBC meeting in St. Louis.

The question, "What would you like to request prayer for most of all?" was directed to each of them. This is how the four outstanding Baptist leaders responded.

Lloyd Elder: "Pray that God will use us to start and strengthen Sunday Schools."

Larry Lewis: "Pray for me as I seek to lead the Home Mission Board to lead our nation to Christ."

Keith Parks: "Pray that we may have God's wisdom in making decisions (that will implement Bold Mission Thrust)."

James Smith: "Pray that God will raise up a Fellowship of Praying Men."

What could God do through a network of praying men in Arkansas? Arkansas Baptist Men could deeply influence our state and our world. Would you be willing to be a part of an Arkansas Fellowship of Praying Men? If you are willing to be a part of this "Fellowship" would you indicate this by sending your name to: Glendon Grober, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203.—Glendon Grober, director

become the definite responsibility of a class or department for Bible study attendance, evangelism, ministry, and Christian development.

(4) Persons enrolled feel more responsible for attending, especially when Sunday School leaders are alert to contact absentees effectively week-by-week.

(5) By enlisting unsaved and unaffiliated church members in Sunday School, the church has a greater opportunity for winning them to Christ and helping them to become active in the Lord's work.

### Church Training Equipping The Equippers

Two excellent training opportunities will be offered for those who have responsibility for leading a church in its Church Training program. Each of these events is planned with the local church in mind. The basics of organization, curriculum and planning will be dealt with in these training opportunities.

**Pastor-Director Retreat**—One of the best opportunities for pastors and Church Training Directors is the annual Pastor-Director Retreat to be



held at Camp Paron on Friday night and Saturday morning, Aug. 7-8. This retreat is offered at an excellent time as churches are preparing for a new year beginning in October. Six hours of intensive training is offered, covering every aspect of the Church Training program for church members, new members, and leaders. The retreat will be directed by Church Training Department staff and begins with the meal at 6 p.m. Friday and adjourns at noon on Saturday. The cost of the retreat, including lodging and meals, is \$25. Registration should be sent in advance to the Church Training Department, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203.

**Church Training Convention**—The second training opportunity is the annual Church Training Convention to be held Oct. 27 at Immanuel Church in Little Rock. With sessions in the morning, afternoon, and evening, training will be offered for pastors, church staff, Church Training directors, and all age-group leaders. Conferences for general officers will introduce specialized training approaches such as LIFE (Lay Institute for Equipping), MasterLife, The Encourager Plan, Potential Leader Training, and DiscipleYouth. There also will be conferences for media library workers and church secretaries.

Discipleship training in a church will be only as strong as the commitment and effectiveness of its leaders. The approaches and the resources are available to enable any church to effectively equip its people in discipleship. These training events can help you make it happen where you are!—**Bob Holley, director**

## Sunday School

### Why Enroll People In Sunday School?

Reaching out to people has become a way of life for Arkansas Baptists! Hundreds of our churches have recommitted themselves to the biblical task of reaching people for Bible study, salvation, and meaningful church membership. They are using their Sunday School to reach the people week-by-week by majoring on enrollment as a growth strategy.

There are definite, practical reasons why a church should maintain a regular Sunday School roll and should seek to enroll every person possible in its Bible teaching program.

(1) Sunday School is the church organized to teach the Bible to all ages on a regular basis.

(2) Other things being equal, 45 to 55 percent of those enrolled attend Sunday School week-by-week.

(3) When persons are enrolled, they

### 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
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## Evangelism

# Good News Arkansas—Victory

Our God has given us great victory through the "Good News Arkansas—Jesus Loves You" emphasis this spring. We lift our hearts to him in praise for every lost person that was saved by hearing the Good News and responding to Jesus.

With a heart of deep gratitude, I express my appreciation to the association leaders who directed this emphasis in their associations. Our reports show that almost every association gave emphasis to the "Good News Arkansas—Jesus Loves You." God's records will show that many people came to know Jesus because this good news was shared.

Most of our churches in Arkansas had a Good News revival. It was my privilege to personally share in several of these. I experienced a responsiveness to the gospel that was very delightful. In some of our revivals, we had people saved every day. I am so grateful to our Lord for the way he moved through the churches that were serious in sharing the good news.

Our major emphasis for Good News

Arkansas was sharing the little booklet that was printed especially for this effort. Our first printing was 100,000 booklets. There was such a response to these booklets from our churches that we had a second printing of 20,000. We had numbers of wonderful reports of how the booklet was used to lead people to Christ.

Perhaps the best publicity we had for the Good News emphasis was through the Good News Run. This Good News Run began on a rainy morning on the steps of the Sate Capitol. Glendon Grober, our Good News Run coordinator, then worked with each association in the state. Our associations and churches received some wonderful publicity through television and the secular press.

