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Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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NOV 22 1982

Look at the Fields



Week of Prayer
for Foreign Missions
November 28 to December 5, 1982

November 18, 1982

Arkansas Baptist
NEWSMAGAZINE

Look at the Fields



Week of Prayer
for Foreign Missions
December 28 to December 31, 1982

"Look at the Fields" is the theme for the 1982 Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions. The national Lottie Moon Christmas Offering goal is \$58 million. Arkansas Baptists are seeking a goal of \$1,845,000 to the offering for foreign mission work. A five page promotional section is included in this week's ABN, pages 12-16.

In this issue

8 Faith to faith

Arkansas Baptists and the Jewish community in Arkansas got a chance to get to know each other a little better at a dialogue in Little Rock Nov. 4-5. The dialogue was sponsored by the Arkansas Baptist State Convention and planned through the State Missions Department for the purpose of promoting understanding between Baptist and Reform Jewish denominational leaders.

12-16 Look at the fields

The annual week of prayer for Foreign Missions is scheduled Nov. 28-Dec. 5 and the 1982 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering goal is \$58 million. The ABN offers a five-page promotion of foreign mission work in this issue.

Elections dim chances for school prayer, abortion

WASHINGTON (BP) — Abortion and public school prayer legislation — unsuccessful in the current Congress — apparently face even stiffer resistance in the 98th Congress set to convene in January.

A New York Times/CBS survey comparing views of present House members with those of the new Congress, as well as post election comments by politicians on both sides of these emotionally volatile issues, underscore the diminished chances of enacting such social legislation.

While the New York Times/CBS survey showed 51 percent of the present House members oppose a constitutional amendment permitting organized prayer in public schools, that opposition jumps to 56 percent for the new Congress with 77 percent of the new freshmen members against the measure.

On abortion the survey found opponents of a constitutional amendment allowing states to prohibit abortion increasing from 54 percent in the present Congress to 58 percent in the new one. Nearly three-fourths of the freshmen members oppose the proposed amendment.

The Nov. 2 elections lessened the chances of President Reagan's proposed constitutional amendment on school prayer, according to an aide to the House sponsor of the measure, Rep. Thomas N. Kindness, R-Ohio. Though the Ohio congressman plans to reintroduce the measure in the next Congress his aide told Baptist Press, "The far right agenda has been de-emphasized by the election results."

The prayer amendment's chances in the new Senate are uncertain, but don't appear to be improved because the election made little change in that body.

"Our emphasis needs to be on fiscal matters," said an aide to Sen. J. Strom Thurmond, R-S.C., chairman of the Senate Judiciary committee, who has promised President Reagan to reintroduce the prayer amendment in the next Congress.

While Thurmond fully supports the prayer measure the aide said his priorities in the new Congress are the balanced budget amendment and the crime package.

The fate of a constitutional amendment on abortion pushed by Sen. Orrin G. Hatch, R-Utah, also remains uncertain. The amendment was withheld from floor consideration this fall after Senate Majority Leader Howard H. Baker Jr., R-Tenn., agreed to give Hatch ample time to debate the measure in the next Congress.

Asked about prospects for the abortion amendment in the 98th Congress, Hatch's top aide on the subcommittee on the constitution said it is "too early to say."

In the post election press conference, Senate Republican campaign chairman Bob Packwood of Oregon said he would advise colleagues not to bring up controversial social issues such as school prayer and abortion during the next Congress.

Pointing to the 1984 elections when Republicans will have more Senate seats on the line than will Democrats, Packwood warned that Republican candidates could not win on the school prayer and abortion issues.

Foreign Missions Figures

The cost of operating Southern Baptists' foreign missions enterprise last year came to:

\$185 per minute
\$11,129 per hour
\$267,087 per day
\$1,874,749 per week
\$8,123,914 per month
\$97,486,967 per year



It would be difficult to overemphasize the importance of January Bible Study. A proper understanding of the Word of God is essential to the life of any church. The 1983 study, *I Peter: Message of Encouragement*, presents truths which are relevant to the current crisis. The study will provide help for people who are caught up in the economic and social pressures of today's world.

We can take pride in the fact that one of Arkansas' own is the author of the upcoming study. John McClanahan, pastor of First Church, Pine Bluff, has written the 1983 study. He has provided Southern Baptists with an outstanding, scholarly, yet interesting and readable, study of I Peter. Dr. McClanahan has chosen to start each of the nine chapters of the book with a quotation and an illustration (many from personal experience). Each of these introductions sets the theme for that particular portion of the book. This new dimension has added much to the readability of the study and the retaining of the reader's interest in the book.

In every generation there have been forces which have made it difficult for Christians to live courageously. The "chin up!" mood of I Peter clearly communicates a message of hope and courage. Today, we are faced not so much with overt persecution as with an increasing paganism which cuts away at the Christian values and threatens to destroy our witness, if allowed to go unchecked. The message of I Peter is that, through Christ, his followers can overcome the pressure to conform and compromise to the culture in which they live.

Peter, writing from Rome to the Christians in Asia Minor, was warning that persecution was going to increase. The book was probably written shortly before the burning of the city of Rome in A.D. 64. Nero apparently blamed Christians for the fire. His reprisals against them were devastating.

Peter provides comfort by reminding Christians they have a salvation which is eternal and an inheritance which is certain. Although there are difficulties in life, our journey through the world to eternity is protected by the power of God through faith.

The major themes of I Peter speak to the needs and concerns of contemporary Christians. The book deals with the Christian's relationship with God, as well as with man. The book ends with a declaration that a Christian will be blessed for living righteously.

I Peter contains several difficult passages which Dr. Mc-

Clanahan deals with in a clear, scholarly and understandable manner. The book will make a valuable contribution to any Bible student's library.

The time in which the church offers January Bible Study will have a major impact on attendance. The study should be scheduled well in advance so that members can place the study on their personal calendars. Many congregations are finding it helpful to begin the study on a Sunday and close on a Wednesday. This utilizes two days in which members are already accustomed to attending church.

Another method which has proven quite workable in many churches is to teach January Bible Study on a single Sunday. Various arrangements can be made to have the required number of hours in a single day.

January Bible Study is generally most effective when the book is covered in a relatively short time. Major themes and ideas should be emphasized so those in attendance will have a comprehensive overview of the book and the truths it contains.

The pastor should make every effort to encourage attendance for the study of I Peter. Interest can sometimes be stimulated by preaching on one of the major themes prior to the actual study.

The teacher should be well prepared. Several associations have provided preview studies of I Peter to assist teachers in preparation. There are a number of good commentaries available, also, to assist teachers in understanding the content of I Peter.

Churches should encourage members to attend January Bible Study with the same intensity that they enlist members for a revival. Interest can sometimes be stimulated by having a guest teacher. The use of the filmstrip to preview I Peter can, also, encourage attendance.

Every church member will want to study I Peter. The book is well timed for our day. In Peter's time, as today, the battle between the forces of good and evil continue. Christians in Peter's day were confident because they knew that the final outcome had already been decided. We can have the same assurance.

Peter closes the book with the words, "Peace be with you all that are in Christ Jesus." So we, the people of God, can have peace because his peace is greater than all the troubles and distress the world can bring.

Arkansas Baptist

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One layman's opinion

Daniel R. Grant/President, OBU

Amazing differences in views of truth

The expression, "Truth depends on where you sit," has always served as a reminder that people in the same situations often see the same things differently. Just when I think I have a firm grasp on truth, someone seems to come along with a different view of it.

I had a disturbing experience with different views of truth during my recent trip to China. I was talking with a young Chinese man along the waterfront at the Shanghai Harbor and I felt that he had a firm grasp on truth. As in so many other places in China, the young people eagerly sought to engage us in conversation as a means of practicing their English and finding out more about the rest of the world through the new windows so recently opened up. My new acquaintance asked about my work in the United States and I told him I was president of Ouachita Baptist University in Arkansas. His eyes grew wide in obvious surprise and he said, "You look too

young to be a university president!"

