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Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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On-to-College

Arkansas Baptist

July 16, 1987



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BSU: Going Strong, Reaching Out

In This Issue

Features



ABN photo / Millie Gill

Going Strong, Reaching Out..... 8-15

After more than 60 years, Baptist Student Union still is going strong and reaching out on the state's campuses.

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IT'S UPLIFTING

New Work Associations Grow

Do new congregations affect Southern Baptist growth in associations? This question was considered out of a study done by CPA Ken Miller. He did a growth profile on the 155 Southern Baptist churches constituted in Arkansas between 1970 and 1985 related to each association. It was discovered that 93 of the new churches were started in 15 of the 42 associations. A comparison was made between the average association in Arkansas and the 15 that had five or more new congregations started in 15 years. These associations were baptizing 63 percent more people by 1985 than the average association in Arkansas. Total membership was 49 percent greater. Sunday School enrollment was 94 percent more than the average association. Cooperative Program giving had increased by 52 percent in the new work associations. Associational giving was 24 percent or \$14,196 more per year.

RA Congress Challenging

The Arkansas 1987 RA Congress featured Stan Parris, Southern Baptist Convention missionary to Venezuela. As a result of the two challenges and information he gave, eight boys felt God's call to mission service.

Competitive athletics do not always generate strong Christian spirit. The strongest team at the RA Congress did manifest this spirit. One of the tug-of-war teams was unable to get to the event on time. They showed up late, after the Dover Church team had won first place in the contest. In a tremendous demonstration of Christian love, the winners agreed to reopen the competition so that team could participate. The Dover team kept its title. The positive influence of the testimony given by Larry Wilson, Kevin Teter, Robert Jackson, Brandon Hartman, and Billy Koster was felt by all.

Irish Baptists Forging Links

BELFAST—A highlight of the annual assembly of the Baptist Union of Ireland in Belfast was a report of growing links between churches in the Catholic South with their fellow Baptists in the troubled North.

One delegate, Michael Finnegan of Waterford, told of a visit by young people from his church to a new congregation in an Ulster coastal town. He said more exchanges at that level would increase understanding between the two cultures in Ireland.

Of the four new Baptist churches formed in the past year, three were in the North and one was in the deep South.

GOOD NEWS!

But Now!

Ephesians 4:17 to 5:20

The greatest evidence for Christianity is the changed lives of Christians. They are people to whom something great has happened, and they are people of whom something great is expected. Ephesians 4:17 to 5:20 is a long description of the new life Christians live. It covers many aspects of life, but the key to understanding the whole passage is in 5:8. The little phrase "but now" points to both the negative and positive sides of the Christian life.

A life of contrast.—Paul makes it clear that his readers had once been anything but examples of godly living. They were pagans, people without the ethical influence of Judaism. They were worshippers of idols, the goddess Artemis in particular (see Ac. 19:23-41). The worship of Artemis included immoral sexual practices. These and other corrupt elements were common in Roman Asia Minor. The word "but" indicates that these conditions were no

longer a part of the life of Ephesian Christians. In spite of what they had done before and in spite of what their neighbors were doing, Christians were to be different.

This idea of contrast is seen throughout the passage (RSV): "no longer," (4:17); "rather," (4:28); "but instead" (5:4,11); "not... but," (5:15,18). The Christian is to live a different kind of life from that of the world around him.

A life of consequence.—The word "now" points to a new situation which began when the Ephesians entered into union with Christ. In Christ they had learned a different way of life. They had received a new nature patterned after the likeness of God. As a consequence of this new nature, they were to act as God in Christ acted. As Christ loved, so they were to love. Their new life was to be led by God's will and filled with God's Spirit.

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Don't Abuse It!

J. EVERETT SNEED

There are persons who continue to press for taxation of churches. They maintain that churches should pay their just portion of government operating expenses. Some churches and para-church groups are contributing to this growing philosophy. For example, the news that the IRS has examined the financial records of the PTL Club and has recommended that it lose its tax-exempt status because it is not a church. This should serve as a solemn warning.

There are two areas in which individuals are pressing for church taxation. First, many churches have real estate that is not used for religious purposes. We agree that, if a church owns a building which it leases, or a parking lot which is used during the week by the general public for fees, or land which is not related to the function of the church, then taxes should be paid.

We firmly disagree with those who contend that church property used for worship should pay its fair share of fire and police protection.

A second tax that is being levied on churches, and rightly so, are taxes collected by the Internal Revenue Service for secular, competitive businesses operated by religious organizations. Such businesses have included things as far removed from worship as a winery and a girdle factory.

Because of the manipulation of a few, we are forcing upon government agencies the necessity of defining "church." Hence, the government is being asked to do something even theologians cannot agree on.

It has long been said that the right to tax is the right to control and destroy. The first amendment to the constitution guarantees freedom of religion. When the government (local, state or federal) has the power of taxation on churches and religious organizations, it obviously controls some of the activities of the churches and religious organizations.

Religious organizations have been tax-exempt for many thousands of years. When the Israelites came to Egypt, their places of worship were tax-exempt (see Ge. 47:26). The tax-exempt status of churches has existed since the beginning of our country.

The argument that churches are the only major recipients of tax exemption is totally untrue. Our founding fathers never intended that property taxes should be equalized. The list of tax-exempt proper-



ty is long. Among these are benevolent non-profit organizations, cemeteries, government parks, educational facilities (both public and private), government departments of public works, etc.

Finally, it is probably illegal for a church to pay taxes to the government, because money given to churches is given exclusively for religious purposes. If the government taxes any of the money, it certainly would be going for other than religious purposes.

Perhaps the most dangerous of all is the philosophy that churches should remain tax-exempt only if they remain silent on all matters of state. The fact is that churches must express their views on matters of morality. Failure of the church to speak on certain issues is to neglect its responsibility.

ty. Freedom of speech should in no way be connected with taxation.

Old Testament prophets believed that their responsibility included speaking to matters of government. Since laws must deal with matters of morality, it often becomes incumbent on religious leaders to speak on these matters.

Jesus did not hesitate to deal with both the religious and governmental acts of his time. If some principles of morality were violated, Jesus boldly took his stand.

Colonial preachers were among the most forceful voices in the formation of our country. They dealt with almost every issue, except which candidate should be elected to public office. The contribution of these men in obtaining freedom and liberty for all is immeasurable.

We believe that the first amendment of the constitution protects churches when they take a stand on political issues. Significantly, the first amendment guarantees both the right of assembly and the right to petition the government for redress of grievances. These rights may be exercised independently or in conjunction with each other, but they guarantee full protection to our churches.

Churches, church organizations, and para-church groups must use caution to not abuse any tax-exempt status. When buildings are being used for non-religious purposes, taxes should be paid. When a secular business is operated by a church organization, income tax should be paid. When church or religious organizations abuse their privileges, problems will be developed. Our freedom of religion is at the heart of American democracy. Let's love it, support it, and defend it. Let's never abuse our privileges.

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Letters to the Editor

Board of Deacons?

Through the ages, culture plays tricks on the people of successive generations, and some of those tricks are good and some are not good. Many of our Southern Baptist churches are allowing our culture to play an unfortunate and hurtful trick on them when they downgrade the *diakonatē* (deaconship) from its New Testament meaning to that of "board." The word "board" come straight out of the professional, business, secular world about us—such as "Board of Directors," "Board of Education," or "Board of Control," etc. The meaning of this word "board" in all these connections is the diametrical opposite of the New Testament word which is translated "deacon"! It is tragic when we lost sight of the spiritual ministry and servant role of the deacon and corrupt it with the word "board" which carries the connotation of "director," or "overseer," or "one who controls"! The "Board of Deacons" is a concept which is completely out of place in a New Testament church. It is urgently important that we as individual Christians and corporately as churches be Christ-centered and not culture-centered!—Julius H. Avery, Athens, Ga.

Two Misconceptions

Mr. Denney's letter (re: June 18) reminds us of two misconceptions of worship in many churches today. First, that worship is a spectator activity with the worshiper's mind in neutral. And second, that preaching is the only act of true worship.

True worship is a dialogue between two parties: God and his creation. Isaiah 6 is a good model for this exchange. It shows the communication between both parties. Robert Bailey, in *New Ways in Christian Worship*, says, "The worshiper is not a passive spectator who comes looking for what he can see, get, hear, or receive. The worshiper is an active participant in an encounter with God, an encounter of giving, telling, and acting in the presence of the Almighty God."

Although preaching can be an effective means of worship, it is not the only one. Prayer, reading Scripture, meditation, giving an offering, and music are all effective and meaningful ways to worship.

When our churches become more effective in leading their members to worship, the members will be more effective in being the church.—G. Allan Aunspaugh, Fort Worth, Texas

The Worship Experience

In the June 18, 1987, issue, a letter from Mr. Otis E. Denney must have a reply. This was in the Letters to the Editor, and entitled, "Why Do We Do It?"

In the first place, the worship period on Sunday morning begins when you leave

home. Christians go the church on Sunday expecting things to happen. They expect the working of the Holy Spirit to move among the people and cause them to accept Christ as their Savior. The Sunday School period prepares the Christian for this experience. The real Christian does not come to church to "find a seat, then sit

CHARITABLE GIVING: First of a four-part series

Many Possibilities

by Larry Page
Arkansas Baptist Foundation

Methods of charitable giving are numerous and varied, running a course from the simplest form of the immediate, cash gift to the more sophisticated and intricate deferred giving or split-interest trust. The rich diversity of charitable giving methods virtually ensures that each person who is motivated to philanthropy will be able to give in a way that is suited to his circumstances.

Charitable giving should be an integral part of the life of a Christian steward. Every child of God should be anxious to return a portion of his or her provisions to his ministries. This requires diligence to be aware of the opportunities and means to provide economic support for the Lord's work. This series of four articles will attempt to bring such awareness to Arkansas Baptists by discussing some of the innovative and tax-wise methods of charitable giving.

Each of the three articles following this first installment will be written by a member of the development staffs of some of our Baptist agencies and institutions in Arkansas. These men are very knowledgeable in the area of estate planning and competent to assist you as you make certain you have planned adequately. You

are encouraged to call on them and benefit from their expertise.