The following objectives characterize the Good News Run: (1) to foster a willingness and commitment to sharing our faith openly outside the church building, (2) to involve maximum numbers of people in the churches in openly sharing that "Jesus loves you" in every association, (3) to make every Baptist in our association aware of our commitment to personally share Jesus with each person in our associational area, and (4) to heighten the excitement, thrill, and urgency of evangelism, to kindle the evangelistic fervor, and to demonstrate the thrill and urgency of personal witnessing.

Each of the churches who sent us a Covenant of Cooperation will receive a beautiful Certificate of Cooperation from the state Evangelism Department. We are now in the process of preparing these cer-

tificates. If your church was involved in the Good News Arkansas emphasis and did not send in the Covenant of Cooperation, please send us one or make us aware. We want you to have this beautiful certificate.

We are praying that when the reports of baptisms are finished this fall, we will see a tremendous increase of people being saved in Arkansas.—Clarence Shell, director



## Annuit/Stewardship Seven Area Conferences

Seven area conferences sponsored by the Annuit/Stewardship Department in August and September will focus on the Expanded Church Annuit Plan. Reasons for adoption of the plan by churches will be discussed. Plan participants will also discover the potential of increased retirement and protection benefits at the conferences.

The seven conference locations and dates are:

Immanuel, Pine Bluff	Aug. 31
Second, El Dorado	Sept. 1
Beech Street, Texarkana	Sept. 3
Baring Cross, North Little Rock	Sept. 10
Grand Avenue, Fort Smith	Sept. 14
First, Fayetteville	Sept. 15
First, Harrison	Sept. 17

Charles Vanderslice and Don Burton from the Annuit Board are scheduled to assist in the conferences.

The conferences hold special interest for pastors and staff members. Finance, budget and personnel committee members are included in the target group.—James A. Walker, director

## Annuit/Stewardship Budget Promotion Packets Available

The Stewardship Commission prepares stewardship materials for use in Southern Baptist churches. Budget Promotion Packets and guidebooks are available from the Stewardship Department at no cost.

Copies of the 1987 Stewardship Catalog, listing stewardship materials available through the Stewardship Commission, were mailed to all pastors early this year. Additional copies of the catalog are free upon request from the Stewardship Department.—James A. Walker, director

## Arkansas Baptist Youth Day

Saturday, Sept. 12, 1987

Magic Springs  
Hot Springs

Lou Leventhal  
*Illusions and Reality*  
Fort Worth, Texas



### Tickets

\$5.75 Advance \$6.25 after 9/1/87

Sponsored by the ABSC Church Training Dept.

## Woman's Missionary Union Training Opportunities

The most effective workers are trained workers. And Woman's Missionary Union is offering plenty of training opportunities for both church and associational workers beginning in August.

Aug. 14-15 at Camp Paron will be the Associational WMU Officers' Retreat. Special conferences for associational WMU directors, all age-level directors and a special conference for associational centennial chairmen will be offered. Additional interest conferences will focus on developing leadership skills.

This retreat is particularly important because it kicks off the state and national WMU centennial celebration in Arkansas. We will celebrate a century of accomplishments plus look forward to a future that holds bright promise.

Church leaders and members will receive training at the new IMPACT 87 meetings. The purpose is to Inspire, Motivate, Prepare, Affirm, Challenge, and Train. When this happens, a real IMPACT will be made in our churches in missions education. The IMPACT doesn't stop there. It is ultimately felt around the world through prayer and financial support and increased missions involvement both home and abroad.

Both day and night meetings are offered. Day sessions begin at 10 a.m. and conclude at 2:30 p.m. Participants are asked to bring sack lunches. The evening sessions are 7-9 p.m. Nursery care for preschoolers is provided.

Ten training conferences are coming to your area of the state. They are: enlistment, centennial, WMU directors and secretaries, Baptist Women/BYW presidents and secretaries, Baptist Women/BYW mission study chairmen and group leaders, Baptist Women/BYW mission support chairmen and group leaders, Baptist Women/BYW mission action chairmen, group leaders and WMU mission action directors, Acteens leaders, Girls in Action leaders, and Mission Friends leaders. Baptist Women and BYW members will benefit by attending the enlistment or centennial conferences.

The meeting dates and places are as follows:

Aug. 31	Immanuel, Pine Bluff
Sept. 1-2	Second, El Dorado
Sept. 3	Beech Street, Texarkana
Sept. 10	Baring Cross, North Little Rock
Sept. 14	Grand Avenue, Fort Smith
Sept. 15-16	First, Fayetteville
Sept. 17	First, Harrison
Sept. 28	First, West Memphis
Sept. 29-30	Central, Jonesboro

A special centennial celebration will

highlight each IMPACT 87 meeting. You won't want to miss being a part of this historic time in the life of WMU.

For more information contact the state WMU office, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203.—Carolyn Porterfield, Baptist Women/BYW director

## Christian Life Council Guides For Crisis Meetings

The Historical Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention has recently released a series of brochures entitled *Shapers Of Southern Baptist Heritage*. Among those "shapers" was Gaines S. Dobbins. For many years, Dr. Dobbins taught at Southern Seminary. It was my privilege to have him as teacher for a course in church administration. One day he shared how he moderated church business meetings which were potentially explosive. He was occasionally called as a church administration expert to do so by Southern Baptist church leaders.