Now it seems fairly obvious to me that this young man had a brilliant insight into truth, even though that very day I was celebrating my 59th birthday. It so happened, however, that some of my American friends with whom I was traveling stood within hearing distance of our conversation and broke into instant laughter at his remark. One of them demonstrated a totally different view of the truth by saying to the young man, "It is obvious that you are training to be a diplomat or politician!" The more sympathetic Dr. Dolphus Whitten (a former university president himself) came partially to my rescue by saying, "You must understand that American university presidents must be young to withstand the pressures of the job."

I spent a lot of time during my two weeks in China trying to exchange glasses with the Chinese. Even with the new elements of freedom in China since the fall of the

"Gang of Four," China's leaders view their nation and the world through Communist glasses colored with atheism and totalitarianism. I don't like the coloring to their glasses because I am a Christian who believes in democracy and free enterprise. Even so, it is a good thing to peep through other glasses from time to time to help understand the world of truth as others see it.

Back to truth and how young I look, I discovered on returning from China to the Ouachita campus that even one individual may have different feelings about truth from one time to another. When I saw the stack of unanswered mail and notes about unanswered telephone calls on my desk, I experienced that faint glimmer of feeling that I may be too old to be a university president. I took a long nap and, along with "jet lag," the feeling went away.

Daniel R. Grant is president of Ouachita Baptist University at Arkadelphia.



Woman's viewpoint

Juanita Hatfield

My Siloam home, count it all joy

As mentioned in my previous article, there is a sense in which I feel that I have two homes. There is a disadvantage in that my Little Rock home ends the summer with a very scorched lawn due to lack of care. Too, it is a chore to transfer necessary personal items and house plants from one home to the other. But, the advantages far outweigh the disadvantages.

About five years ago an old building was moved and converted into an adult craft shack for the ladies. Every afternoon I conduct classes in needlepoint, counted cross stitch, and macrame. My mother Bertha Gill teaches crochet and Lelia Devor, wife of the resident manager, conducts classes in cake decorating. It is fun to work with our hands, and enjoy fellowship with many new and old friends. Some are free to spend the whole afternoon, others, like counselors sandwich in a little time between duties.

Another advantage is that assembly time is an opportunity for our granddaughters to visit us. Like the bumper sticker says, "Let

me tell you about my grandchildren." Jennifer and Laura Hilton are now old enough to stay several weeks. Mikel and Haley Hatfield, are younger and attend a week with their parents. They participate as campers, help in camp functions and enjoy roaming the empty camp grounds between sessions.

One of the greatest joys is meeting Baptists from over the state and others who have Arkansas roots who bring groups from beyond the state.

Our assembly home is large enough to accommodate a reception once a week for faculty and staffers. I prepare special goodies for this occasion like banana punch and peanut butter and chocolate candy.

My greatest joy is to witness the working of the Holy Spirit in the lives of so many young people and adults. Some of the finest young people, families, and church staff members in the world passed through the arch way entrance at the assembly grounds. Many pastors, missionaries, church and denominational leaders first

felt the call to church related vocational service at the assembly. Thousands, literally thousands have found Christ as savior.

Surely God in his great love has blessed me and my family at the assembly. It is not only our second home, it is the summer home for a week for many Arkansas Baptists.

Juanita Hatfield is a guidance counselor at Henderson Junior High, Little Rock and a member of Parkway Place Church. Her husband, Lawson, is director of the Sunday School department of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

They have three children, Gracie Hilton (Mrs. Jerry), whose husband is a dentist in Arlington, Texas; Jerry, minister of music at First Clarendon at Arlington, Va. and Stephen, pastor at First Church, Grandview, Texas and Ph.D student at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. There are four granddaughters.

Letters to the editor

Hinson proposal fair

The date of the release of names submitted for the Committee on Boards to the annual convention has generated much discussion in recent months. We as Southern Baptists feel that we have a right to be informed of these nominees prior to voting upon them. One result of this general feeling was the move by the SBC Executive Committee to propose a change in Bylaw 16 at next year's annual meeting. (See ABN, Oct. 7, 1982, p. 9)

While this move may provide members of our convention more advance knowledge concerning nominees, it does not provide equal access to knowledge concerning potential challenges. The fiasco at New Orleans where innuendo and indefensible charges were leveled toward some nominees may become the rule rather than the exception. A floor fight over nominees will not harmonize our convention. If 50 people need a year to discern God's will for a position, how can over 20,000 determine his will after a five minute floor fight?

Tommy Hinson presented a proposal to the Executive Committee last month which seems to have real merit. According to the ABN report, his proposal simply stated that (1) the names of the nominees for the Committee on Boards be submitted 45 days prior to the annual meeting and (2) "substitute nominees offered in challenge to the report . . . be provided to Baptist Press at least 30 days in advance and published in the first day's bulletin" (ABN, 10/7/82, p. 9).

What could be more fair? This proposal would allow for valid challenges which could be carefully evaluated prior to the convention meeting. The voting process would not be based upon innuendo and uncheckable charges; it would rather be based upon careful, prayerful evaluation done by each individual prior to the convention.

If our SBC leadership truly desires openness in our convention, it would seem that they would welcome this proposal. If they truly desire above-board treatment of nominees, it would seem that they would adopt this strategy. If they truly desire the best for our convention, it would seem that more

than four men would approve this move. —
Sing Oldham, Brinkley

Traditional values a must

In our contemporary, anti-God, anti-Bible, anti-moral society the traditional Judeo-Christian morals and values must be held highly by those of us who believe them. Since God is the source of all truth, and that truth is centered in his inspired, inerrant word, we only need turn to the Ten Commandments for the traditional Judeo-Christian standard for morals and values. The first four of the commandments refer to our moral obligation to be committed to the worship of and service to the Lord God. These commandments are: (1) Thou shalt have no other gods before me; (2) Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image; (3) Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; (4) Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

Are your morals and values up-to-date? The next six commandments are the basic morals and values for society: (5) Honour thy father and thy mother; (6) Thou shalt not kill; (7) Thou shalt not commit adultery; (8) Thou shalt not steal; (9) Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor; (10) Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house . . .

Again, are your morals and values up-to-date? Any violation of the commandments bring an individual directly under the wrath of God. If you think Jesus eliminated the commandments, read what Jesus said in Matthew 5:17-48. Men has no authority to violate the laws of God. Are your morals and values up-to-date? — John O. McMullen, Black Rock

ABN letters policy

Letters to the editor expressing opinion are invited. Letters should be typed double-space and must be clearly marked "For publication". All letters must be signed original copies, although the name of the writer may be withheld at writer's request and discretion of the editor. Letters are limited to 350 words and must not defame the character of persons.

signed from missionary service Oct. 13. They served in Belem, Brazil, where he was a seminary teacher. A native of Arkansas, he was born in Little Rock and grew up in Pine Bluff. The former Betty Sullivan, she was born in Chicago, Ill., and lived in Brazil, where her parents were Southern Baptist missionaries. They may be addressed at 410 W. 13th St., Amarillo, Texas 79101.

by Don Moore

You'll be glad to know . . .

. . . of some great side benefits. In most of our churches the finance committee, deacons and pastor hold their monthly meetings on Sunday afternoon. My last pastorate was like that. For about 10 years I preached two messages each Sunday morning and often taught a class in Church Training. On the Sunday of the extra meetings I was going almost non-stop from 8:15 a.m. until 8:30 p.m. Aware that on that Sunday I could not return home for a snack or refreshing, there came an angel of mercy to my rescue. She usually brought some snacks of mini-sandwiches, olives, pickles and sometimes banana pudding. As nourishing as the food was, this act did more than minister to my physical needs. It said to me emotionally and spiritually that someone was aware, that someone cared. That angel of mercy was our WMU director, Mrs. Nan Shoppach.