John Ross, director of development of the Arkansas Baptist Family and Child Care Services, will discuss the use of wills and insurance as means of making gifts to areas of the Lord's work. There are many good reasons for a Christian to prepare a will, such as providing for the family, nominating guardians for minor children, naming a trustee for children or an ailing spouse, and choosing the executor of the estate. The opportunity to continue one's Christian stewardship should be another of the strong motivating factors in the decision to secure a will. Insurance can be a superb way to arrange future provisions for Christian causes at affordable costs in the present.

Bill Oakley, director of development for Southern Baptist College, will highlight methods of giving appreciated property, such as land, stocks, and bonds. These can be very advantageous for a donor who gives highly-appreciated property. Since many people think of charitable giving only in terms of cash donations, this article should illustrate several new opportunities that many Arkansas Baptists can take advantage of in supporting God's work.

John Cloud, director of

planned giving for Ouachita Baptist University, will conclude this series with a discussion of the so-called split-interest type charitable giving methods. Simply put, these arrangements will provide periodic interest payments to the donors and then at a predetermined time, such as at the death of the donors or after a number of years, the assets remaining pass to the selected charitable cause.

All of the methods that will be discussed in these articles allow tax deductions, which serve only to enhance the desirability of them for the Christian seeking to be the complete steward. The tax benefits of charitable giving have been created by the U.S. Congress to encourage philanthropy in recognition of the inestimable value of Christian missions, child care, education, and other services provided.

The men whose articles you'll be seeing in the following three weeks stand ready to help you in your estate planning. They perceive their roles as Christian servants and conscientiously strive to provide a meaningful service that will help perpetuate Christ's work in this world. What is best for you, given your objectives and circumstances, is what they want to achieve for you. Please let them serve you.

down, hoping to relax and enter into worship." He began his worship when he woke up that morning. The visiting among other Christians, the welcoming of visitors, the singing of the great hymns of the church, engaging in prayer for the services and for the lost, are all part of the worship experience.

The statement, "many people are leaving their churches" for reasons such as the writer listed, is not true. Southern Baptists have shown a steady increase in membership all down through the years, and the number defecting from the churches is very minimal. Those that leave for reasons stated need a closer walk with the Lord.

The real child of God comes to church to have fellowship with other Christians. They are interested in the visitors that are present and eager to shake their hands and make them feel welcome. When the preacher starts to bring his message, it certainly is not the time to "turn our minds loose for a moment, and think about things we might like to think about or not think about, if we choose." He will be much in prayer that souls will come to know the Lord Jesus Christ.

Finally, if the churches of America will just become engulfed in the flame of evangelism, witnessing, serving the needs of others, preaching and teaching the true Word of God, America might just have "another spiritual awakening!" How we need it!—John S. Burton, Rogers

Missions Advance 87-89 Divine Help

by Allen D. Thrasher
Pastor, Booneville First Church

Earnest prayer means answered prayer. Answered prayer means divine help. And divine power is exactly what "Missions Advance 87-89" must have to succeed. The world gospel mission is too big for man alone.

The Cooperative Program missions method was given to Southern Baptists by the Lord. And we believe that the Holy Spirit led Arkansas Baptists to boost Cooperative Program awareness, concern, and giving through "Missions Advance 87-89." But this effort must have the continued blessing of God if it is to succeed.

The Apostle Paul chided the Galatians for beginning with God and then continuing on in their own strength (Ga. 3:3). It may be that some Arkansas Baptists have followed the error of the Galatians. It appears that some of us need to renew our zeal for world missions through fresh commitment to pray, give, and work for the ad-

vancement of Christ's kingdom in the earth.

The evidence that renewal is needed among some Arkansas Baptists comes from the "Missions Advance 87-89" Task Force members who have reported poor responses from some of their initial contacts. However, these same Task Force members also have reported enthusiastic responses from other pastors and churches.

World missions renewal among Arkansas Baptists is vital, but it will be accomplished only with divine help. Please make a long-term commitment to pray for a renewed commitment to the Cooperative Program in the churches of our state. Pray for the Task Force of 100 which will be addressing this subject in Arkansas Baptist churches. Your earnest prayers will likely be the single most important contribution that you will make to world missions.

DANIEL R. GRANT

One Layman's Opinion



Jim and Tammy

At the risk of beating a dead horse, I want to comment on the sordid story of

the PTL scandal surrounding Jim Bakker and his wife, Tammy. As sad and ugly as the daily news has been, we should learn some lessons about the electronic church, as well as about our own personal church choices and involvement. I hope we have been learning or relearning some valuable truths about how we can be effective on this earth in living out the teachings of Christ, including the following:

(1) Learning about accountability. In listening to the revelations about how much money has been given to "PTL ministries," and how that money was used, it is almost unbelievable to think that such exorbitant salaries, "hush money," and luxurious living accommodations could be approved with virtually no accountability to those who provided the funds. I have been a member of eight Baptist churches in my lifetime, and have participated in budget formulation and adoption in all eight. Southern Baptists are almost painfully detailed in their financial reporting at all levels from national to local. This is as it should be.

(2) Learning about missions. Only 5 per-

cent of the PTL income went to missions or charitable causes. One study compared total Southern Baptist receipts of \$635,000,000 and what it went for with the top six television ministries' receipts of \$684,000,000 last year, that went for a much smaller magnitude of causes. The six television ministries supported four schools, one hospital, three churches, two ministries to needy children, one to others in need, and one home for unwed mothers. Southern Baptists with less money supported over 3,500 foreign missionaries in 107 countries, 3,700 home missionaries, educated 14,000 students in six seminaries, operated the ACTS television network, supported 67 colleges and universities enrolling 200,000 students, and supported 52 children's homes, 48 hospitals, and 33 nursing homes or homes for the aged. We have an obligation to use our money wisely and effectively for the cause of Christ, and not merely because an emotional television performer has plucked our heartstrings and purse strings.

(3) Learning about the local church. With all of its imperfections, with pastors who cannot compete in television beauty contests, with music that falls below Hollywood standards for television pageantry, the local church still deserves our number one priority in time, energy, and resources. It should be the beginning point for Christian witnessing, service, caring, and launching our world missions outreach. Television is a tremendous resource for sharing the Christian gospel, and its full potential has yet to be reached, but it needs to magnify the local church and never cause it to pale into insignificance.

(4) Learning about forgiveness and repentance. Much has been said about our need to forgive Jim and Tammy, and we are reminded of Jesus' words, "Let him who is without sin cast the first stone" (Jn. 8:7). As a college president I am occasionally reminded of this by a student who has been disciplined because of violation of our rules. All too often the reminder comes from someone who is not repentant for his actions. Even with repentance, there is a price that must be paid, and it often relates to the loss of capacity to be a leader. Only God can judge the genuineness of repentance, but Christian people have an obligation to avoid naivete and gullibility in this matter.

A former Arkansan, Tal Bonham, wrote along these same lines recently, and I am indebted to him for the categories. The PTL scandal has been sickening and we have no reason to rejoice over it. It is most important, however, that we learn from it.

Daniel R. Grant is president of Ouachita Baptist University.

DON MOORE

You'll Be Glad To Know

You can relieve some of the stress and strain of summer. In larger churches, they operate at about half staff while various staff members are on vacations, mission trips, camps,



and so forth. Summer is hard on larger church staffs. In smaller churches, the absence of a few for vacations or other reasons usually puts a strain on the budget and on leadership. It's hard to keep all the positions filled. Workers in all size churches go from school to Bible School to camps to choir/mission tours, and try to keep the kids at all of the ball practices and games at the same time. Doesn't sound like a very inviting life, does it?

Such is the horrid schedule of the modern mother. She's giving it all she's got. Society and circumstance are driving her. It would be a relief to her if she could get a 40 hour a week job for the summer months. I am not sure how a person can extricate themselves from such. Perhaps they can't. Perhaps they don't want to. Frayed nerves, flaring tempers, gnawing ulcers, and other stress-induced physical problems cannot possibly be wholesome influences for a marriage or for parenting.

You can take your life back over. It is so easy for us to let others control our lives. The only other person who should be in control of our lives is the Holy Spirit. He would never drive you into such a dilemma. He will give us strength to do what he expects us to do. Beyond that, we are on our own. We quickly become spiritually, emotionally, and physically bankrupt when we are operating beyond his leadership.

You can relieve someone else's stress, too. Stop expecting so much out of them. The heat of summer and the heavy schedule affects them like it does you. Be profuse in your expressions of appreciation. This will help them through.

That reminds me of why I started this column. I wanted to say thanks to Bobby Bean, his wife and crew at Camp Paron, and to Steve Burnett, his wife and crew at Siloam Springs. These camp managers carry an extremely heavy load in the summer. They are doing a great job. We appreciate them very much.

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

Food & Fellowship

Using Leftovers

VIRGINIA KIRK & JANE PURTLE



Leftovers are a problem in stewardship for the homemaker. They are a problem because they stack up in the refrigerator and need to be used, yet the family complains. They are a blessing when the cook can think of an attractive, palatable way to use them, because they save both time and money. If you are like us, you are always looking for new ideas and recipes that will help you clean out the refrigerator, yet avoid the family's groan of "Not leftovers again!"

The "re-creation" of leftovers should be uncomplicated, appetizing, and aesthetically pleasing. Here are some general guidelines for re-creation, followed by specific suggestions for some popular leftovers.

Leftover vegetables: change their setting by putting them in a cream sauce or casserole; change their taste by adding a different spice; change their appearance by sprinkling them with parsley, paprika, or some favorite herb; extend them with sauteed onions, peppers, or mushrooms.

Leftover meats: slice, cube, chop, grind, or marinate; make barbeques, stews, sandwich spreads, casseroles, soups, croquettes, or hash; add to a creamed gravy served over toast.

Leftover fruits: add to jello; blend with crushed ice in summer drinks; curry; use as a topping for ice cream, baked custards or puddings.