At the beginning of such a business meeting, he would ask for a small child from one of the church families to sit next to him as he moderated. He would then read, "But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea" (Mt. 18:6). He would then ask for discussion to begin on

the problem or problems at hand.

Other appropriate Scriptures which could be used, especially in dealing with the pastor or other staff members are: "I (David) will not put forth mine hand against my Lord (King Saul); for is the Lord's anointed" (1 S. 24:10). "Touch not mine anointed and do my prophets no harm" (1 Ch. 16:22).—Robert A. Parker, director

## Church Music All-State Auditions

There are over 7,600 young people in Arkansas involved in the youth choirs of our churches. These are young people who give extra time to come together for rehearsals, fellowship, preparation for worship, and to develop their musical skills.

On Dec. 28-29, some 200 of these young people will gather for the first Arkansas Baptist All-State Youth Choir to sing for the State Youth Evangelism Conference.

Auditions will be held at seven area locations on Oct. 3, and during Venture at OBU on Oct. 10. Registration will be through the Church Music Department.

The All-State Band is in its third year, and the choir will make an excellent addition to the All-State program. We appreciate the invitation and encouragement of the Evangelism Department in developing these opportunities for the youth.—Glen Ennes, associate



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**Dr. John B. Wright**  
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Sea of Galilee • River Jordan • Capernaum  
Caesarea Philippi • Jericho • Dead Sea • Masada

For more information, call or write:

**Little Rock's First Baptist Church**

62 Pleasant Valley Dr., Little Rock, AR 72212; (501)227-0010, ext. 15

**Administration**

**121 Churches  
Invite Task Force**

As of June 23, 121 of our churches have invited a "Missions Advance 87-89" task force member to speak or make a presentation. Many more will be inviting speakers by the spring of 1989.

Your church can have one of these trained task force speakers by request. There will be no cost to your church. The speaker will:

—Challenge your church to adopt a plan of advance in Cooperative Program support, and

—Interpret the crisis Arkansas Baptists are facing in Cooperative Program Support.

Contact Jimmie Sheffield, 376-4791, or write to P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203, if you need more information or if you need help in enlisting a speaker.

Your church will benefit greatly from this experience. You will sense the heartbeat of our goal to move to a 50/50 division of Cooperative Program gifts between state and SBC mission causes.

You will become more sensitive to the tremendous challenge of Bold Mission Thrust. Most of all, you will be challenged to a deeper commitment to the Cooperative Program.

Call or write now!—**Jimmie Sheffield, associate executive director**

**Special education supervisor** with 14 years experience in special education seeks employment in public or private school. Certified as elementary teacher, elementary principal, special education teacher K-12, special education supervisor, and education examiner. Ed.S. degree in field. Contact James L. Sneed, Star Route Box 25, Conway, AR 72032; phone (501) 679-3118. a86


**Special education teacher** with two years experience in resource room seeks employment in public or private school. Certified as elementary teacher 1-6 and special education teacher K-12. M.S.E. in special education. Contact Donna F. Sneed, Star Route Box 25, Conway, AR 72032; phone (501) 679-3118 a86

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 Newsmagazine, 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**

**Watkins Products**—To order, call 1-800-247-5907 (ID#51860); local 501-884-6811. Over 285 items for your home. Sales catalog follows order. 723

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 \$56 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 for reasons of unsuitable subject matter. Classified ads will be inserted on a space-available basis. No endorsement by the ABN is implied.



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

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save your church money**  
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Route 2, Box 570  
Gurdon, Ark. 71743

**National Mass  
Evangelism Conference**

**August 17-21, 1987**

**First Baptist Church  
754 Peachtree Street, NE  
Atlanta, Georgia 30365**



**John Bisagno**  
*Inspirational  
Speaker*



**Jim Henry**  
*Inspirational  
Speaker*



**Charles Stanley**  
*Inspirational  
Speaker*



**Larry L. Lewis**  
*Inspirational  
Speaker*

**Seminars for all of church staff members.**

**MUSIC EVANGELISM**

August 17-18

Valuable information on how to build an evangelistic music program in your church.

**PROGRAM PERSONALITIES**

Larry Black, FBC, Jackson, Miss.  
Mark Blankenship, Music Design  
Editor, Church Music Department,  
Sunday School Board, Nashville,  
Tenn.  
Alan Celoria, Evangelist, Smithdale,  
Miss.  
Billy Jack Green, Eastside Baptist  
Church, Marietta, Ga.  
John Glover, FBC, Atlanta, Ga.  
Bogun Vandergriff, FBC, Orlando, Fla.  
Jim Whitmore, Bellevue Baptist Church,  
Memphis, Tenn.

Registration cost: \$25.00

**REVIVAL TRAINING**

SEMINAR

August 19-20

Information on how to prepare for and conduct successful revival meetings.