What had contributed to this kind of relationship? A little time in planning, working together on the world mission banquet and mission offering, and sharing in their promotion of activities by way of announcements. They were supported by the budget and their meetings were respected in scheduling. What a happy and productive relationship we enjoyed! For all of this we received cooperation, prayer support, missionary education, promotional assistance on our mission offerings and those "great side benefits." To tell you the truth, pastors and churches probably receive more in return for the money and effort given in supporting WMU than from any other investment.

. . . of some great direct benefits. Largely through the influence, inspiration and leadership of the WMU, gifts from our Arkansas churches to the three special mission offerings through October totaled \$2,382,921.58. The offerings are as follows: Lottie Moon, \$1,686,430.50; Annie Armstrong, \$474,787.86; Dixie Jackson, \$221,703.22. Last year was our first year to go beyond \$2 million. One thousand of our churches shared in this victory.

. . . that 67 new WMU's have been started. Does this mean 67 more pastors are going to be treated to snacks? Who knows? It might not hurt. But, it certainly does mean that a lot of people will learn and do more for missions because of them.

I'm glad to know and glad to share with you that God is blessing our efforts to extend his Kingdom.

Don Moore is Executive Secretary/Treasurer of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

missionary notes

Ruth Spence, missionary associate to Lebanon, has returned to the field (address: P.O. Box 11-5232, Beirut, Lebanon). Born in Arkansas, she also lived in Garner, N.C. At the time of her employment by the Foreign Mission Board in 1978, she was teaching in an Anson County, N.C., school.

Mr. and Mrs. William G. Ferguson, missionary associate to Brazil since 1978, re-

by Millie Gill/ABN staff writer

Darol Hankins

is serving as pastor of the Mount Pleasant Southern Church, moving there from Walnut Ridge. He and his wife, Connie, have two sons, Kevin and Keith.

Henry Massengale

joined the staff of Pocahontas First Church Nov. 14 as minister of youth and outreach. He and his wife, Libby, moved to Pocahontas from Pascagoula, Miss. Massengale is a graduate of Mobile College, Mobile, Ala., and New Orleans Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Mary Edith Abington

died Oct. 10 at the Geriatrics Nursing Center in West Memphis funeral services were held in West Memphis Oct. 12. She was a member of West Memphis First Church. Mrs. Abington was the widow of the Rev. E. Butler Abington. Her survivors include a daughter, Mary Cate Abington of West Memphis; two sons, Dr. Robert Butler Abington of Saratoga, Calif., and Rev.

James William Abington of Austin, Texas; two sisters; a brother and four grandchildren.

Mike Justice

is pastor of the Central Avenue Church at Bentonville.

Charles Scantling

is serving as pastor of the Rock Creek Church at Mansfield.

Phillip Maine

was ordained to the gospel ministry Nov. 7 at Lakeside Church in Hot Springs. He is pastor of the Saline Church in the Bartholomew Association.

Bill Dixon

has been elected as first annual recipient of the Educator of the Year-award by the members of the Association for Student Development in Southern Baptist Convention Colleges and Universities. He is dean of students at Ouachita Baptist University.



Pastor Mark Tolbert (left) made the plaque presentation for Pocahontas First Church when the congregation honored Mitt Bennett on the occasion of his 50th anniversary as an ordained deacon. Bennett was ordained by the Pocahontas church in 1932.

briefly

'Best' listing includes Baptist Memorial Hospital

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP) — Baptist Memorial Hospital in Memphis is cited in the November 1982 issue of *Ladies Home Journal* as one of the 13 best hospitals in the South.

Charles Seabrook, medical writer for the *Atlanta Journal* who prepared the article for Southern readers, said he developed the list after talking with leading physicians, hospital administrators, state hospital associations, medical school faculty members, health educators and medical writers in the South.

Baptist Memorial was described as the largest private general-care hospital in the United States, with 2,068 beds.

"The services it provides go far beyond those of a typical big city hospital and it's a leading referral hospital for people throughout the states of Tennessee, Arkansas and Mississippi.

"This is one case in which you can say 'largeness' does contribute to excellence. It's main strength is community health care, especially providing the most up-to-date therapies for cancer and cardiovascular disease."

□ Each year Americans use three million tons of fertilizer for nonagricultural purposes (lawns, gardens and golf courses). This is equal to the amount used throughout India for all agricultural purposes.

Parks Church

has upgraded the programs of Church Training, Woman's Missionary Union and Brotherhood. This has resulted in increased attendance and offerings.

Midland Church

is experiencing both increased Sunday

School attendance and baptisms as the result of a weekly organized visitation program.

Wynne Church

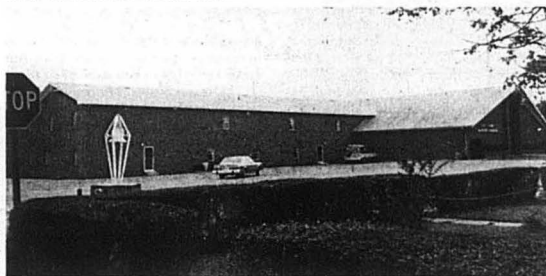
held a Sunday School leadership banquet Nov. 11. Featured speaker was Lawson Hatfield, director of Sunday School work for the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.



Baptist Men from Northvale Church in Harrison painted two large homes for two elderly families and cut a winter's supply of firewood for another woman as a service project. (Front row, from left) Fred Brown, Roger Dale Williamson, Ron Pugh, Tim House, (second row) Pastor S. D. Hacker, Ken Johnson, Robert Hudson, (third row) James House, Carol Sinyard and Cary Williams participated. Others not pictured who worked in the project were Floyd Kolb, Tom Sinyard, James Stone and Karl Kelley.



Paragould First men (from left) Steve Adams, David Freeman, pastor Jim Fowler, Phil Cable and Blen Bolden burn note.



Paragould church pays off note, dedicates new education building

East Side Church of Paragould paid off a \$246,000 note and dedicated a new 8,000 sq. ft. educational facility Oct. 31. Speakers for the occasion were Carroll Gibson, director of missions for Greene County Association, and J. Everett Sneed, editor of the "Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine".

The note was paid off six months early and the church owes only \$140,000 on the educational facilities, which were constructed at a cost of \$263,000. In addition, the congregation paid for all of the furniture used in the newly constructed areas at a cost of \$25,000.

The church also remodeled the auditorium, expanding the choir capacity from 40 to 62. They carpeted the entire floor and constructed a balcony which seats 140 people.

The new educational facility includes two offices and 18 classrooms, and the old educational facilities were remodeled. — J. Everett Sneed

Waldron First Church
is in a building improvement program. Pastor Nelson Wilhelm and men of the church are doing the construction work.

Park Place Church
at Hot Springs has purchased three lots to

be used for parking space, needed as a result of continued Sunday School growth. The church will observe "Miracle Sunday" Dec. 12 with contributions to be used toward the property purchase cost of \$109,000.

Thirty-six students are enrolled in six courses offered during term two of Boyce Bible School's academic year, reports Ralph W. Davis, director of the Little Rock Center.

The largest class for the current term, which ends Dec. 18, is a New Testament survey taught by L. L. Collins, associate executive secretary for the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. The other five classes range in size from 13 to 22.

Boyce students will have an opportunity to take two courses during a three-week "J" term in January. "The Doctrine of Salvation" will be offered from 6-10:30 p.m. on consecutive Fridays, Jan. 7, 14 and 21. Richard Stiltner, pastor of First Church of Hope, will teach the courses.

Clyde Glazener, pastor of Calvary Church of Little Rock, will teach the January Bible Study book, *1 Peter: Message of Encouragement*, from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Jan. 8, 15 and 22.

Preregistration is required prior to Jan. 1, Davis says. He can be contacted at his home at 2121 N. Van Buren St., Little Rock, Ark. 72207, phone 663-4098.

Seminary Satellite spring courses announced

The spring semester for master's level theological study offered through the Seminary External Education Division at Immanuel Church in Little Rock opens Feb. 7, 1983, according to Lehman F. Webb, seminary extended coordinator.