Leftover bread should never go to waste. It can be frozen to wait its time as chicken and dressing. It can be made into croutons or bread crumbs and used as casserole toppings, for breaded meats, or as a meat loaf extender. Leftover rolls or biscuits make a good bread pudding. If the bread is not too dry, French toast is a good solution.

Leftover potatoes have many uses. Mashed ones can be turned into potato cakes, potato salad, cheese potatoes, or added to homemade bread. Baked ones are especially versatile. Sometimes, you may want to bake more than you anticipate using immediately and recreate the leftovers as hash browns, potato salad, potato soup, scalloped potatoes, or ham/potato casserole.

Another Cinderella is leftover rice. It goes into croquettes, Spanish rice, pudding, soup, stuffed peppers and can even be reheated as a delicious hot cereal with a few raisins, and some cinnamon. The cool, simple dessert that follows is another way to use that extra cup of cold rice.

Fruit and Rice Medley

- 1 cup cooked rice
- 1½ cups fresh or canned fruit
(Strawberries and bananas are a good combination; or blackberries, pineapple or peaches.)
- 1 cup whipped topping

Drain fruit if necessary and reserve 2 tablespoons juice. Sweeten fresh berries, if desired. Stir together all ingredients, including reserved juice, and spoon into sherbet dishes. Refrigerate for flavors to blend. Before serving, sprinkle with chopped nuts and a dash of nutmeg, if desired. Serves four.

Virginia Kirk, professor emeritus at Arkansas College, is a member of Batesville First Church. Jane Purtle teaches at Lon Morris College in Jacksonville, Texas. They have enjoyed cooking together for several years.

A SMILE OR TWO

When I was a young man I vowed never to marry until I found the ideal woman. Well, I found her—but, alas, she was waiting for the ideal man.—Robert Schuman
Marriages are made in heaven. So are thunder and lightning.

Not A Worry

Professor doesn't let MS or worry slow him down

by Terri Lackey

Baptist Sunday School Board

NASHVILLE—The map Ed Chasteen follows is one of faith and inner strength.

The 51-year-old multiple sclerosis victim and sociology professor at William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo., is on a 3,000-mile, four-month bicycle trek across the country. He passed through Nashville recently and visited the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

Chasteen uses his illness as a drawing card rather than a handicap.

His cause is humanitarianism, specifically, The Human Family Reunion, an organization he founded at the Baptist college where he has taught since 1965.

"I've directed an ethnic center at William Jewell since 1976. Twice a year all types of people, of different creeds and races, get together and get to know each other.

"We don't try to change each other or melt down anybody into a common mass," Chasteen said. "We're just learning how to relate to people we never knew."

Chasteen's belief in individuality is easily recognizable. He rarely wears a tie. His suit of clothing is blue jeans and a T-shirt, and he lets his students call him 'Ed.'

"I don't believe in titles. Titles tend to elevate one person over another. We were all born babies," said the trim Chasteen whose only hint of MS is a slight limp.

Through each city he rides (he began at Disney World, Orlando, Fla., and expects to wind up in Disneyland in Anaheim, Calif.) he mentions the Family Reunion in hopes of getting individual towns to start their own. And he also takes pledges for donations to the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Despite his efforts to focus attention on his cause—"how to like people who are not like you"—the conversation continues to turn to his illness.

In 1981, Chasteen was diagnosed as having multiple sclerosis.

"My doctor told me, 'MS is a damnable disease. You won't be able to be active,'" Chasteen said.

For three years he said he curled into a corner and cried.

"I even contemplated suicide."

But one day in 1983 he walked into the garage and spotted his son's bicycle. "I made it down the block, barely. Depression really saps your energy."

But the next thing he knew, he was in a bicycle shop purchasing a \$400 10-speed.

"The salesman just talked me into it. I couldn't even ride it," he recalled.

But eventually the rides down the block turned into 10-mile excursions, and the 10 miles turned into 100.

"When I made my first centennial—that's what bikers call their first 100 miles—I knew I was going to ride across America."

That was Oct. 29, 1986.

"When I told my wife, Bobbie, she said, 'You'll spend all our money,' and I said, 'No, I won't spend a penny.'"

"Then when she asked, 'What if you die?' I told her I would take out a one-million-dollar life insurance policy."

Bobbie Chasteen had reason to worry. A couple of years ago he had planned to take a weeklong bicycle trip, but after three days he became dehydrated, fainted, fell to the ground and knocked out two teeth.

"She had to come get me in the car," he said.

On his cross-country venture, Chasteen has stuck to his promise not to spend a penny of their own money.

The tab on everything including his \$1,000 bicycle, life insurance policy, safety glasses, meals, and flights to and from his beginning and ending destinations, have been picked up by enthusiastic fans.

"I don't even have one penny. Well, I take that back, I have one," he said, digging it from his pocket and laying it on the table. "I found it in the parking lot and I'm going to use it for good luck."

Luck, he apparently doesn't need.

When he needs food, someone feeds him. When he needs rest, someone gives him a place to stay. When he needs money, someone hands him a few dollars.

"If I have any left over at the end of the day, by about 5 o'clock or so, I just give it to someone who needs it more than me," said Chasteen, a member of Second Church in Liberty.

"The Bible says don't store up treasures and don't worry about tomorrow, so I start off each day broke, and I don't have a worry in the world."



Ed Chasteen, professor of sociology at William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo., stopped at the Sunday School Board recently during a cross-country bicycle trip.

BSSB photo / Terri Lackey

On-to-College Day

Baptist Student Union: Going Strong, Reaching Out

ABN photo / Millie Gill



It has been more than 60 years since the first efforts at ministering to college students in Arkansas were launched. Today, the work reaches 27 campuses around the state and actively involves 3,500 students. Arkansas Baptist Student Union ministries lead the way in supporting summer missions, new convention BSU work, and world hunger needs.

As successful as Arkansas campus ministry efforts have been, the end is not yet in sight. Unmet needs and unreached students abound, and Baptist Student Union ministries are working hard to touch more lives and meet more needs.

This year's "On-to-College" edition of the *Arkansas Baptist* focuses on "Baptist Student Union: Going Strong, Reaching Out." An interview with retiring State BSU Director Tom Logue (pp. 10-11) shares his insights on 32 years of student ministry progress in Arkansas. Another article reviews activities planned by Arkansas BSUs for this next year's special emphasis on campus evangelism, "Outreach 87-88."

College students represent a mission field of the first magnitude. Arkansas Baptist churches are encouraged to recognize their own college-bound students by observing "On-to-College Day" this summer.

Russellville's Second Baptist Church

North Frankfort and East K Place
P.O. Box 782 • 967-4085
Russellville, AR 72801



"A friendly church with a spiritual program."

Welcome to ATU students!

We hope your college experience goes well. We pledge ourselves to provide for you worship and spiritual training during your tenure at Tech. When we can assist you, we hope you will contact us.

Rev. C. David McLemore, Pastor

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Southern Arkansas University
are invited to
Central Baptist Church

217 West Union
Magnolia, Ark.
(501) 234-2430

Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship...10:45 a.m.
Church Training.....6:00 p.m.
Evening Worship.....7:00 p.m.
Wednesday Service.....7:15 p.m.



Dr. Rich Kincl
Pastor

On-to-College Day Investing in Students

by George Sims

Associate Director, ABCS Student Department

Churches have made a major investment in their young people by the time they graduate from high school. The value that they hold in students preparing for college and university enrollment can be symbolized during a special On-to-College Day worship service, Aug. 2. Not only will this help the student recognize the esteem and concern that the church has for him, it will also help church members to recommit themselves to personal support for those who face the challenge of the academic world. Some suggestions for an On-to-College Day emphasis are:

(1) Ask one or two students to share a testimony on how the church has prepared him or her for college life.

(2) Use a panel of college upperclassmen to speak to the high school or college Sunday School about opportunities to develop and to share one's faith on the campus.

(3) Give talented students an opportunity to provide special music in the worship service.

(4) Recognize the students and their families in the service as a gift is presented from the church.

(5) Ask a group of church members who are concerned for students to organize a system for communicating with students by mail or telephone on a regular schedule

(6) Mail the church newsletter, the *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine*, or other periodicals directly to the students.

(7) Ask a teacher or the director of the college Sunday School department to comment on the need for maintaining regular attendance at Bible study in addition to personal devotional life.

(8) Build the morning message around the idea of knowing Christ and presenting him in love to the academic world as well as in other realms of life.

(9) Organize a potluck fellowship for students and their families after the morning service.

(10) Invite a student to tell of the support he or she has found from active participation in the Baptist Student Union on campus.

Whether a special celebration of On-to-College Day is planned or not, names and addresses of college students should be mailed to the Student Department, Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203. Please include the campus where they plan to enroll and campus address, if it is available, to assist BSU directors in making contact with

students early in the school year.

The churches' investment in the lives of young people will pay dividends as students consider Christ in their vocations, start Christian homes, and consider their other life commitments with the strong foundation that the church has offered. On-to-College Day can illustrate the church's continuing support for students going away to college as well as to those who will live at home and commute to a nearby campus.

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University Baptist Church

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Fayetteville, AR 72701
(501) 442-5312

Dr. H.D. McCarty
Senior Pastor

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Help your college student keep in touch with a gift subscription to the *Arkansas Baptist*. For no more than 13½¢ a week, you can give your student all the latest on events back home, as well as interesting, informative, and inspiring articles from around the world. For subscription information, call (501) 376-4791.

On-to-College Day

BSU: Going Strong

State BSU Director Tom Logue, who will retire in August after 32 years of service to Arkansas Baptists, talks with ABN Editor J. Everett Sneed about the progress he has seen in student ministries over the years.

Sneed: How many years have you been in BSU work overall?

Logue: I've served 32 years here in Arkansas as state director and then between four and five years in Memphis as the local director, city-wide director for all the Memphis schools. There were about five schools that we worked with in Memphis.

Sneed: What kind of changes have you seen in the work of BSU across the years?