**PROGRAM PERSONALITIES**

Bill Cathey, Evangelist, Dallas, Tex.  
Bob Hamblin, Vice Pres., Home  
Mission Board, Evangelism  
Larry Lewis, President, Home Mission  
Board  
James Merritt, Pastor, Snellville, Ga.  
Jack Price, Evangelist, Dallas, Tex.  
Nelson Price, Pastor, Roswell Street  
Baptist Church, Marietta, Ga.  
Joy Strack, Evangelist, Dallas, Tex.  
Jim Whitmore, Bellevue Baptist Church,  
Memphis, Tenn.

Registration cost: \$25.00

Registration cost for all three conferences: \$50.00  
Monday and Tuesday evenings are without cost to attendee.

**AREA CRUSADE**

PREPARATION SEMINAR

August 20-21

Information on how to prepare for and conduct successful area crusades.

**PROGRAM PERSONALITIES**

Wayne Bristow, Evangelism, Oklahoma  
City, Okla.  
Joy Hancock, Forest Park, Ga.  
Ernie Eady, Evangelist, Dallas, Tex.  
Jack Price, Evangelist, Dallas, Tex.  
Felix Snipes, Evangelist, Atlanta, Ga.  
Joy Strack, Evangelist, Dallas, Tex.

Registration cost: \$25.00

Send registration fees to Mass Evangelism Department, Home Mission Board,  
1350 Spring Street, NW, Atlanta, GA 30367-5601

Hotel/motel reservations will be handled individually by conferees.

For reservations call: (404) 898-7787.

A Southern Baptist Convention agency supported by the Cooperative Program and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.



## Next month in Arkansas: August

Aug. 2, On To College Day (Stu)  
Aug. 2-15, Baptist History and Heritage Tour (CT)  
Aug. 6, Small Sunday School Leadership Updates, Osceola Friendship Church, Ozark First Church, Lewisville First Church, Lonoke Wattensaw Church, Stuttgart North Maple Church (SS)  
Aug. 6-15, Pioneer RA Mission Action Project, Pan-American Games, Indianapolis, Ind. (Bbd)  
Aug. 7-8, Pastor-Director Retreat, Camp Paron (CT)  
Aug. 8, Volunteer/Part-time Music Leader Workshop, Smackover First Church (M)  
Aug. 10-14, Church Secretaries'

Basic Certification Seminar, North Little Rock Park Hill Church (CT)  
Aug. 14-15, DiscipleYouth Workshop, Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia (CT)  
Aug. 14-15, Children's Choir Leader Workshop, North Little Rock Park Hill Church (M)  
Aug. 14-15, Associational WMU Officers' Retreat, Camp Paron (WMU)  
Aug. 17, Area Growth Spiral Workshops, Rogers Immanuel Church (SS)  
Aug. 18, Area Growth Spiral Workshops, Fort Smith Oak Cliff Church, Harrison First Church (SS)  
Aug. 20, Area Growth Spiral Workshop, El Dorado Immanuel

Church (SS)  
Aug. 21-22, Volunteer/Part-time Music Leader Workshop, Southern Baptist College, Walnut Ridge (M)  
Aug. 22-28, WMU Conference, Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, Ridgecrest, N.C. (WMU)  
Aug. 23-29, Church Music Emphasis Week (M)  
Aug. 28-29, Associational Church Training Leadership Conference, North Little Rock Park Hill Church (CT)  
Aug. 31, Area Conferences: WMU, Brotherhood, Annuity/Stewardship, Pine Bluff Immanuel Church  
Aug. 31, Adult Choir Festivals, Hope First Church, Springdale First Church, Jonesboro First Church (M)

## September

Sept. 1, Adult Choir Festivals, Booneville First Church, North Little Rock Calvary  
Sept. 1, Area Conferences: WMU, Brotherhood, Annuity/Stewardship, El Dorado Second Church  
Sept. 3, Adult Choir Festivals, Mountain Home First Church, Little Rock Second Church, Monticello Second  
Sept. 3, Area Conferences: Texarkana Beech Street Church (WMU-SS-Bbd)  
Sept. 10, Area Conferences: North Little Rock Baring Cross Church (WMU-SA-Bbd)  
Sept. 10-13, Fall Campers on Mission Rally (Mn)  
Sept. 11, Furloughing Missionaries Orientation, Baptist Building, Little Rock (SA)  
Sept. 11-12, Lay Renewal Statewide Fellowship, Little Rock (Bbd)  
Sept. 12, Baptist Youth Day, Magic Springs Theme Park, Hot Springs (CT)  
Sept. 14, Area Conferences: Fort Smith Grand Avenue (WMU-SA-Bbd)