Three courses will be offered in the spring. Thomas C. Urrey, a professor at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary at Fort Worth, Texas, will teach "Acts and the Pauline Epistles." Ferris Jordan of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary will teach "The Education of Adults." Larry Baker, professor at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary at Kansas City, Mo., will teach "Ministry Development."

The courses will meet on Mondays through April 18, Webb said.

The fall semester for the Seminary External Education Division ends Nov. 22, Webb said. Students from four states, Arkansas, Missouri, Oklahoma and Louisiana, were enrolled in classes for the semester.

Information and early registration is available from Webb, who can be contacted at P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, Ark. 72203.

Baptists, Jews benefit from Little Rock dialogue

A dialogue was held between Reform Jews and Southern Baptists on Nov. 4-5, at St. John's Center, Little Rock. According to Pete Petty, director of Special Ministries for the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, the purposes of the meeting were to foster understanding and for the two groups to discover areas of cooperation and tension.

The dialogue was structured with formal presentations and informal discussion periods, as well as a joint worship service. The purpose of the formal presentations was to assist the other group to understand the history, theology and way of life followed by Reform Jews or Southern Baptists.

The small groups were designed to help Jews and Southern Baptists to get acquainted on a personal basis. During the two small group sessions, discussions were held on "Stereotypes We Have of Each Other," and "Walking and Working Together." Other nonstructured fellowship periods provided opportunity to become better acquainted.

Maurice Smith, regional director for the Department of Interfaith Witness of the Home Mission Board, discussed, "Who Are Southern Baptists?" He discussed the history, sociology, structures, ethical composition and theology of Southern Baptists.

The Baptist participants were able to obtain a comprehensive overview of Reform Jews from information given in written materials and from Randall Falk, rabbi of the Temple congregation Ohabai Shalom,

Nashville, Tenn. Dr. Falk discussed, "Who are Reform Jews?"

The written material which was distributed indicated that there are currently approximately six million Jews in the United States, comprising the largest Jewish community of any country in the world. There are almost 14 million Jewish people in the world.

Dr. Falk said it is difficult to determine who the Jewish people are. They are a people who look back for their beginnings to Abraham, who was called "the father of the Jews." But, in addition to Abraham's descendants, there are many other people who are included among the Jew's people. There are people from almost every race or ethnic origin who have embraced the Jewish faith. So Jewishness can not be defined on the basis of race or origin.

Jewish people exhibit both a unity and a diversity. A. Jase Jones, former regional director for the Department of Interfaith Witness of the Home Mission Board, has written that, "They are a people who are bound together with a strong sense of belonging to a common family and of being committed to a common destiny."

Dr. Falk discussed briefly some of the history of the Jewish people. He said, "From the year 70 to 1948 we were a people without a country. So dual citizenship poses no problem for Jewish people. A Jew can be a citizen of the United States and a citizen of the state of Israel at the same time."

He said there is but one dogma in Judaism which is called the Shmah (Hebrew word meaning "hear"). It says, "Hear O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord is one (Deut. 6:4). "Beyond this," Falk said, "there is much variance."

Dr. Falk said the two most significant events in contemporary Jewish history are the holocaust and the establishment of the state of Israel. Falk said, "We are still searching for answers to why the holocaust happened."

He said there are four branches of Judaism — Orthodox, Conservative, Reform and Reconstructionist. The reconstructionists are 20th Century humanists.

Dr. Falk gave a brief history of Reform Judaism. "Reform is nothing new in Jewish life. It has been going on all through our history," he said. "The synagogue had its beginning as Jews were dispersed. The Pharisees were reformers and became the founders of the Talmud." He said that the modern reform movement came into existence in the 19th Century Germany as Jews came out of the ghetto and were emancipated.

The Rabbi enumerated some of the changes which Reform Judaism has made in contrast with Orthodox Judaism. Among these are: (1) Men and women sit together; (2) The organ is used in worship; (3) The extension of holidays was eliminated, and they returned to the length given in the Torah (law); and (4) Rituals and customs

Arkansans among 27 retiring missionaries honored

Marcelle Hollingsworth, a native of Monticello, and G. Edwin Engstrom, who was born in Little Rock, were among 27 retiring foreign missionaries honored in a special recognition service at the Foreign Mission Board home office in Richmond, Va.

Mrs. Hollingsworth, the former Marcelle Sullivan, and her husband Tom retired in February 1982 after 32 years service in Argentina. Rev. Hollingsworth was library consultant and a teacher at the International Baptist Theological Seminary in Buenos Aires. Mrs. Hollingsworth was official hostess of the seminary and was involved in work at the goodwill center.

She received the bachelor of arts degree from Texas Wesleyan College, Fort Worth, Texas, and the master of religious education from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Mr. and Mrs. Engstrom worked as missionaries in the Philippines for more than 14 years before retiring in July 1982. Engstrom was appointed a missionary associate after his retirement from a career as a national



Mr. and Mrs. Engstrom

forest ranger in Arizona. Their category of service was changed to career in 1981, when he began to serve as business coordinator at the Philippine Baptist Theological



Rev. and Mrs. Hollingsworth

Seminary, Baguio. The Engstroms were dormitory parents to missionary children for most of their missionary careers, though they were active in other ministries as well.

by J. Everett Sneed

were kept only when there was an ethical or philosophical reason.

Dr. Falk, also, enumerated some of the theological changes which have been instituted by Reform Jews. Among these are: (1) God inspired the Torah (law or Pentateuch) but it was written by men; (2) They can keep dietary laws or not as they wish; (3) They interpret the Messiah as an age of peace, not as a person; (4) They believe in "a spiritual immortality" where the body goes to dust and the spirit to God who gave it. (The spirit may or may not have conscious existence — they believe this is unknown).

Dr. Falk placed great emphasis on social responsibility. He said, "The greatest thrust of Reform Judaism has been to align with the great social movements such as world peace, hunger, nuclear freeze, etc."

Glenn Igleheart, director of the Department of Interfaith Witness of the Home Mission Board and Elijah E. Palnick, rabbi for Temple B'Nai Israel, Little Rock, spoke on, "Southern Baptist-Reform Jewish Cooperation and Concerns." The following are areas where cooperation can exist: (1) The fighting of hate and bigotry; (2) Working for a continuation of religious freedom and separation of church and state; and (3) Working together to solve community needs.

Some areas of tension were discussed. Rabbi Palnick said that the greatest problem area is the Southern Baptist feeling that it is necessary to try to convert Jews. Jews feel that man is born good, and that

sometimes he may stray, but it is up to him to get straightened out. Jews believe that they are already in covenant with God.

Southern Baptists, on the other hand, generally believe all people as needing to have a relationship with God through Christ, because they are transgressors (sinners). This restoration can only take place through a personal encounter with God through Christ.

The Tuesday night worship service was

conducted by Rabbi Palnick and by Larry Maddox, pastor of Second Church, Little Rock. The message was delivered by Dr. Palnick who spoke on "The Shmah."

The dialogue was concluded with the realization that there are areas of tension and areas where much cooperation can and should take place. Many of the participants pledged to continue dialogue on a personal basis. All were in agreement that the meeting was very helpful.



Program personnel in the Baptist/Jewish dialogue included (from left) Dr. Randall Falk, rabbi; Pete Petty, director of special mission ministries, ABSC; Dr. Elijah E. Palnick, rabbi; Maurice Smith, Home Mission Board; Dr. Larry Maddox, pastor of Little Rock Second Church; B. J. Tanenbaum Jr., and Glenn Igleheart, head of the interfaith witness department of the Home Mission board.

ABM photo/J. Everett Sneed

Remember the Thanksgiving Offering

Hundreds of children depend upon it

Help us help them

Arkansas Baptist Family and Child Care Services

November 18, 1982



J. A. Hogan, pastor of Woodland Heights Church in Harrison, displays a Southern Baptist Convention logo he constructed out of wrought iron. The design, which graces a wall of Hogan's church, is the second the pastor has completed. His first hangs at the North Arkansas Association office in Harrison.