Logue: The denomination has become much more aware of college students, and the budgets in every state have grown rapidly. I think that has happened because Baptist people have realized college students are a major mission field. So, the staff or the number of people doing student work is much larger. Not just Arkansas Baptists, but all the Deep South states have heavily invested in Baptist student centers.

Sneed: How many BSU centers do we own now in Arkansas?

Logue: We have 15.

Sneed: How many were there when you came 32 years ago?

Logue: We had four. One or two of those were houses. There was a house at Fayetteville, and there was a house at Russellville, but they were Baptist student centers. So we had four.

Sneed: And now we have 15. Of course,

there are more schools now than there were 32 years ago in Arkansas. Aren't there?

Logue: Yes, I don't guess there are any more four-year schools, but of course the whole community college phenomenon has brought about many more schools.

Sneed: On how many campuses do we have work now?

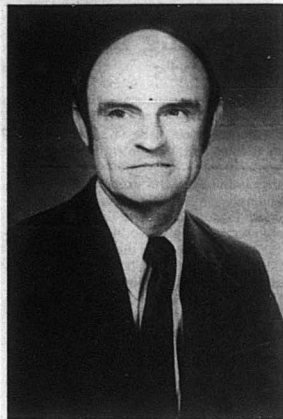
Logue: Twenty-seven. The whole program has grown dramatically. I don't know exactly how many schools we were working at in 1955. We were probably working on eight campuses, but we didn't have full-time workers on all of these campuses. We had a worker at Fayetteville and at Tech in Russellville. We had a worker at Monticello, and a worker at ASU. Ouachita and the Baptist Medical Center paid for their own workers. The state convention paid for the other four workers.

Sneed: What are some of the good things that you have seen during your years as state director of BSU?

Logue: The greatest thing, of course, just happens over and over again; it is just seeing college students develop.

Sneed: Are there some events or occasions where you have been really proud of the college students?

Logue: I guess I was proudest of our students during the Little Rock racial crisis. The Arkansas Baptist State Convention met



Logue

and passed no resolution about the racial crisis. There were other Baptist groups that met and made negative statements. As far as I know, our Baptist Student Convention, which met in Jonesboro that year, was the only white Baptist group that made a positive statement. They debated and passed with only one dissenting vote a very Christian and positive statement concerning race relations.

Sneed: That was good. What changes in BSU programs have you seen?

Logue: I don't think we have had a large number of changes. The program is still a discipleship program. We still believe in each student having a quiet time. We still believe in students having someone to serve as their prayer partner. We still believe in students serving as summer missionaries as a good experience for them. We still believe students need to be invol-



Kris Lamle
Minister to
University Students

Fayetteville's First Baptist Church

- College Avenue at Dickson Street
- 442-2387
- Comprehensive Ministry to the College Student
- Sunday Services

9:30 a.m. Bible Study
10:50 a.m. Morning Worship
6:00 p.m. Church Training
7:00 p.m. Evening Worship

Jere D. Mitchell
Pastor

ed in the life of a local church. The basics are still the same: a strong mission emphasis, strong evangelism emphasis, and still-strong emphasis on social needs. You know, when I was in BSU at Baylor, I worked in a very poor part of south Waco with black families, and that was part of the BSU program at Baylor. So BSU has always had that dimension of ministry to social needs of people through a Christian emphasis. **Sneed:** So, it is basically the same program but on a larger scale?

Logue: Yes. The only thing I can see changing in the student program, other than the growth and the awareness of the convention of students, is that of some world needs such as hunger. I'm proud that our students in Arkansas have given the second largest amount of any state for world hunger through our Southern Baptist Convention, second only to Texas. And if that were on a per capita basis, we would be number one.

Sneed: How does Arkansas BSU compare with other state conventions?

Logue: In almost every area of comparison, our students are either at the top or very near the top. I believe Arkansas is the 13th largest Southern Baptist state as far as members. One other thing I'm proud of Arkansas students for is our help to

new convention BSUs. Again, we are second in total amount, surpassed only by Oklahoma. I don't know how that would come out per capita. We give some of the earnings of the Third Century funds to Utah-Idaho BSUs, Chicago BSU, several schools in Ohio, and the Naval Academy. We spend between \$15,000 and \$20,000 every year on pioneer BSU work.

Sneed: You have had an on-going relationship with Utah-Idaho for a lot of years, haven't you?

Logue: It actually started before Executive Director Charles Ashcraft came, but Dr. Ashcraft's presence, of course, strengthened it. I guess the first thing we did was to send out a migrant team who worked as summer missionaries in the fields. They lived on their earnings. Gerald Cound, who is now in the Park Hill Church, and his wife lived in that effort. I think they were our first summer missionaries to Utah-Idaho.

Sneed: How many summer missionaries do you send out? You have a strong summer missionary program.

Logue: This year, I believe it is 105. Our own college students pay the expenses for about half of those, and the other half have been employed by the Home Mission Board. Each group gets the same amount of money in the way of salary, but our own

BSU-appointed summer missionaries are not paid by the Home Mission Board. Although they might serve in a Home Mission Board spot, they actually are paid by the students themselves.

Sneed: How does this compare with other states?

Logue: Well, again, I think we have done a fantastic job in Arkansas. The total number of students appointed by the Home Mission Board this year was down about 100. I don't know, I haven't seen the figures on the BSU-appointed summer missionaries. But in several areas of comparison, Arkansas in the last few years has grown in some areas that most states have experienced a little decline, like BSU Convention attendance, Leadership Training Conference attendance, and also in the appointment of summer missionaries.

Sneed: Dr. Logue, would you discuss the quality of the local directors that you have seen across the years?

Logue: Yes, I think the long tenure that so many of our directors have had is significant. In the early days of BSU, people didn't stay in the work very long. It was a stepping stone, but now it is recognized as a bona fide Christian vocation among

(continued on p. 15)



Emil Williams
Pastor

WELCOME STUDENTS! to Arkansas State University and First Baptist Church, Jonesboro



Nancy Burke
University Minister

We at First Baptist Church of Jonesboro welcome students to Arkansas State University. Students are invited to be at home in our community, in our church, and in our homes. We would be delighted to have them as a part of our family. We have a place for students.

Emil Williams
Pastor

Why be involved at First Baptist Church? Former students have said: "We gain relevant insights from the Bible in Sunday School." "They provided many opportunities for me to serve and use my talents." "Opportunities for fellowship at First Baptist made me feel like a part of the family." We believe in student ministry and feel church involvement during college is crucial. We look forward to meeting and welcoming students at First Baptist. Come see us.

Nancy Burke
University Minister

Ministry Opportunities

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Sunday Night Bible Study • Disciple Group
Wednesday Night Fellowship Supper
S.W.A.P. Youth/University Bible Study
Christian Activities Center Leadership
Preschool and Children's Ministries Leadership

Special Student Activities

Adoption Program • University Council
University Ensemble • Monthly Fellowships
ASU Welcome Dinner, Sept. 13
Pastor's Reception, Sept. 20
Fall Retreat, Sept. 25-26
Spring Snow Ski Bible Retreat

701 South Main

Transportation is available to all services

932-3456

Arkansas' Campus Ministry

Arkansas College



Parman
Helen Parman, director
 7 Chamblee Dr.
 Batesville, AR 72501
 793-9101

College of the Ozarks



Frazer
Kathy Frazer, director
 P.O. Box 196
 Lamar, AR 72846
 885-6448

John Brown University



Finfrock
Joe Finfrock, director
 P. O. Box 116
 Gentry, AR 72734
 736-2707

Arkansas State University



Dickerson **Venable**
Arliss Dickerson, director
Bruce Venable, associate
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 State University, AR 72467
 932-7241

East Arkansas CC



McAtee
D.C. McAtee, director
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 Forrest City, AR 72335
 633-9393

Ouachita



Baber
Mark Baber, director
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 Arkadelphia, AR 71923
 246-4531

ASU - Beebe



Cunningham
Brenda Cunningham, director
 Box 235
 Beebe, AR 72012
 882-3096

Garland County CC



Morris
Al Morris, director
 316 Joy Drive
 Hot Springs, AR 71913
 767-5915

Phillips County CC



Fowler
Mike Fowler, director
 P. O. Box 34
 Wabash, AR 72389
 827-3827

Baptist Med Center



Hill
Peggy Burnett Hill, director
 12th & Marshall St.
 P.O. Box 26
 Little Rock, AR 72202
 370-7468

Henderson State



Glisson
Gary Glisson, director
 713 North 12th
 Arkadelphia, AR 71923
 246-6592

So Ark University



Turner
Robert Turner, director
 Box 1275, SAU
 Magnolia, AR 71753
 234-2434

Team

SAU Tech



Demmitt
Gary Demmitt, director
Box 1275
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U of A Fayetteville



Jones
Jamie Jones, director
Lynn Loyd, associate
Betsy Adkins, contract worker



Loyd



Adkins

944 West Maple
Fayetteville, AR 72701
521-4370

To contact BSU's not listed here, write to Student Department, Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203; 376-4791

So Baptist College



Burton
Jackie Burton, director
Box 48, SBC
Walnut Ridge, AR 72476
886-6741

UALR



McCauley
Dan McCauley, director
5515 W. 32nd St.
Little Rock, AR 72204
562-4383

UA Pine Bluff



Scott
Franklin Scott, director
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Pine Bluff, AR 71601
535-8545

North Ark CC



Whitaker
Cathy Whitaker, director
508 N. Liberty
Harrison, AR 72601
741-5089

UA Medical Sciences



Walker
Ken Walker, director
323 South Elm
Little Rock, AR 72205
661-8078

UCA & Hendrix



Boyles **O'Connell**
Richard Boyles, director
Diane O'Connell, contract worker
Box 575, UCA
Conway, AR 72032
329-5763

Rich Mountain CC



Yates
Jim Yates, director
601 Bush Street
Mena, AR 71953
394-3893

UA Monticello



Holder
David Holder, director
Box 3073, UAM
Monticello, AR 71655
367-5381

Westark CC



Simpkins
Rosie Simpkins, director
701 N. 50th St.
Fort Smith, AR 72903
782-1219

On-to-College Day

BSU: Reaching Out

Reaching students for Christ: what holds more promise for tomorrow? College years shape the destiny of our nation, and Baptist students are vigorously working their very fertile mission fields, bringing men and women to Christ.