Sept. 14, Instrumental Workshop, Jonesboro Central Church  
Sept. 14-15, Better Bible Teaching in the Small Sunday School, Dermott Bellaire Church, Wilton First Church (SS)  
Sept. 15, Area Conferences: Fayetteville First Church (WMU-SA-Bbd)  
Sept. 17, Small Sunday School Leadership Updates, Hot Springs Emmanuel Church, Fordyce Southside Church, Lexa First Church, Perryville First Church, Bowman Church (SS)  
Sept. 17, Area Conferences: Harrison First Church (WMU-SA-Bbd)  
Sept. 17-19, WOW Advance Workshop, Little Rock Geyer Springs First Church (Ev)  
Sept. 18-19, CPA Pastors and Wives Retreat, Petit Jean (Mn)  
Sept. 19, Keyboard Clinic, Little Rock First Church (M)  
Sept. 19, Disaster Relief Meeting, Baptist Building, Little Rock (Bbd)  
Sept. 20-27, Season of Prayer for

State Missions and Dixie Jackson Offering (Mn-WMU)  
Sept. 21, Music Men Concert, Texarkana Beech Street Church (M)  
Sept. 21, Bi-vocational and Small Church Evangelism Conference, Mansfield First (Ev)  
Sept. 21-25, Senior Adult Chautauqua, Glorieta (N.M.) Baptist Conference Center (CT)  
Sept. 22, Bi-vocational and Small Church Evangelism Conference, Clinton First Church (Ev)  
Sept. 24, Bi-vocational and Small Church Evangelism Conference, Trumann First (Ev)  
Sept. 25-26, State Sunday School Conference, Little Rock Geyer Springs First Church (SS)  
Sept. 28, Area Conferences: West Memphis First Church (WMU-SA-Bbd)  
Sept. 29, Area Conferences: Jonesboro Central Church (WMU-SA-Bbd)

## October

Oct. 2-3, Better Bible Teaching in the Small Sunday School, Cedar Glades Camp, Imboden; Russellville Bakers Creek Church (SS)  
Oct. 2-4, Baptist Student Convention, Student Union, University of Arkansas at Little Rock (Stu)  
Oct. 3, All-State Youth Choir Auditions, Berryville First Church, Jonesboro Central Church, Monticello Second Church, Hope First Church, Booneville First Church, Little Rock

Geyer Springs First Church (M)  
Oct. 5-8, National CWT Seminar, Harrison First Church (Ev)  
Oct. 10, All-State Youth Choir Auditions, Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia (M)  
Oct. 11, World Hunger Day (CLC)  
Oct. 12-17, Senior Adult Chautauqua, Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Conference Center (CT)  
Oct. 15, AMAR Music Men Rehearsal, Baptist Building, Little Rock (M)

Oct. 17, GA Missions Spectacular, North Little Rock Park Hill Church (WMU)  
Oct. 21 - Nov. 1, Music Men Mission Trip, Manaus, Brazil (M)  
Oct. 22-23, 23-24, Baptist Women Retreats, Camp Paron (WMU)  
Oct. 27, Church Training Convention, Little Rock Immanuel Church  
Oct. 30 - Nov. 1, International Student Conference, Camp Paron (Stu)



# Leadership Profile for ABSC Nominating Committee

Members of the Nominating Committee for the 1987 Arkansas Baptist State Convention want Arkansas Baptists to submit names of persons for that committee to consider when they bring the convention nominations for state committees and boards.

This recommendation will not insure nomination, but the committee will consider each recommendation. The commit-

tee will not contact any person recommended until they approve the nominations.

The Nominating Committee will hold its first meeting Sept. 3 and needs all recommendations no later than Aug. 14.

Members of the committee: Homer Shirley, chairman; Carroll Caldwell; John Dresbach; Ed Snider; Jeral Hampton; Jerry Hassell; James Wilson; James Shults; and Harold Elmore.

## August 19 is the deadline for recommendations

Nominee \_\_\_\_\_ Layperson ( ) Minister ( ) Age \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Member of what church? \_\_\_\_\_ Association \_\_\_\_\_

### Current leadership responsibilities

Professional \_\_\_\_\_

Civic \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

Association \_\_\_\_\_

State or SBC Boards \_\_\_\_\_

### Past leadership experience (within last five years)

State or SBC Boards \_\_\_\_\_

Association \_\_\_\_\_

Local Church \_\_\_\_\_

### Personal

This person's greatest contribution, based on his or her past record, knowledge, and experience, should be in the area of \_\_\_\_\_

Is this person currently active in a local church? \_\_\_\_\_

Is this person able to be away from family and work for at least one or two days three times a year? \_\_\_\_\_

Give the name and phone number of at least one person who knows of the nominee's involvement in Baptist life beside his or her pastor or director of missions. \_\_\_\_\_

On a scale of 1 to 10, how would you rank this person's understanding of and commitment to the way Southern Baptists work together? (Circle) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Check the board, committee or commission on which you believe this person could best serve.