ABM photo/J. Everett Sneed

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Conflicts are inevitable for a politician with "true religious faith," but that faith can make the politician a better public official, governor-elect Bill Clinton told a near-capacity congregation at Immanuel Church in Little Rock Nov. 7.

Clinton delivered a message during a Sunday night service honoring him and seven other church members elected to public office Nov. 2. W. O. Vaught, pastor of Immanuel, said he asked Clinton to speak before the election. The service was not to endorse Clinton, Vaught said, but "when a member of our church is elected to a public office, I am glad we could have an hour like this." It was Clinton's first public speech after his election.

Clinton, who is a member of Immanuel active in the church choir, told of his faith in God and the truth of the Bible, the support he has found in his pastor and fellow choir members, and said both have played an important role in his political success.

"No person can ever hope to succeed as a public figure without a strong religious faith," Clinton said. The burdens of making decisions which affect others and trying to justly exercise the powers of political office, knowing that as an imperfect human one will make mistakes, are great, he said. He has been sustained, he added, by faith and in knowing "forgiveness is possible."

Clinton described three "pitfalls of politics" — power, compromise and "personal risks".

"I am convinced that the raw exercise of power alone will destroy anyone, if he does it long enough without faith," Clinton said.

Compromise is a valuable tool woven into the fiber of the U.S. Constitution, Clinton said, but it is a tricky tool to master. It is difficult to know when to compromise, and when you have compromised enough.

Fresh off a grueling campaign, Clinton stressed the pressures of constantly seeking widespread public acceptance and of the consuming nature of time in a politician's life.

"There's a great difference between 48 percent and 55 percent," Clinton said, referring to the recent 55-45 percent win over Gov. Frank White, who defeated an incumbent Clinton in 1980. But the difference is only one voter in 15.

Clinton described the pressure of time as "the most common pitfall of politics. It is consuming."

Clinton credited his being able to cope with these pressures to his faith. "I would not be able to be here tonight if not for my faith and the support of my pastor."

"As a Baptist I have always believed very deeply in the importance of the separation of church and state," Clinton said. If government was imposed on the authority of God but was run by men, he said, the result

would be disastrous. "The government of men is inevitably different from the rule of God," he said.

"Progress is possible. Things do get better. . . . Perfection is impossible. It will never be achieved by us because human nature is what it always was."

Clinton said charity is important in the exercise of power, because "we see through a glass darkly, and nothing is clear. 'We can't say the Lord is on our side. All we can do is seek to be on the Lord's side.'"

Clinton, 36, joined Immanuel three years ago, during his first term as Arkansas' governor. A native of Hot Springs, he belonged to Park Place Church there from 1955 to 1979.

Dr. Vaught said Clinton is the first governor to be a member of Immanuel. The

church was organized in 1892 and is located three blocks from the State Capitol. The church lists a resident membership of 2,960 in the 1981 Arkansas Baptist State Convention Annual and a Sunday School enrollment of 2,858.

Other church members honored at the service were Richard Atchison and Frank Holt, State Supreme Court justices; Judy Petty, state representative; Bill Butler, municipal judge; Beth Gladden Coulson, municipal judge (Perry County); and Aline and David Frazier, a mother and son both serving as justice of the peace in Pulaski County.

Prior to the service, Vaught said "there is a time to join hands with those in government and pray together." He said his church's "job" is "to pray for those who govern us."



Bill Clinton (left), governor-elect for the State of Arkansas, delivers a message during a service in his home church, Immanuel in Little Rock, honoring church members elected to public office. Below, Pastor W. O. Vaught (third from left) introduces other church members recently elected as public officials. They are (from left) David Frazier, Aline Frazier, Richard Atchison, Frank Holt, Judy Petty, Bill Butler and Beth Gladden Coulson.



Allen photo/Boo Allen

Ministry means security during emergency for children

by Betty J. Kennedy

Few situations offend the sensibilities and grab the heartstrings of people like the plight of abused children, and, concern is not limited to persons with motivations out of Christian convictions.

Before Arkansas Baptists began in ministry to abused children, through their Emergency Receiving Homes, the state's government already had charged their social services agencies with looking out for children. They had laws on the books and a juvenile justice system to decide what's best for the child's welfare, but there were some big gaps in the net elsewhere.

Not too many years ago infants and young children who were removed from an abuse, neglect or abandonment situation might spend the night at juvenile hall in Little Rock in a room crammed with 10 baby beds, or another room wall-to-wall with single beds.

Although the state agency has a few couples who provide emergency foster care, they lacked, until recently, enough places of security and loving care for the initial hours and days the child is homeless.

So Arkansas Social Services depends on third parties to provide resources to protect children, explains Doug McWhirter, who heads the Little Rock area office for Arkansas Baptist Family and Child Care Services.

Social Services has staff on call 24 hours a day, so when the police call they can pick up the child in danger and get him or her to proper shelter. "That's when they call us," McWhirter explains.

Many of those emergency placements are the heart-rending types: the toddler left on the shopping center parking lot in the dead of winter, the infant injured and rescued through a hospital emergency room, or children from families destitute.

But the other 80 percent of the children helped through care, while the courts decide custody, are also victims. Abuse may be physical, psychological or sexual, or the child may have been neglected. Many factors produce the family problems that lead to abuse of children and studies show increasing pressure on families which sets the stage for abuse.

Through two emergency receiving homes in Sherwood and Little Rock Arkansas Baptists helped 331 children last year. Besides physical security (and confidentiality) the children were provided love, acceptance, discipline and prayer circles at night, as part of daily living. Family and Child Care Services trains caring Baptist couples to provide this ministry.

"These children just blossom when given the chance," McWhirter notes. "In cases

where these children have had a history of bad behavior, we find they change in an atmosphere of acceptance and security, and often progress toward their developmental age."

Although the homes care for the children for only a few hours or days — at most 30 days — the loving Christian situation has led to changed lives and professions of faith each year.

Through the homes Arkansas Baptists have covered an unmet need, McWhirter says. Now Calvary Association is planning to provide such services. They hope to build by mid 1983 what they will call the Baptist Emergency Center for Children and Families, which will also provide a temporary place for destitute families.

And, both Tri-County and Black River Associations have asked for needs assessments for their areas so they can consider getting into this ministry.

The emergency care is one only of the services Arkansas Baptist Family and Child Care Services provides. Arkansas Baptists support these services through their Cooperative Program in part, but help for these children also depends on gifts to the agency through the Thanksgiving Offering.

Cecil gets new job at Foreign Mission Board

RICHMOND, Va. — James W. Cecil has been named associate to the director of consultant services at the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

Cecil had been consultant for volunteer service overseas. Changes in his duties followed reorganization of the board's program development department, headed by Lewis I. Myers Jr., to become consultant services. The department advises missionaries, national conventions, and the board's administrative staff on how to use volunteers and plan evangelism and church growth and relief projects. Consultants also deal with missionary health and family concerns.

Cecil, a native of Harper Springs, Ark., will continue to direct the board's laymen abroad program, which seeks to involve lay Southern Baptists working or studying overseas in witness and ministry where they live.



Cecil

Crucial questions for Christians

by Glen D. McGriff

Dr. McGriff, what can a pastor do after he has experienced "burn out"?

The first thing perhaps would be to understand the factors that contributed to the experience. To effect re-entry without such understanding might easily create another disappointment.

One might do well to remember that the call to "come" precedes the call to "go". Jesus invites persons unto himself before he initiates into service. That call into personal relationship with the living Christ can make a significant difference. All ministry grows out of that personal relationship and occurs in that context.

To lose sight of the above fact can facilitate excessive stress. The minister has no obligation to "succeed" in any given proj-



McGriff

ect. The commitment is to relational fellowship and faithful obedience to Christ. When the pastor comes from a vital fellowship to share a fresh insight concerning a spiritual direction, the matter then becomes the responsibility of the body. When faithful proclamation is blended with adequate communication and assured love, the pastor has been effective.