Evangelistic outreach will be even more prominent than usual in the programs of Arkansas' 27 Baptist Student Unions this fall.

"Outreach 87-88" is the theme for a nationwide emphasis on campus evangelism among Baptist student ministries. The activities planned on several Arkansas campuses give the flavor of what will be happening on the nation's campuses.

Arkansas State University

BSU Director Arliss Dickerson is planning two major special events for the year. On Sept. 17, magician Lou Leventhal's "Illusion and Reality" performance on the ASU campus is expected to attract attention from a broad segment of students. Response cards will be distributed after the performance, and students who express an interest in the gospel will be followed-up by the BSU's regular weekly visitation program.

The ASU Baptist Student Union also will sponsor a campus revival Feb. 22-24 in conjunction with First Church and Central Church, Jonesboro. Billy White, pastor of Second Church, Little Rock, will preach the revival.

A third project is a repeat of a successful experiment last spring in which a drama team performed in dormitory lobbies, sing-

ing and sharing testimonies. Approximately 75 students participated last spring, and the students hope to repeat that success.

Henderson State University

The Baptist Student Union at Henderson State University will focus its special efforts at campus outreach in an Oct. 12-14 emphasis, according to BSU Director Gary Glisson.

The three-day event will feature Dennis Lee, a Christian entertainer from Dallas, Texas. Lee, an accomplished ventriloquist and comedian, also is a singer, songwriter, and pianist, and has performed widely at churches, camps, and colleges across the nation.

Southern Arkansas University

The week of Oct. 12-15 has been set aside on the SAU campus for "Outreach 87-88," according to BSU Director Robert Turner. The BSU plans to precede the four-day event with a strong emphasis on prayer for the campus, compiling lists of prospects, conducting visitation, and training students to share their faith. The main event will feature testimonies from Christian professors and businessmen and one evening will be dedicated to an evangelistic service conducted by an area pastor. Other activities such as a dinner for international



Inviting others to Baptist Student Union activities is one important way for students to develop new friendships and cultivate relationships for Christ.

students, nightly dorm Bible studies, and a prayer breakfast also are being considered.

University of Arkansas at Little Rock

The Baptist Student Union at UALR launched its "Outreach 87-88" emphasis during the spring semester of 1987, according to BSU Director Dan McCauley. In April singing groups and special speakers were invited to campus. Among the speakers were Billy White, pastor of Second Church, Little Rock; James Dunn, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs in Washington, D.C.; and Hezekiah Stewart, a black pastor from Little Rock. McCauley expects to repeat a

Welcome to the University of Arkansas at Monticello!

The members and staff of Second Baptist Church look forward to ministering to the students on campus.

Come learn with us and allow us to be your home away from home!

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:55 a.m.
Evening Worship 7 p.m.
Wednesday Service 7 p.m.



Second Baptist Church

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Monticello, AR 71655 • (501) 367-2459

Harry T. Kennedy, Pastor • Richard Wade, Music-Youth Minister

similar program in the spring of 1988.

University of Arkansas

Director Lynn Loyd is planning two events for the U of A outreach emphasis. During the fall semester, the Baptist Student Union will join hands with several other evangelical campus groups to sponsor a three-day visit from "Probe," a Christian education and apologetics team from Dallas, Texas. A one-night rally in September will raise awareness on campus in preparation for a three-day October event during which Probe team members will speak on Christian faith in classrooms and campus forums.

During the spring semester, the BSU will sponsor a four-day event called "Christival," which Loyd calls "a celebration of life in Christ." That event will involve door-to-door surveys and distribution of Scripture portions in anticipation of a series of luncheons and evangelistic evening services.

As college and university semesters open this fall, pray for Baptist Student Unions working in the harvest on the campuses of Arkansas. Reaching students for Christ shapes the future, as well as the present.

BSU: Going Strong

(continued from p. 11)

Southern Baptists. We just have the choicest people in Baptist Student work. Jamie Jones has been with us 37 years. James Smalley has been with us 32 years. Juanita Straubie was with us 25 or more years, and we have quite a few people who have now been with us 15 years. Arliss Dickerson has been with us 17 years, Dick Boyles soon will be 15 years, and George Sims has been here 18 years. I think the quality of the directors in Arkansas and their commitment and long tenure is great.

One of the remarkable things is the fact that, in these 32 years, there has never been a divorce in the student-director family. The only thing that I can attribute that to is the fact that we do function as a family. People are not afraid to share their problems and seek help from someone else. We are just real open about people getting help in their marriage. They are not afraid to get help.

Sneed: What do you see for the future of BSU?

Logue: Oh, I think it is as bright as can be. As long as we can keep a balanced program, the future is exceedingly bright. Some feel that the number of college students will be dropping. They were saying that 10 years ago, and that has not happened. I don't know if it will happen or not. Maybe as the state progresses economically, we'll take that slack up in a higher percentage of our students going to college. But I think Arkansas will have a large number of international students coming. I think we will have more black students involved in our program, and I just think it will be strong all over the state. We are the strongest Christian organization by far now on the campus. Half of the campuses do not have any Christian organization other than the Baptist Student Union.

Sneed: So, you feel real positive about the future of BSU work?

Logue: Yes, I do. I think as long as we are doing a good job in missions, evangelism, churchmanship, and in meeting the human needs around the world that our Baptist Student Union will be doing what God desires. I also think Arkansas Baptists will continue to feel that student work is a worthwhile expenditure of Cooperative Program money.

Jonesboro's

CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

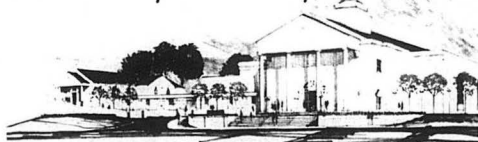
University Ministry



Rex Holt Jr.
Pastor



David Jackson
Minister to
University Students



You are WELCOME at CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

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- Ski Trips, Summer & Winter
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"Knowing Christ and Making Him Known"

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- Bible Studies
- Discipleship Groups
- University Choir
- Church Orchestra
- Ski Retreat Aug. 13-15
- "Truth" in Concert Aug. 27

Arkansas All Over

MILLIE GILL

People

Ron Herrod will begin serving July 19 as pastor of First Church, Fort Smith. He will come there from First Church, Kenner, La., where he has served as pastor for 12 years. The church led the Louisiana Convention in baptisms for nine years. He is a former vice-president of the Southern Baptist Convention Pastor's Conference and has served as a member of the Foreign Mission Board. Herrod and his wife, Emily, have three children, Dawn, Joey, and Twila.



Mason Bondurant is serving as interim pastor of First Church, White Hall.

Ed Walker is serving Pleasant Grove Church, Ferndale, as interim pastor.

Stephen Davis observed his third anniversary of service June 21 as pastor of Russellville First Church.

Jane Eaton completed 12 years of service June 2 as financial secretary of Russellville First Church.

John Maddox of Maumelle, the retired pastor of Wynne Church, is serving as interim pastor of Calvary Church in North Little Rock.

G. David Welch has accepted a call to join the staff of Geyer Springs First Church in Little Rock as associate pastor, with responsibilities in the area of evangelism and single adults. He will move to Little Rock from Fort Worth, Texas, where he serves as minister of discipleship at Glenview Church. He is a graduate of Texas Tech University, Lubbock, and will graduate this month from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary with a master of divinity degree. Welch is married to the former Burla Caudle.

Lynwood Henderson of Almyra is serving as interim pastor of Faith Church in DeWitt.

W.L. and Virginia Tate of Hope observed their 50th wedding anniversary June 28 when their son, Jim, and his wife, Sue Ellen, hosted a reception in the fellowship

hall of Hope First Church, where the Tates are active members. They have two grandchildren, James S. Tate Jr. of Fayetteville, and Neal Wood Tate of Hope.

Jerry and Linda Hill were honored June 21 by Ridgeway Church, Nashville, in recognition of their 25th wedding anniversary. They were presented a love offering by the congregation, which he has served as pastor since December 1985.

A.L. Hollingsworth Sr. has resigned as pastor of First Church, Garfield, following 15 years of service in which he led the church to grow from a resident membership of 92 to 343 and baptized 343 people. He also led the church in a \$185,000 building program with the indebtedness retired at the end of 15 months.

John McAnally is serving as pastor of Parkview Church in El Dorado, coming there from Park Hill Church in Arkadelphia.

Ray Carneal has joined the staff of Parkview Church in El Dorado as youth director, coming there from Louann Church near Smackover.

Fonda Montgomery recently observed 10 years of service as records secretary at Park Hill Church in North Little Rock.

Lynn Getsay has resigned as minister of music, youth, and outreach at First Church, White Hall, to join the staff of a Bastrop, La., church.

Alan Compton is serving as pastor of Macedonia Church at Warren. He is a graduate of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Donna Lynn, have three children, Coley, Brian, and Emily.

Jody Hurst is serving as summer youth worker and music director at Westside Church in Warren. He is a student at Ouachita Baptist University.

Ted Kenn has accepted a call to serve as pastor of Wilmar Church, where he has been serving as interim pastor.

Steve Bell has resigned as minister to youth and children at Conway First Church to join the staff of First Church, Gardendale, Ala., as youth minister.

Lynda Hicklin has joined the staff of Springdale First Church as children's director.

Neal Guthrie has joined the staff of Judsonia First Church as minister of music. He is a former Brotherhood director for the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

Robert Edward Reed recently joined the staff of Cullendale First Church, Camden, as minister of education and administration. Reed has led various conferences on children's work on the state, associational, and church level. He is currently writing children's material for the Baptist Sunday School Board's Baptist Telecommunications Network. He comes to Cullendale after serving churches in DeQueen, Malvern, and Jacksonville.

Ron Goza has resigned as pastor of White City Church in Camden, effective Aug. 2, to enter full-time evangelism. Any inquiries should be addressed to 1604 Mt. Holly Road, Camden, AR 71701 or call (501) 231-6086.