#### Boards of trustees

- Executive Board
- Family & Child Care Services
- Foundation
- Baptist Memorial Hospital, Memphis
- Christian Civic Foundation
- Ouachita Baptist University
- Southern Baptist College
- Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

#### Committees and Commission

- History Commission
- BSU Advisory Committee
- Ministry of Crisis Support Advisory Committee
- Constitution and ByLaws Committee
- World Hunger Committee
- Convention Program Committee

Mail this sheet to:  
Rev. Homer Shirley  
P.O. Box 356  
Siloam Springs, AR 72761

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of person making this recommendation)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_



## Tax On Investment Income Possible

by Kathy Palen

Baptist Joint Committee On Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (BP)—A staff report issued by the House Ways and Means Committee and Joint Committee on Taxation suggests the imposition of a 5 percent excise tax on the investment income of tax-exempt organizations—including religious organizations—as a possible means of increasing revenue for the federal budget.

Such action, the report said, would generate more than \$15 billion over a three-year period.

Under current tax law, private foundations generally pay a 2 percent excise tax on their net investment income. Although originally imposed to help offset the cost of administering tax laws relating to exempt organizations, the current tax now generates revenues exceeding the total Internal Revenue Service costs of administering the total exempt organization program.

The proposed 5 percent excise tax would be levied on the net investment income of all tax-exempt organizations, including religious, charitable, educational and scientific organizations, social welfare organizations, and labor unions and trade associations.

In arguing for the proposal, the staff report stated in times of large federal budget deficits all organizations that benefit from federal government expenditures should be called upon to contribute to reducing the deficits. The report specified the proposed excise tax would not apply to non-investment income, such as membership dues, charitable contributions or related business income, and would be "sunsetted" so that it would not apply once the budget deficit was reduced to a specific level.

The report conceded imposition of such a tax, which would break tradition with past practice relating to exempt organizations, would reduce the funds available to and needed by those organizations and thus adversely affect those benefitting from the organizations' programs.

A panel of representatives from tax-exempt organizations testified during three days of House hearings on the 291-page staff report, which contains a wide range of possible options for increasing revenues.

Brian O'Connell, president of Independent Sector, told the joint congressional panel that non-profit organizations during the past six years have faced a major increase in service caseloads and expectations because of reductions in federal spending, a dramatic reduction in government financial support for their services and a reduction in private contributions triggered

by the Tax Reform Act of 1986.

O'Connell, whose organization is made up of 654 national voluntary associations, foundations and corporate giving programs, argued the proposed excise tax would further reduce the capacity of voluntary groups to fulfill their public service.

In addition to calling the proposed tax "absurd and cruel," O'Connell said it would be contradictory to the underlying concept of tax-exempt organizations.

## TV Evangelists Tarnished

by Eric Fox

Baptist Press

WASHINGTON (BP)—A growing number of Americans believe television evangelists are dishonest, insincere, uncaring and do not have a "special relationship with God," according to a recent Gallup survey.

The survey revealed a sharp reversal of public opinion toward television preachers compared to a similar study taken in 1980. The survey was released recently by Gallup's Princeton Religion Research Center of Princeton, N.J. The center said the figures suggest the recent scandals among television evangelists have "cast a long shadow" over many of the nation's most popular evangelists and "the cause of organized religion as a whole may have been harmed."

Only 23 percent of respondents stated TV evangelists were "trustworthy with money," while 63 percent said they were not; the 1980 survey showed 41 percent said they were trustworthy, while 36 percent said they were not. Nearly all surveyed in 1987 (92 percent) stated that as a result of recent scandals "religious organizations should make full disclosure of the funds they receive and how they are spent."

The number of people who said TV evangelists are dishonest more than doubled from 26 percent in 1980 to 53 percent in 1987. Fifty-one percent of the respondents said televangelists are insincere, and 38 percent said they "don't care about people," compared to 25 percent and 21 percent, respectively, seven years ago. The percentage of those who said TV evangelists "do not have a special relationship with God" jumped from 33 percent in 1980 to 63 percent in 1987.

Respondents also rated evangelists individually and, with the exception of Billy Graham, all listed dropped in favor with the American public. Former PTL host Jim Bakker suffered the most serious drop, as 77 percent gave "unfavorable" responses; over half (58 percent) viewed him favorably seven years ago. Other evangelists who showed a decline in support since 1980 included Oral Roberts, Jimmy Swaggart, Pat Robertson, Robert Schuller and Rex Humbard. Jerry Falwell was not included in the 1980 survey but received unfavorable responses from 62 percent of the 1987 respondents.

## Two SBC Leaders Will Meet Pope

by Marv Knox

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE (BP)—Two Southern Baptist leaders will meet with Pope John Paul II when the Roman Catholic pontiff visits the United States this fall.

Harold C. Bennett of Nashville and Carolyn Weatherford of Birmingham, Ala., will join a small group of U.S. Protestant leaders who will meet privately with the pope Sept. 11 in Columbia, S.C. Bennett is president and treasurer of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, and Weatherford is executive director of the SBC Woman's Missionary Union.

The pope will greet each leader individually during the meeting, to be held during the afternoon at the home of University of South Carolina President James B. Holderman. Twenty-four non-Catholic leaders have been invited to participate.

In addition to the individual greetings, that meeting will include presentation of a paper produced by the Americans on the state of Christianity in the United States, a response by the pope and time for discussion.