It is possible for the pastor to resort to manipulative approaches if there is doubt concerning the source of an idea. Worthy spiritual ideas, untainted by selfish ambition, can be surrendered to God's people with confidence. If action is not immediate, hope continues as spiritual maturity has time to occur.

Dr. Glen McGriff is Director of Ministry of Crisis Support for the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

Inquiries, comments or questions to be used anonymously in this column should be sent to Questions, Ministry of Crisis Support, Medical Towers Building, Suite 660, 9601 Life Drive, Little Rock, AR 72205.

*"The harvest
is plentiful,
but the laborers
are few."*



Look at the Fields



**Week of Prayer
for Foreign Missions**

November 28 through December 5

ARKANSAS BAPTIST NEWSMAGAZINE



Jesus was concerned about lost people. The sight of them filled him with compassion. He wept for them. He compared them with fields ready to be harvested. He urged his disciples to get on with the business of bringing the lost to the Father. He pleaded with them to pray for more workers.

Jesus' twentieth-century disciples still heed his words.

That's why Southern Baptists observe the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions. From November 28 through December 5, they will gather in homes and churches to pray for lost people. They will also pray that more men and women will respond to God's call to missionary service.

The week of prayer will culminate with the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions. This year's national goal is \$58,000,000. It will go for the support of approximately 3,200 Southern Baptist missionaries in 96 countries who are working to bring in the harvest.

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

National Goal: \$58,000,000

Look at the Fields



Overseas mission service: the personal price tag

by Betty J. Kennedy

Dean and Karr La Dickens have read that type of missionary story that describes enduring parasites, tropical heat, primitive housing and other hardships called "sacrifices" by some.

It's hardly ever anything like that, they say. The Dickens, on furlough from their work in the Philippines, are concerned that missions service not be portrayed as daily hardship, endured for the privilege of answering God's call.

"The only real sacrifice," says Karr La, "is leaving our families." For her this means being away from her parents, Rev. and Mrs. Dillard Miller of Mena. "But Mother said once that I'm closer to them 10,000 miles away in the Lord's will than nearby out of his will," she recalls.

For Dean, family separation has been a bit more difficult. He acknowledges that all missionaries leave every time knowing they may be seeing those family members for the last time here on earth. But his leave-

taking became more poignant after Ida Mae Dickens was stricken with cancer 10 years ago, and Dean and family made it home only six hours before his mother's death in June.

The Dickens don't want to downplay the very real "sacrifice" of separation, but they are convinced it's possible to compensate. "Hardships are not hardships if you feel a sense of calling to that place of service," Karr La notes. And having the support and understanding of that family back home makes a lot of difference, she says. She remembers an orientation session before they went the first time. "When the leaders asked how many of the new missionaries had the full support (emotionally) of parents for their going, only four or five out of the 95 people raised their hands," she recalls.

Karr La also remembers being advised that wives who were just going where their husbands were called had better get a sense of call, too. Dean confirms that wives not always are seen as called to missions. He's heard fellow missionaries introduced as Missionary So-in-So and wife.

The Dickens see that sense of calling as so necessary to keep a missionary in missions. "Just an interest in foreign missions won't do," Dean contends.

Although the vast majority of missionaries live almost identically to American standards — modern houses, healthy food, medical care, etc. — differences cannot be ignored.

One real point of difficulty is schooling for children and the possible separation this brings. But the Dickens both are quick to praise the SBC Foreign Mission Board for insisting that missionaries make family a priority. Missionaries, like homeland vocational servants, sometimes have to put family demands first and cut back elsewhere, they explain. They have compared the FMB's concern for families to other denominations and seen extreme unhappiness because families were not considered in the work of those other groups.

The Dickens children — Douglas, 8, Whitney, 5, and Courtney, 3 — are benefiting from living and learning in a multicultural setting. Karr La feels. They go to school with Koreans and Chinese and children of other nationalities, but maintain ties with American culture by celebrating U.S. holidays at home.

They're happy to visit the states, but,

after a couple of months, the older ones ask about going back "home" to Baguio, Karr La relates.

They have grown up there as their father has taught preaching at the Philippine Baptist Theological Seminary and served several years as pastor of Clark Field Baptist Church. Currently, their mother teaches voice and music theory at the seminary.

The setting for the Dickens' ministry is a town of 150,000 that they say maintains a small town friendliness. It also maintains a record for more rainfall than any other place in the world (Baguio in Tagalog language means storm).

After years of serving by training preachers, Dean admits that teaching at a Southern Baptist seminary in the states holds a certain attraction for him. He knows the number of students he could help to prepare for preaching in the U.S., and the amenities of academic life are tempting. But he goes back to the realization that teaching in the Philippines can have such a profound affect on the content of the preaching for all Southeast Asia.

And being pastor of a church here, has a lot of appeal, he admits. During this furlough he's serving as interim pastor of Park View Church in Monroe, La., where he served on a 1979 furlough. Members have asked him to stay on, but he remembers the opportunity of one teacher equipping 30 or 40 pastors for the ripe harvest in the Philippines.

Both Dean and Karr La leave their plans for service open ended. They talk of working in the Philippines "unless or until the Lord calls us to work Stateside."

Friends, even relatives, have asked them how long they would be overseas serving. "We told them that when we said 'We're going to the mission field' we did not put a period, or even a comma," Dean relates.

So their story continues. Like other called people who serve with the aid of the Foreign Mission Board and the help of the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering they live and put down roots in foreign places. Their real sacrifices are the intangibles, like separation, but their real joys balance with the difficulties.

They both insist that they are not super-spiritual giants but only ordinary called out people who had discovered that a clear sense of God's leadership is enough to compensate for the "whatevers" of overseas mission service.



Allen photo/Robo Allen

Dean and Karr La Dickens, furloughing missionaries to the Philippines, discuss the problems of the mission field in a recent interview.

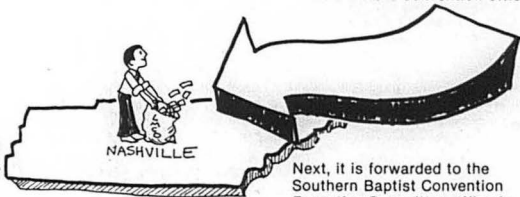
How the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering Reaches the Mission Fields



The church member contributes his Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions through his local church.



The church forwards the offering to the state office.



Next, it is forwarded to the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee office in Nashville, Tennessee.



The SBC Executive Committee wires the funds to the Foreign Mission Board in Richmond, Virginia.



The Foreign Mission Board uses the offering to help support approximately 3,200 missionaries in 96 countries.



Missionary-in-residence reports on Brazil

by J. Everett Sneed

Glendon Grober, who has served Southern Baptists for 27 years in Brazil, is currently missionary-in-residence for the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. Director of Stewardship, James Walker says the purpose of the missionary-in-residence program is to strengthen financial support for the Cooperative Program through speaking engagements in associations and churches and through personal contacts.

Dr. Grober will be available for speaking engagements after January, sharing information on the Brazilian culture, the centennial of our Baptist work in Brazil, and the recent forward thrust of our evangelistic witnessing.

Dr. Grober said that Brazil is the largest nation in South America and larger than the United States excluding Alaska. This Portuguese-speaking nation, with a population of over 121 million, is largely Roman Catholic. "It is exceedingly helpful," said Dr. Grober, "that freedom of worship is absolutely guaranteed and practiced."

Concerning the industrialization of Brazil, Dr. Grober said, "Today, Brazil is a modern country with great metropolitan areas. Tremendous contrasts exist between the rural jungle areas and the highly developed urban centers."

Dr. Grober said that one of the most exciting events which has transpired in recent years was the 100th Anniversary of Baptist work in Brazil. "Our Baptist work began in Salvador," he said, "where a two month festival of celebration was concluded during the week of October 8-15. In order to give a little flair to the celebration we went to Jesus' open tomb in Jerusalem and lighted a torch. The torch was then brought to Brazil and carried throughout all of the country. We had police escorts and paraded through many of the major cities. People from everywhere came to see the parades. We distributed many gospel tracts explaining how an individual could come to know Christ as Saviour."