Jack Guidry has resigned as pastor of Boles Church near Waldron to move to Lebanon, Mo.

Stanley Daniel, pastor of First Church, Van Buren, will be the devotional speaker at the 12th annual Bible Conference of the Tom Cox Evangelistic Association to be held July 26-31 at New Hope Church in Sedalia, Mo.

V.L. Harris is serving as pastor of the newly organized Petit Jean Mountain Mission.

Katherine Stubblefield died July 6 at age 76 in her Fayetteville home. She was the widow of Roland Stubblefield. Her funeral services were held July 7 at Fayetteville First Church, where she was a member and had served in the preschool department for many years. She had been employed at the University of Arkansas Agriculture Department and as an assistant with Virginia Cammack Art Class. She was a member of the Altrusa Club and China Painters Club of the Council on Aging. Survivors include three sons, Jim Stubblefield of Chino, Calif., Jon Stubblefield of Louisville, Ky., and Charles Stubblefield of San Antonio, Texas; a daughter, Merideth Rye of Russellville; two brothers; three sisters; eight grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. Memorials may be made to either Fayetteville First Church or the Jamie Jones Baptist Student Union Fund.

W.H. Markham is serving Hope Calvary Church as interim pastor.

D. Wade Armstrong celebrated his 50th year in the preaching ministry July 5 at James Fork Church, Mansfield. He is currently serving as pastor of First Church in Ceredo, W. Va. Participating in the anniversary program were Andrew M. Hall of Fayetteville, Ermon Webb of Aurora, Mo., and Bennie Sue Anthony of Murfreesboro.

Briefly

Nettleton Church in Jonesboro has organized a new college and career Church Training class that will be taught by Fran Tomlinson.

Pine Bluff East Side Church observed 20 years of service June 28 with activities that included a morning worship service, a luncheon, and an afternoon program of music and fellowship. Special guests were members of South Side Church, which served as sponsor when East Side was organized.

Little Rock Second Church congregation voted June 14 to approve a \$2.2 million architectural master plan for renovation of its facility. The four-phase master plan addresses every major area of the church's structure, including the exterior, the sanctuary, and the Sunday School classroom space. The plan also includes a two-story atrium containing elevators and ramps which will provide access to every floor without having to negotiate a single stair. Billy White is pastor.

Zion Hill Church at Cabot mission team recently conducted a Vacation Bible School in Hot Springs, S.D. They worked with First Southern Church, a congregation with a new building which is furnished with pews donated by Zion Hill Church.

Approximately 100 people from Hopewell and Oregon Flat Churches at Harrison gathered June 14 at Haggard Ford Swinging Bridge near Harrison for a baptismal service. Dean Cox (left), Hopewell Church pastor, baptized seven new members, and Bill Kendrick (right), pastor of Oregon Flat Church, baptized six new members.



Photo by Fay Hodge

Village Church observed its 100th anniversary with activities throughout June, beginning with a homecoming celebration June 7. Harold Carter, pastor from 1963-1967, was morning worship speaker. Also, a taped greeting from Allen Packard, pastor from 1975-1978, was played. A noon meal was followed by an afternoon musical program which featured the Clark Family from Warren. Old-fashioned day was observed June 14 when members came attired in old-fashioned dress. June 21 was designated as History Day and featured Tommy Robertson, director of missions for Liberty Association, as guest speaker. The future ministry of the church was examined in the evening service. June 28 was a day for sharing testimonies about people in the pastor and their influence on the church. An evening dessert fellowship concluded the anniversary observance.

Clarksville Second Church will begin a census this month with teams scheduled to go out on Wednesday night. This census has been planned by Pastor Marvin James and deacons as the first step toward a Continued Witness Training program scheduled to begin the first of October.

North Arkansas Association will sponsor its annual Brotherhood and Royal Ambassador fish fry and mission rally July 21 at Harrison First Church's outdoor complex. Albert Collier will be speaker.

Bartholomew Association, in cooperation with the Christian Businessmen's Association of Warren, is sponsoring a crusade July 12-16, beginning each evening at 7:30 in the Warren football stadium. There are 22 churches participating in the crusade, which will be led by Bailey Smith and his team.

Murfreesboro First Church ordained Jim Cannon, Wayne Chisum, Steve Conly, Sam Johnson, and Bruce Short to the deacon ministry June 28. Pastor Rick Hyde served as moderator.



Kerns Height Church, DeQueen, celebrated the closing out of its bond accounts and its debt-free status on the church building June 28 when a copy of the last bond cashed in was burned. Participating in the ceremony were (left to right) Clarence Shilling, chairman of the deacons; Harold Brewer, pastor; Delbert Stone, who led the building program and is now pastor of Cadron Ridge Church, Conway; and Waylon Leeper, church treasurer.

Beck Spur Church of Forrest City youth recently returned from a two-week trip to Indiana, assisting churches in Evansville and Portage with Vacation Bible Schools, door-to-door witnessing, and leading music for revival services. The Evansville revival resulted in four professions of faith, while the Portage revival resulted in 28 professions of faith and five families joining by letter. Team members were required to pass a written test, to know at least 16 of the 18 points of the Baptist Faith and Message, and to be qualified soul winners prior to leaving on the trip. They also had to assist in work in one week of Beck Spur's VBS.

Rock Creek Church at Mansfield has begun participation in the Southern Baptist Annuity Program.

East Side Church in Fort Smith approved a plan June 24 to build a 1,500-seat auditorium with the addition of an administration area, music suite, the relocation and expansion of the music center, and the expansion of the nursery.

Central Church in Bald Knob observed "J.E. Clark Day" June 28, recognizing his service as pastor from 1966 through 1980. Clark preached at the morning worship service where he was given a commemorative plaque by Pastor Jim Box. He and Mrs. Clark were honored, at a noon potluck meal. The evening service speaker was their son, Dwayne Clark, who recently made a commitment to the preaching ministry.

Goodwin Church will celebrate its 30th anniversary July 19 with Homecoming Day. Robert Tucker, director of missions for Tri-County Association, will be speaker for the morning worship service. A noon meal and afternoon service will follow.

Help Promote Hunger Giving

Many pastors and churches in the Arkansas Baptist State Convention are greatly concerned about domestic and foreign hunger problems. The Arkansas Baptist World Hunger Committee desires to be of help in promoting action regarding these problems. The committee chairman is Larry Horne, pastor of the First Church in Charleston. His address is P.O. Box 297, Charleston, AR 72933. His phone number is 965-2533. Other committee members are as follows:

Mr. Jim West, 1101 Dogwood, Booneville, AR 72927; phone 665-4994.
Mrs. Katsy McAllister, 1309 Crestwood, El Dorado, AR 71730; phone 863-5247.

Mrs. Pam Rusher, 2005 Harrisburg Rd., Jonesboro, AR 72401; phone 972-8632.
Rev. Layne Smith, 1400 Rolling Hills Dr., Fayetteville, AR 72701, phone 521-2660.

They would like especially to meet with associational Christian Life Committees who generally have world hunger as one of their main concerns. You might also contact Bob Parker, director of the Christian Life Council, for assistance.

Workshops Cancelled

Because of a budget shortage, these Area Growth Spiral Workshops have been cancelled:

August 17—Mena First and Batesville First

August 18—Little Rock Markham Street and Harrison First

August 20—Mountain Home First and Russellville First.

Area Growth Spiral Workshops are scheduled as follows:

August 17—Rogers Immanuel
August 18—Fort Smith Oak Cliff
August 20—El Dorado Immanuel.

The workshops are scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m. and adjourn at 3:45 p.m., with a 30-minute lunch break.

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Associations Adopt Expanded Plan

The following associations have already adopted the Expanded Church Annuity Plan: Ashley County, Bartholomew, Benton County, Calvary, Carey, Caroline, Centennial, Central, Clear Creek, Concord, Dardanelle-Russellville, Garland County, Harmony, Little Red River, Little River, Mississippi County, Mount Zion, North Arkansas, Ouachita, Pulaski, Red River,

Rocky Bayou, Southwest Arkansas, and Trinity. Other associations will consider the plan before it goes into effect Jan. 1, 1988.

History Requested

Anyone having any history pertaining to Aulds Church, Highway 278 east of Portland, is urged to contact John W. Harris, Rt. 1, Box 148-A Snyder, Montrose, AR 71658. The church is in the Delta Association.

1987 Annual Association Meetings

Arkansas Valley	Oct. 19	Second, West Helena
Ashley	Oct. 12-13	Pleasant Lane; Fountain Hill
Bartholomew	Oct. 19-20	First, Warren; First, Monticello
Benton	Oct. 19-20	First, Gentry
Big Creek	Oct. 14-15	Enterprise, Viola; First, Viola
Black River	Oct. 19-20	First, Newport; First, Walnut Ridge
Buckner	Oct. 13, 15	First, Mansfield; First, Parks
Buckville	Sept. 26-27	Mr. Tabor, Blackely
Caddo River	Oct. 19-20	Mt. Gilead, Norman; Second, Amity
Calvary	Oct. 13	First, Judsonia
Carey	Oct. 19-20	First Southern, Bearden; First, Sparkman
Caroline	Oct. 13	First, Cabot
Centennial	Oct. 12-13	Eastside, Dewitt; Southside, Stuttgart
Central	Oct. 15	Barcelona Road, Hot Springs Village
Clear Creek	Oct. 13	Cabin Creek, Lamar
Concord	Oct. 12-13	Calvary, Ft. Smith
Conway-Perry	Oct. 13, 15	First, Morrilton; First, Thornburg
Current-Gains	Oct. 12-13	First, Piggott; Emmanuel, Piggott
Dardanelle-Russellville	Oct. 12, 13, 15	Immanuel, Danville; First, Delaware; First, Dover
Delta	Oct. 19-20	Wilmgt, Bellaire; Dermott
Faulkner	Oct. 19-20	First, Conway; Holland
Garland	Oct. 12-13	Jessieville; Leonard Street, Hot Springs
Greene	Oct. 26-27	East Side, Paragould
Harmony	Oct. 26	Hardin, Pine Bluff
Independence	Oct. 20	Cord; Rehobeth, Batesville
Liberty	Oct. 19	First, Strong
Little Red River	Oct. 19-20	West Side, Greens Ferry; Sugarloaf, Heber Springs
Little River	Oct. 12-13	Oak Grove, Ashdown; First, Wilton
Mississippi	Oct. 19	Trinity, Blytheville
Mt. Zion	Oct. 19-20	Bay; Central
North Arkansas	Oct. 20	First, Berryville
North Central	Oct. 12-13	Friendship, Clinton; Pee Dee, Clinton
North Pulaski	Oct. 19	Amboy, North Little Rock
Ouachita	Oct. 12-13	First, Vandervoort; First, Mena
Pulaski	Oct. 12-13	South Highland, Little Rock; East End, Hensley
Red River	Oct. 12-13	Richwoods, Arkadelphia; First, Malvern
Rocky Bayou	Oct. 15-16	First, Hardy; First, Melbourne
Southwest Arkansas	Oct. 15	Immanuel, Texarkana
Tri-County	Oct. 19	Wynne
Trinity	Oct. 12-13	First, Tyroneza
Washington-Madison	Oct. 19-20	First, Elkins
White River	Oct. 19-20	First, Mountain Home