Following will be a public service of Christian witness in the university's 70,000-seat Williams-Brice

Stadium. The service will not be a Mass, but will focus on the family.

Southern Baptist evangelist Billy Graham has been invited to participate in the meeting, but a spokesperson in his Montreat, N.C., office said he will be out of the country and unable to attend.

SBC President Adrian P. Rogers of Memphis, Tenn., also has confirmed he will not participate. During a press conference shortly after his re-election to the presidency in June, Rogers declined to give his reasons for not meeting with the pope, saying "they are best not expressed in public media."

# LESSONS FOR LIVING

## Convention Uniform

### *New Life in The Spirit*

by Jim Byrum, Toltec Church, Scott

Basic passage: Romans 8:1-39

Focal passage: Romans 8:1-14, 26-27

**Central truth:** The Holy Spirit gives the Christian a new life and victory over sin.

The greatest thing in the world is to be born again. The new birth means that our sins are no longer held against us. There is no judgment for us who are in Christ Jesus. His death on the cross met the requirement of the law for us. God Almighty accepted Jesus' atoning work on the cross as complete payment for our sins. Nothing is charged against us. Our account has been paid in full.

The new birth means that we are under new ownership. The Holy Spirit has taken up residency in us. He now occupies the Holy of Holies of our souls, and our bodies are his temples.

What does the Holy Spirit do for us?

First, he gives our bodies new life. Now we can use our bodies to serve the Lord. No longer are we under obligation to serve the flesh. If we will let him, the Holy Spirit will put to death the deeds of the body, and energize us with new life.

Second, the Holy Spirit makes us feel a part of the family of God. He bears witness with our spirits that we are the sons of God. As sons we have all the rights and privileges of that family. Just think, if we are sons, then we are heirs with Jesus.

Third, the Holy Spirit helps our weaknesses. Because we really do not know how to pray, he intercedes for us. He prays at a level that we cannot understand. He looks at every facet of our lives and tells the Father exactly what we need. He takes all the circumstances of our lives and causes them to work for our good.

What can we say? If God is for us, who can stand against us? No one can successfully bring a charge against us because God is the one who justified us. Nothing can separate us from Christ's love. Troubles cannot. Distress, persecution, famine, nakedness, peril, or sword cannot. Dark days may come and the valley may be deep, but in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Jesus who loves us. If we die, Jesus will love us personally in heaven, and if we live, he will love through the Holy Spirit, who lives in us. No power can separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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## Life and Work

### *Speaking Boldly*

by Bert Thomas, Valley Church, Searcy

Basic passage: Acts 27:1-28:33

Focal passage: Acts 28:23-28, 30-31

**Central truth:** Christians should always speak boldly for Jesus.

"Stone walls do not a prison make, Nor iron bars a cage" were written centuries after Paul lived. Nevertheless they describe how Paul responded to his imprisonment. Paul had been arrested in Jerusalem on false charges. He had spent more than two years in prison at Caesarea and was not able to get a fair trial there because of the influence of the Jews. Paul used his status as a Roman citizen and appealed his case to Rome. On his voyage there the ship wrecked at the island of Malta. After a short ministry there, Paul continued his journey to Rome. Friends met him near the city and encouraged him. While Paul awaited trial, he was permitted to rent a house and receive visitors but was constantly guarded by Roman soldiers. Three days after arriving in Rome, Paul called the leaders of the Jews and presented his case to them. This was not the trial but an opportunity to determine their feelings toward him, and it also afforded him an opportunity to witness to them. Even as a prisoner, Paul spoke boldly for Christ to all men.

There are some basic reasons for speaking boldly. Paul had been saved and commissioned by God to preach the gospel to all men. During the fierce storm the ship encountered, Paul encouraged those on board because of his faith in God. At the island of Malta, he spoke boldly to the natives. Even under the most trying circumstances, Paul never forgot he had been called to witness for God. This calling enabled him to speak boldly. Paul had a conviction that all men were lost without Christ. There was no timidity in any of his preaching. Prisoners, natives, and Roman soldiers were all in need of the gospel. Paul found that many were hungry to hear the good news of salvation, and many responded to his message.

The Bible is necessary for speaking boldly. Paul called the leaders of the Jews together and presented his case to them. From the Law of Moses and the prophets he preached Jesus to them. The Bible is Christ centered. It is about man's sin and God's willingness to forgive sin. It gives us a boldness to speak because it is inspired by God who is omnipotent.

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## Bible Book

### *Judgment and Assurance*

by Jack Kwok, Indianhead Lake Church, Sherwood

Basic passage: Revelation 6-7

Focal passage: Revelation 6:2-5, 8-9; 7:2-4, 9, 14

**Central truth:** The suffering servant of Christ should receive comfort from the fact that God will judge sinful and unrighteous humanity and thereby honor and vindicate all sorrow and suffering of his servants.

As the seals are opened, John saw the unfolding of future events. These events are future judgment by God upon a sinful and unrighteous humanity. Six seals of judgment and an interlude are presented in Revelation 6-7.