Dr. Grober said that, with a goal of 25 new churches during the centennial celebration, they organized 100 churches during the weeks of the celebration. "It was a tremendous success," he said.

Currently more than 550,000 Brazilian Baptists are worshipping in more than 3,100 congregations. Growth in Baptist work had been slow, until the beginning of the evangelistic crusade in Brazil four years ago, under the leadership of Glendon Grober.

Grober was uniquely qualified for this

task because of his past experience as an executive secretary for Brazilian Baptist State Conventions, as a seminary professor, and as a church starter. Dr. Grober said, "Although Baptists fell short of their goal of one million church members by 1982, we are encouraged by the fact that our membership has increased by more than five percent annually since the beginning of the evangelistic crusade."

Dr. Grober said that a number of stirring testimonies came from the evangelistic crusade, which was entitled *Good News Brazil*. In one church a judge was won to the Lord through a personal street witness from one of the members. The evening the judge was to be baptized, a leading attorney, noted for his caustic disposition, was present in the congregation. The pastor assumed that he was there to see the judge baptized. But at the close of the service, the attorney came forward and asked to "say a word." The pastor said that he was reluctant to allow him to speak. But after a moment of silent prayer, he decided it was the proper thing to do. "Recently I was given a booklet by one of your church members, the attorney began. 'I took it home and read it. At the close of the book, I prayed the prayer, asked God, through Christ to save me. My life was changed, and I am here tonight to unite with the church and to share my testimony.'"

Dr. Grober related an example told by a pastor from the other side of Brazil, of a drunk man who came to their service one evening and was disturbing the members. The pastor and one of the deacons escorted the man from the church. As the man was about to leave, the pastor said, "I realized that here was a man who had come to our church, and I was about to send him away with nothing. So I gave him my testimony and one of our *Good News* tracts."

A few days later, in another part of the city, the pastor saw the man behind the counter of a drug store. "You are the man who gave me the *Good News* tract the other day," he said. "I took it home with me and read it and have trusted Christ as my Saviour. Each time I want to take a drink, I get the tract out and read it all over again."

Nine months later when Dr. Grober was back in the same town, the drug store owner was preparing to become a Sunday School teacher. The pastor said, "The man's life has obviously been totally turned around by his experience with Christ."

Churches wishing to have Dr. Grober to speak may contact him through the Stewardship Department, Arkansas Baptist State Convention, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203. Or, you may address Dr. Glendon Grober, 717 N. Hughes, Little Rock, AR 72205. He may be reached by telephone: 664-4916.



Glendon Grober (left) stands with Texas Baptist President D. L. Lowrie at a service in Salvador, Brazil observing the centennial of Baptist work in the South American nation. Grober, a missionary from Arkansas, serves Brazil and is executive director of the Brazilian Board of Evangelism.

(Texas) Baptist Standard photo

Revival sweeps government schools in Zimbabwe's bush

SANYATI, Zimbabwe (BP) — Spiritual revival, resulting in more than 5,500 professions of faith in Jesus Christ, has been sweeping schools in the bush country of Zimbabwe since June.

Southern Baptist missionary personnel lead weekly discipleship training programs in at least 38 government schools in Sanyati, Gokwe and Chenyeri. Missionary Bob Parker, who launched it all, still hasn't had a chance to visit a number of schools.

The phenomenon continues to amaze observers in the Marxist-led country and doesn't appear near an end, according to Parker, who has preached so far to 20,000 students.

Now when Parker travels in his van, children and adults greet him with an index finger pointed heavenward and the cry, "One Way." That has become the slogan of the revival.

"The Lord gave Bob Parker a vision which will allow us to reclaim our young people for Christ," declared Jonas Muechechere, president of the Baptist Convention of Zimbabwe and pastor of the Sanyati Baptist Church.

"One Way Clubs" for discipleship training and continuing witness have sprung up in the schools, touching the lives of students, teachers, headmasters and parents. Three headmasters, 25 teachers and 50 parents have accepted Christ.

Parker and Muechechere said the converts — all 12 and older — will not be bap-

tized until they satisfactorily complete a 14-week discipleship training program to ensure genuine results.

Parker has distributed hundreds of tracts and gospel portions to the children and Bibles to the school libraries and some 500 teachers and headmasters.

The need for Bibles continues to grow as does One Way Club attendance.

"We thought we'd lose up to 50 percent of the members as churches in the states do," said Parker. "But we have more to come than we can work with. The younger ones want to come but the group gets too large. We hate to send anyone away but we can't accomplish what we're here to do otherwise.

Muechechere said the One Way phenomenon will spark the struggling convention's church development, potentially leading to at least a doubling of churches and preaching points in that area.

But the blessing of new life among Zimbabwean Baptists has coupled with the perpetual problem of personnel shortages. Unprepared for such far-reaching results, Parker and Zimbabwean Baptist leaders wonder how they will find resources to continue follow-up as the revival multiplies. But they say they must.

"The Holy Spirit is working and now is the time to do everything we can," said Parker, who maintains a full schedule of working with more than 40 churches and preaching points.

John Monroe, missionary dentist and administrator of the Sanyati Baptist Hospital, helped considerably by releasing two second-year missionary journeymen from hospital duties two days a week. Mark Dewbre of North Little Rock, Ark., and Marty Escoe of Athens, Ga., conduct regular, weekly 30-minute discipleship training sessions in the schools.

But the need becomes more acute as their two-year terms of service near an end and as the impact spreads to more parents and more schools. Zimbabwean Baptist leaders have met to plan how they can stretch already thin resources and personnel to train as many church-starting evangelistic teams as possible.

When Parker left on a 1978 furlough he turned over his long-term work as a school teacher and administrator to trained Zimbabweans so he could concentrate on evangelism. He left just before guerrillas murdered missionary Archie Dunaway at the Sanyati Baptist compound during the black struggle for majority rule, in the country formerly known as Rhodesia.

The lean, South Carolinian returned in 1980 as a church developer after the Sanyati area reopened following the seven-year war.

He found that guerrillas had closed or destroyed many churches and schools in the bush, inadvertently creating an environment which caused a hunger among the people for reading material and for the word of God.

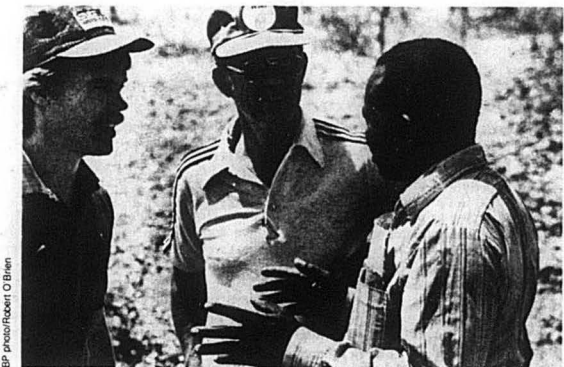
Against that backdrop Parker began visiting the rebuilding government schools, most former schools of various Christian missions. At most of them he found teachers and some headmasters who had been students or teachers at Baptist schools he had administered.

At the first school he attended he noticed a "One Way" sticker on the window of a car. When the headmaster invited him to preach he used it in his message and the students picked up on it excitedly. He repeated it successfully in school after school, basing his message on John 3:16 and John 14:6. Now he drives a van painted on all sides with "One Way" and a hand with the upward-pointing index finger.

Unexpectedly and somewhat reluctantly, Bob Parker — quiet, unassuming and dedicated to reaching people for Christ — has become "Mr. One Way." The people recognize him on sight and know when he questions them that "One Way" means "One Way to Heaven through Jesus Christ."

Recently a Zimbabwean mother stopped Pam Kelley Parker, Bob's wife, and said, "Oh, you're Mrs. One Way. Your husband has stolen part of my children's hearts. Tell him to keep going."

Parker plans to do just that.