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Discrimination OK

A 'strong endorsement' of church-state separation

by Stan Hasty

Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (BP)—The U.S. Supreme Court ruled June 24 that Congress did not violate the Constitution 15 years ago when it exempted churches from complying with a federal ban on job discrimination based on religion, even when the contested job is non-religious in nature.

In a unanimous judgment, the high court held Congress strengthened separation of church and state by enacting the 1972 exemption and did not violate the constitutional ban on an establishment of religion.

Writing for five of the nine members of the court, Justice Byron R. White quoted from another church-state decision earlier in the current term, "This Court has long recognized that the government may (and sometimes must) accommodate religious practices and that it may do so without violating the Establishment Clause." (The First Amendment to the Constitution opens with the declaration, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion," a clause interpreted to require separation of church and state.)

The high court decision overturned an earlier ruling by a federal district court striking down the 1972 exemption, one of numerous amendments passed that year to the historic Civil Rights Act of 1964. Under the 1964 law, religious employers could restrict employment to "individuals of a particular religion to perform work connected with . . . (their) religious activities." But in 1972, Congress deleted the single word "religious" from the exemption, thus

enabling churches to discriminate on the basis of religion in hiring for any job, religious or not.

Many religious groups, including the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, had asked the court to uphold the 1972 exemption. BJC General Counsel Oliver S. Thomas praised the court's ruling.

"This decision is a strong endorsement of the concept of church-state separation," Thomas said. "We sometimes forget that without separation the state is free not only to advance religion but to interfere with it as well. The court wisely has recognized that it is perfectly proper for Congress to pass laws that protect religious institutions from governmental interference with or entanglement in their internal affairs."

He added: "There was no promotion of religion by the state in the 1972 amendment, no support, no sponsorship, no government funding. Rather, Congress simply said that federal judges have no business trying to decide which church activities are religious and which are not. In effect, Congress increased—rather than decreased—the distance between church and state."

The legal challenge to the 1972 amendment came in the form of a lawsuit by several former employees of organizations

owned by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, commonly known as the Mormon Church. The workers were fired when they failed to qualify for a "temple recommend," a term that refers to a special status within the Mormon Church achieved by meeting certain religious demands, including regular church attendance, tithing and abstinence from alcohol, tobacco, coffee and tea. Achieving the status means a faithful Mormon is entitled to attend the church's temples, where certain secret rites are performed.

One of the fired workers, Frank Mayson, persuaded the lower court to declare the 1972 exemption unconstitutional and to award back wages, fringe benefits and pension contributions. The court also ordered Mayson reinstated in his old job as building engineer at the Deseret Gymnasium in Salt Lake City. The non-profit facility, which is open to the public, is owned and operated by the Mormon Church.

Justice White, citing a three-part test designed by the court in 1971 for use in establishment clause cases, acknowledged the clash of rights claimed both by Mayson and the church. But the church's claim to be free from governmental intrusion carried the day over the fired worker's argument the 1972 amendment had a religious purpose, White ruled.

The court's three-part test holds that a law must have a secular purpose, must have the primary effect of neither advancing nor inhibiting religion and must not excessively entangle church and state.

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Baker Urges Support

CLC head encourages federal lawmakers on Danforth Abortion-Neutral Amendment

by Tim Fields

Baptist Joint Committee On Public Affairs

NASHVILLE (BP)—N. Larry Baker, executive director of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission, has written a letter to U.S. senators urging them to support the Danforth Abortion-Neutral Amendment or a similar amendment to the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, which is waiting to be introduced on the floor of the Senate.

"At the recent annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, a resolution was adopted endorsing the Danforth Amendment," Baker wrote. "As the Southern Baptist Convention agency representing more than 37,000 cooperating churches and more than 23,000 messengers from those churches attending the convention, the Christian Life Commission urges you to... support the Danforth Amendment or some such effort to achieve its purpose of rendering the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 neutral in effect and intent on the abortion issue."

According to Baker and other anti-abortion proponents, the legislation now before the Senate could be used to force Southern Baptist and other educational institutions and hospitals that accept any federal funds to include abortion in health benefit plans for students and employees.

"If institutions did not comply, they might be threatened by lawsuits for sex discrimination," Baker said. "The CRRRA S.557 legislation would reverse the 1984 Supreme Court 'Grove v. Bell' decision that narrowed application of the federal civil rights laws," he said. "The high court held that Title IX of the Education Amendments

of 1972 applied only to a specific 'program or activity' receiving federal grants, not the entire institution.

"Passage of the CRRRA without the amendment would mean that civil rights laws would cover the entire institution, opening the possibility that abortion coverage would be a requirement of religiously affiliated institutions, including

those morally opposed to abortion."

Baker also told senators in the letter: "It is our opinion that S.557, whether intentionally or unintentionally, might in effect codify current problematic regulations in a way that would further extend legalized abortion rights.

"This result seems incompatible with current restrictions on the use of federal funds for abortion services. It also raises serious questions about the legitimate self-determination of healthcare institutions."

In addition to the letter, Baker said he is calling on all Southern Baptists who are concerned about abortion to write their senators immediately.

'Dial-A-Porn' Convictions Step Up

by Tim Fields

Joint Committee On Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (BP)—The first convictions under a federal statute enacted in 1983 have put two national "dial-a-porn" distributors in Los Angeles out of business and stepped up the Justice Department's war on obscenity.

The two distributors, Adult Entertainment Network, Inc. I and II, were fined \$50,000 each after pleading guilty to the charges and permanently were enjoined from engaging in other such practices by the federal district court in Salt Lake City.

Rob Showers, executive director of the Justice Department's National Obscenity Enforcement Unit, said records of the two companies show they used 38 different telephone lines in 12 cities and

received up to 2.8 million calls per month.

Showers said an FBI investigation revealed that a significant number of these callers were children between the ages of 10 and 16.

The lines were located in Los Angeles; San Francisco; San Diego; Sacramento, Calif.; Washington; Baltimore; Pittsburgh; Philadelphia; Seattle; Portland, Ore.; New Orleans and New York City.

Showers, a Southern Baptist attorney from North Carolina who was named in March by Attorney General Edwin Meese to head the new National Obscenity Enforcement Unit, said, "The purveyors of telephone sex are making money on kids at a cost which goes far beyond the mere expense of the calls. These pre-recorded telephone mes-

sages contained explicit dramatizations of sex acts whose effect on young people who might tend to model their behavior on them is a serious national concern."

According to Larry Braidfoot, general counsel for the SBC Christian Life Commission, the successful prosecution of the Los Angeles companies comes at a time when federal legislation is pending that even more effectively would prohibit the use of telephones for commercial distribution of sexually explicit conversation.

"Congressional aides have indicated a strong possibility that this 'dial-a-porn' legislation will be added to the appropriations bill for the Federal Communications Commission later this year," he explained.

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HMB To Reaffirm BFM Statement

by Sherri A. Brown
SBC Home Mission Board

ATLANTA (BP)—Professional staffers of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board will be asked to reaffirm their commitment to the Baptist Faith and Message Statement as interpreted by the Southern Baptist Convention Peace Committee, HMB President Larry Lewis said June 26.

Lewis, who was elected president of the Home Mission Board in April and assumed the post June 1, also said future employment practices may be tightened and that there is a need to review the doctrinal stance of missionaries on the field.

"We must give careful attention to the doctrinal integrity of our agency," Lewis said. "Trustees and administrators who will not be responsive will be replaced."

Lewis said his action is a result of the report of the SBC Peace Committee during the June 16-18 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in St. Louis.

In its report, the Peace Committee recommended that "trustees determine the theological position of seminary administrators and faculty members," as well as to build their professional staffs and faculties "from those who clearly reflect" the dominant theological viewpoint of the Southern Baptists.

The report also noted "most Southern Baptists" interpret the "historic Baptist position" the Bible has "truth without any mixture of error for its matter" as meaning "for example" that Adam and Eve were real persons, the named authors did indeed write the books attributed to them in the Bible, the miracles did occur and the historical narratives in the Scripture are "accurate and reliable."

"I see this (the Peace Committee report) as a mandate. I pledge, as president, I will do everything in my power to lead the

board... to be commensurate with guidelines of the Peace Committee," he said.

Lewis said he believes the "mandate" comes from the recommendation of the Peace Committee, which continues the 22-member group for up to three more years "for the purpose of observing the response of all agencies, officers, and other participants to the recommendations of the Peace Committee."

Allen Elected Tennessee Editor

by Charlie Warren
Tennessee Baptist and Reflector

NASHVILLE (BP)—The Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board unanimously elected W. Fletcher Allen as editor of the *Baptist and Reflector* during a called meeting of the board June 26.

Allen, editor of the *Baptist True Union*, the Baptist newsjournal for Maryland-Delaware for the past four years, will begin his new duties Aug. 17.