The four horsemen of the apocalypse comprise the first four judgments. A rider on a white horse with an arrowless bow and a victor's crown represents a conqueror who will win without a battle or bloodshed. This represents the Antichrist. Soon though, the Antichrist will shed blood as denoted by the red horse and sword of war. Famine will accompany war as indicated by the black horse. Death will follow famine as depicted by the pale horse. More than one-fourth of all living beings will die from the first four judgments.

Among those who die will be believers. Their cry for justice constitutes the fifth seal. God promised them justice when the full number of tribulation martyrs is complete. The ones under the altar are from the first three and one-half years, and the future ones are from the last three and one-half years of the tribulation. God will hold a sinful and unrighteous humanity accountable for their deaths.

The Lamb himself will begin to unleash his wrath upon this sinful and unrighteous humanity with a great shaking of the universe. This is the sixth seal of judgment.

An interlude follows the opening of the sixth seal. This interlude introduces the sealing of the 144,000 and the countless multitude. The 144,000 are 12,000 from each of the 12 tribes of Israel who have the Father's name on their forehead and preach the gospel of the Lamb. Their preaching results in the ingathering of numberless believers from every nation. These believers seal their testimonies with their own blood. God will comfort these martyrs with his presence.

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## WORLD

# Mozambique Relief Planned

*Project to distribute seed and farm implements*

by Marty Croll  
SBC Foreign Mission Board

MAPUTO, Mozambique (BP)—Southern Baptists have begun a project to feed starving street children in Mozambique, where famine and war have produced a food shortage predicted to take as many lives as the recent Ethiopian crisis.

The denomination plans also to distribute seed and farm implements throughout six areas of the country.

Southern Baptists decided to release \$30,000 immediately to begin the feeding program after John Cheyne, relief planner for the denomination's Foreign Mission Board and Southern Baptist missionary Jim Brock talked with Mozambican officials in early July. Cheyne visited Maputo, capital of the southeastern African nation and then flew over stricken rural areas.

Before the trip, Cheyne said he expected the board eventually will spend up to \$1 million for relief in Mozambique and just outside its borders, where thousands of refugees have fled. The refugees have streamed into neighboring Zimbabwe, Malawi, Zambia, South Africa and Swaziland.

Published reports from inside Mozambique say up to 2 million people could die even if relief equal to that provided in Ethiopia were begun immediately. At least 1 million people are estimated to be inaccessible, surrounded by fighting. The United Nations has estimated up to 4.5 million Mozambicans face starvation.

In the Southern Baptist feeding program, national Baptist workers will serve malnourished children in five areas a dish of rice topped with vegetables and soup. Many children in Mozambique have lost their families during upheaval caused by fighting between rebels and government troops. The food will be supplied through Foreign Mission Board hunger funds.

Initially \$12,500 will buy a truck, and other money will buy utensils for eating and cooking in seven feeding stations in Maputo, where 20,000 children are estimated to live on the street. Maputo is a seaport located in the southern tip of the long, slender country. Cheyne hopes Baptists can provide 2,000 or more malnourished children with at least a daily minimum requirement for calories. The feeding stations will be open five to six days each week.

Eventually Baptists expect to open about a dozen other feeding stations throughout the country, in the seacoast cities of Quelimane and Beira, and farther to the north in Nampula. Another feeding station

is proposed closer to Maputo in an area considered dangerous because of rebel activity.

The seed and farm implement program is planned in six major areas, but Cheyne still is working out details with government agriculture officials. Distribution would be handled through local agencies, but Baptists would be free to monitor it in each area.

## Volunteers In Haiti Return Home

by Eric Miller  
SBC Foreign Mission Board

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (BP)—Despite rioting and roadblocks in Haiti, a group of North Carolina volunteers "felt calm" because they knew churches back home were praying for them.

Soldiers killed 24 people and wounded 90 others last week in Haiti during violence related to strikes against the government.

But that didn't keep the 10-man construction team from North Carolina from finishing their work in the interior of the country and returning home July 5. Using \$15,000 raised by 29 churches in North Carolina, the volunteers built a house for a national pastor and part of a school, said Paul Gordon of Troy, N.C., group leader.

The group, working in cooperation with the Foreign Mission Board's volunteer program and North Carolina Baptist Men, labored in a remote area eight hours away from any major towns. Gordon, who has built churches in Haiti for five years, said that amid all the striking and violence in populated areas, the team "stayed put" and remained in the remote area an extra day until a weekend truck between strikers and the government took effect.

As their departure time approached, they rode in Jeeps and a truck toward Port-au-Prince, not knowing whether an airplane would be at the airport to return them to the United States. They drove on bad roads at 10 to 15 mph for 14 hours, occasionally stopping to fill ditches dug across roads and remove log barricades placed by strikers.

They drove past cars that had been smashed and burned by strikers because occupants had tried to remove barricades. As they crossed a river, water rose to the headlights and "we started to feel the Jeep float," Gordon said.

Finally they reached the airport and found that a plane was there to take them home.

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