He succeeds Alvin C. Shackelford, who left March 15 to become vice-president for public relations of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee.

During the called meeting, board members asked about Allen's beliefs regarding the Bible, his commitment to fairness and his goals for the newspaper.

"I believe the Bible. I believe all the Bible. I believe everything in the Bible," Allen responded. "I believe it is perfectly trustworthy. It is my authority for not only what I believe but how I live."

He said he has no agenda except to be fair and honest to the people in the churches.

He responded that his goals are to increase circulation, to be an advocate for the people, and to make the newspaper the best paper in the Southern Baptist Convention.

Going Up

NASHVILLE—Officials of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board have announced that a church literature price increase in the range of 3.5 to 4.5 percent is expected to become effective in April 1988. Jimmy Edwards, vice-president for church programs and services, said the announcement is being made at this time to enable churches to plan 1987-88 budgets.

Edwards said paper costs for literature are expected to increase by approximately 7 to 8 percent along with a postal rate hike of at least 5 percent.

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John H. McClanahan is pastor of First Baptist Church, Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

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A New Control Center

by Jim Byrum, Toltec Church, Scott
Basic passage: Romans 7:1-25

Focal passage: Romans 7:4-6,13-25

Central truth: The Christian has a new control center.

Have you ever passed by an old building that had a sign on it that read, "Keep Out!" How did you feel? Did you want to go in and see why someone wanted you to keep out? Well, that's normal if you did. We all react like that. The law—any law—stimulates the desire to do what the law forbids. Even the law of God affects us this way. The law is not bad but our sinful natures are, and they are aroused by the law.

Before we were saved, our old sinful nature was the control center of our lives. It is so evil that it used the good and holy law of God to arouse every kind of sin in us; but when Jesus saved us, his death on the cross dethroned that old sin nature. Jesus killed its right to be the control center of our lives. Our old sin nature is still in us, but it has lost its right to rule us.

A new control center, the Holy Spirit, has been put in us. He is able to give us victory over sin; he is able to mold us into an ever-increasing likeness of Jesus; and he is able to give us the mind of Christ.

Many Christians live in defeat and joylessness in spite of their great potential. Is there hope for them? Yes! Yes! Jesus Christ can deliver them from this defeat. How will he do that?

First, we must know that the Holy Spirit has set us free from the control of the old sin nature. It no longer has the authority to dictate our thoughts, desires, or actions. Christ has set us free from that old life. It is still in the body but it has been eternally dethroned.

Second, we must understand the purpose of the law. It was not given to make us righteous. It was given to show us that we are sinners. The law has never had any power to make us do good; therefore, do not try to use it as an instrument to produce righteousness. It has no way to generate the desire to obey the law. On the contrary, it stimulates sin.

Third, we must get our power from the Holy Spirit. He writes the laws of God in the desires of our hearts. No longer do we read in the law, "Thou shalt not kill," but the law becomes "I do not want to kill," or better still, "I love you."

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

Life and Work

Giving Personal Testimony

by Bert Thomas, Valley Church, Searcy
Basic passage: Acts 21:15-26:32

Focal passage: Acts 26:12-20

Central truth: Believers can be effective witnesses by sharing their personal testimonies.

Have you ever wondered what a personal testimony should include? Most Christians have. Paul's personal testimony before King Agrippa is a good example for all believers to follow. It includes his salvation experience, his call to serve, and his response to that call.

Paul's testimony was based on the facts that happened when he was converted. Prior to his salvation, Paul had been a leader in persecuting the Christians. This persecution was so intense that many died as a result of his actions. The appearance of the risen Lord to Paul on the Damascus Road was dramatic. With hate for Christians burning in his heart, God struck him down. A voice asked, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" In a bewildered state he asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The voice answered, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting." These words brought conviction to Paul and he was saved. Every Christian has a testimony. God can use it if we are willing. He wants us to just state what happened to us when he saved us.

Paul's testimony included his call to serve. Jesus identified himself to Paul and told him that he had saved him to serve as his witness. Three days after Paul was baptized, he began to preach that Jesus was the promised Messiah, the Son of God (Ac. 9:20). The call to serve is a growing experience. Jesus told Paul, "...to make you a minister and a witness both of the things which you have seen and of the things which I will yet reveal to you" (Ac. 26:16). His call to serve was a rewarding ministry. Multitudes of people were delivered from the power of Satan, received forgiveness of their sins, and received eternal life. Each Christian has received a call to serve and can also have a rewarding ministry.

The Damascus Road experience changed Paul. Jesus saved him and called him to give personal testimony how God could save anyone who would repent of their sins and trust Jesus as Savior. Paul's testimony caused him many hardships and eventually his life. What effect has your personal testimony had on others? On you?

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Bible-Book

The Vision of God's Throne

by Jack Kwok, Indianhead Lake Church, Sherwood

Basic passage: Revelation 4-5

Focal passage: Revelation 4:1-3, 9 to 5:5, 9-10

Central truth: God is to be worshiped for who he is and his work of creation and his work of redemption: past, present, and future.

Future events, things to come after the rapture of the church-age saints, are introduced in the vision of God's throne. John reported a description of the throne and a declaration from the throne which he saw and heard when he was caught up by the Spirit into heaven.

In his description of the throne (ch. 4), John positioned it in heaven surrounded by 24 elders who represented the redeemed of all ages and four living creatures who represented the angelic host. Both groups continuously worshipped the holy Lord God Almighty. The 24 elders laid their crowns of reward for service before the throne as an indication of their love and adoration for their God.

Following this description, John related a declaration from the throne (ch. 5). This declaration was written on both sides of a scroll with seven seals. In all the universe, only one was worthy to open the seals: the Messiah. He was identified as the Lion of Judah, the Root of David, and the Slain Lamb who is Standing. As the Messiah opened each seal, future events are revealed. These future events constitute the declaration contained in the seven-sealed scroll.

The certainty of these coming events is based upon the person and work of God. He is holy and eternal; he cannot lie nor die. As creator and redeemer, he has demonstrated his ability to accomplish his divine purposes. Therefore, all of these things must come to pass.

As the four living creatures and the 24 elders recited these truths about the person and work of God, they fell down before God's throne in worship. This should be a pattern for worship today. The person and work of God should elicit worship from the believer. God's past, present, and future redemptive work should receive special attention in worship. The only way to know God is through his work of redemption. As redeemer, he is worthy to receive blessing, honor, and glory.

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WORLD

Philpot Killer Gets 12 Years

MEXICO CITY (BP)—A Mexican man has been sentenced to 12 years in prison for the 1985 killing of Southern Baptist representative James Philpot.

Luis Alfredo Gutierrez Jimenez was originally sentenced to a 25-year prison term for shooting Philpot, according to the American Embassy in Mexico City. But the term was reduced to 12 years on appeal.

An American Embassy official informed Southern Baptist workers June 15 of the conviction and sentencing. Southern Baptists have relied on the embassy for most of the scant information available on the murder investigation and trial.

Philpot, an Arkansas native who had worked in Mexico since 1967, was killed Oct. 11, 1985. He was driving in Mexico City that afternoon when his car was struck by another car emerging from a side street. According to witnesses, one of the two men in the other car jumped out and shot Philpot in the head. He died at the scene. Abel Hernandez Figueroa, a Mexican in the car with Philpot, was shot several times in the stomach but survived.

The killer and his companion escaped, but police reported the arrest of two suspects Oct. 14. A witness took down the license plate number of the car speeding away from the shooting scene, which led to the arrests, according to police.

From that point on, Baptists and American embassy officials learned very little about the investigation. Investigators took official statements on several occasions from Southern Baptist workers and a Mexican Baptist, but none were called to testify at the trial.

Missionary Notes

Clarence and Alta Allison, missionaries to Botswana, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 717 N. Hughes, Little Rock, AR 72205). He was born in Walnut Ridge. She is the former Alta Brasell of Pine Bluff. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1960, resigned in 1964, and were reappointed in 1969.

Jim and Louise Brillhart, missionaries to Togo, have arrived in France for language study (address: 15, rue de l'Onyx, 373000 Joue-le-Tours, France). Both consider Little Rock their hometown. She is the former Louise Bowen. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1986.

Jim and Virginia Bryant, missionaries to Thailand, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: P.O. Box 832, Bangkok 10501, Thailand). He was born in Harrison. The former Virginia Estes, was grew up in Omaha. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1980.

David and Janene Ford, missionaries to Argentina, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: Rt. 1, Box 39A, Henley, MO 65040). He is a native of Missouri. The former Janene Wilson, she was born in West Helena and also lived in Arkadelphia. They were appointed in 1978.

Carl and Twila Lee, missionaries to Indonesia, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: P.O. Box 0787, Lone Star, TX 75668). He is a native of Texas. The former Twila Turner, she was born in Texarkana. They were appointed in 1967.

Stan and Charlotte Parris, missionaries to Venezuela, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Apartado 10385, Bella Vista, Maracaibo, Edo, Zulia, Venezuela 4002A). He is from Hope. The former Charlotte Wilson, she was born in Dumas and considers Little Rock her hometown. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1982.

Fred and Bettye Spann, missionaries to Brazil, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: Rural Route 1, Box 262 1/2, Colt, AR 72326). He is a native of Levy. The former Bettye Brawner, she was born in Colt and also lived in Wynne while growing up. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1962.

Jack and Barbara Tolar, missionaries to Nigeria, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: P.O. Box 211, Jos, Nigeria). He is a native of Texas, and she is the former Barbara Corrington of Hot Springs. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1962.

Lee and Phyllis Walker, missionaries to Chile, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Casilla 4-T, Santiago, Chile). Born in Texarkana, he considers Little Rock his hometown. She is the former Phyllis Orr of Louisiana. They were appointed in 1982.

Mark and Geneva Weiler, missionaries to the Philippines, have arrived on the field to begin their first term of service (P.O. Box 7506, Airmail Exchange, Manila International Airport, Philippines 3120). He is a native of South Dakota. The former Geneva Carpenter, she considers Elkins her hometown. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1987.

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