Missionary journeyman Mark Dewbre of North Little Rock, Ark., has assumed a key role in a discipleship training follow-up to more than 5,500 professions of faith in 38 Zimbabwean bush schools since June. Dewbre (left) and missionary Bob Parker (center) talk to a headmaster at one of the schools. He told them that since they gave the school a Bible for its library, which was lost during the country's war for independence, he reads the students Scripture verses every day. Dewbre, bookkeeper at Sanyati Baptist Hospital, travels two days a week to lead discipleship training in half of the schools. Parker, a South Carolinian, launched the revival in the schools.

Your state convention at work

Evangelism

Spiritual preparation for witnessing

God blesses and uses the person who is willing to prepare spiritually. Moses met God and heard his voice at the burning bush. Elijah spent time with God at the brook or preparation before going to the Mt. Carmel of service. Peter met God on the housetop before going to the great revival with Cornelius. God had a special preparation time for Paul before he became the dynamic preacher.

One of the characteristics of a good personal worker is a changed life. II Corinthians 5:17 says, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." If a person is successful in witnessing, he must personally know Christ. A life that has been changed by the power



Shell

of God can win souls to Jesus.

A second characteristic of a good witness is a cleansed life. Isaiah is a perfect illustration of this in the sixth chapter. He became God-conscious. He recognized God as high and lifted up. Isaiah then recognized himself as a man of unclean lips. He confessed his sins and was cleansed of his sins. The closer we come to God, the more clearly we see ourselves. After Isaiah was cleansed of his sins, he then became other people-conscious. He heard the voice of God saying, "Who will go for me?" Isaiah didn't say, "send the pastor or the evangelist or the deacon." He stated plainly, "Here am I, Lord. Send me." This is spiritual maturity when a child of God will quit saying, "Let someone else do it" but will say, "I will go".

Other spiritual characteristic will follow in future articles. — **Clarence Shell Jr., director**

Sunday School

A great day indeed

October 31 was a great trick and a treat day. A great day indeed. A child said the trick was on the devil and the treat was on the Lord. Well stated.

Arkansas Baptist churches probably have 250,000 enrolled in Sunday School. We will know as soon as all the associational reports are in. The reported attendance shows that a high of 64 percent of the members were present, or about 160,000.

Great victories were won. Some churches had their highest attendance ever. Some had new members to join the Sunday School. Many transferred their letters and more importantly, many persons



Hatfield

professed faith in Jesus as Savior.

Too, there were many churches that had great offerings which helped them catch up or exceed their budget requirements. In many churches it was also a great day in the evening.

Some comparisons may help us see the advantages of observing a high attendance day. The average attendance of most Sundays is 51 percent of the enrollment. Sixty-four percent this year says we can do better than average when we put forth a special effort. Last year Great Day In The Morning was a great rainy day in the morning. The average attendance then was 56 percent, but the attendance is usually less than 50 percent on rainy days.

Plan on another great day next October. It, too, will prove to be a great trick and treat day, even if it is the day before Halloween. — **Lawson Hatfield, director**

Foreign Mission briefs

Work pioneered on Bali

DEN PASAR, Bali — Breaking through an intense barrier of Balinese Hinduism, Southern Baptist missionaries Harry and Barbara Bush have started Grace Church in Den Pasar, Bali, in Indonesia. About 12 Balinese and 15 others have been won to Christ. The church has grown from seven to around 45 in the worship service, with an average of 36 in Sunday School. The Bushes have worked on Bali since 1979.

New Baptist union formed

ROSEAU, Dominica — The Dominica Baptist Union has formed with three churches as charter members and the new national body was accepted into the regional Caribbean Baptist Fellowship. One delegate at the organizing service voiced the commitment of the entire group when he said, "The Dominica Baptist Union has been slow in coming, but it is here to stay," reported Southern Baptist missionary press representative Betty Walker.

Portuguese convention names youth leader

LISBON, Portugal — Maria Lourdes Nunes has been elected the first full-time executive secretary of the Portuguese Baptist Convention Department of Youth. Mrs. Nunes was elected to the post at the convention's 49th annual assembly. The former teacher of Christian education at the Baptist Theological Seminary, Queluz, Portugal, will lead the youth program for the convention's 54 churches.

11 complete MasterLife in Israel

NAZARETH, Israel — Eleven church workers, from Arabic and Hebrew-speaking congregations in the Galilee area, have completed the first MasterLife course ever taught in Israel. They agreed that the course taught them by Foreign Mission, Board representatives Dale and Anita Thorne should be translated into the two major languages of Israel as soon as possible. Plans are underway for a second

course to be taught in English this fall, possibly in Beersheba.

Women broaden mission awareness

BALAKA, Malawi — Baptist Women of Malawi diversified their first Week of Prayer for Missions to show concern for Baptist work worldwide. One day's emphasis was on the local church, one on the association, one on the entire country of Malawi, one for the continent of Africa and a fifth for the entire world, reports Judy Garner, press representative for Southern Baptist missionaries in Malawi.

Church has three services

SINGAPORE — New Life Church in Singapore plans to begin its third worship service in November. Each worship service ministers to a different group of people. Because land in Singapore is very expensive and virtually impossible to get, Baptist churches are holding multiple worship ser-

Christian Life Council

You'd better believe it

Those emphatic words spoken several years ago by a medical doctor in Dallas were in response to the question, "Did we hear you say alcohol is a poison?" Addressing a group concerned primarily with alcoholism prevention, his subject dealt with the physiological effects of drinking alcoholic beverages.

The fact that there are approximately 20 million alcoholics and problem drinkers in the United States bears testimony to the poisonous effects of ethyl alcohol on the human body. Even though legally sold and socially acceptable by many, it is the number one drug problem in our country and the world.

It's amazing that this poison is generally tolerated. On the other hand when just a few people are killed by poisons demoni-

cally mixed by tampering with over-the-counter drugs there is tremendous public outcry. Where is the outcry against deaths resulting from the slower acting poison, ethyl alcohol?

Someone has observed that there is no rational way to explain the tolerance Americans have concerning tragedies resulting from the consumption of ethyl alcohol. The explanation of such unreasonable tolerance is that it is demonic! "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise (Prov. 20:1)." "Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes?" "At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder (Prov. 23:29, 32)." — **Bob Parker, director**

Church Music

Music Men/Singing Women retreat

The Music Men/Singing Women held their annual retreat in Arka-delphia on the OBU campus with 68 men and 30 women present. The primary purpose of the retreat is preparation of music for the Pastor's Conference, State Convention, and Evangelism Conference. Dr. Charles Wright (OBU) presented a session on choral techniques and involved the choir in a laboratory experience. The men and women recognized Ervin Keathley for his 10 years of service to Arkansas Baptist by presenting him with a plaque to commemorate the event and a reception in his honor. Plans were made to accept an invitation from Dr. Wes Forbis (BSSB) for the Music Men to sing at the Church Music Conference in Glorieta in 1984. Newly elected officers were: president, Jim Little; president elect, James Burleson; pianist, John Dresbach; chaplain, Ken Overton; section leaders, Lewis Criswell, Barney Larry, Gregg Greenway and David Tate. — **Glen E. Ennes, associate**



vices and Sunday School sessions to accommodate growth.

Singapore Baptists begin first prison ministry

SINGAPORE — Queenstown Church in Singapore will give financial support to the prison ministry of Godfrey Chan, a graduate of the Baptist Theological Seminary, Penang, Malaysia. This is Singapore Baptists' first prison witness.

Training Institute responds to church needs

SINGAPORE — More than 350 lay leaders from 13 Singapore Baptist churches have completed at least one course in the Baptist Training Institute during the last year. Southern Baptist missionary Sidney Schmidt, director of training in the Baptist Centre for Urban Studies, has completed writing a 10-lesson self study on the principles of Christian follow up. Five courses have been written by missionaries and nationals on the basis of needs in the churches.

The Bible speaks to —



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Minimize Taxes	Matt. 22:21
Prepare for Retirement	Prov. 10:5
Recognize God's Ownership	I Chron. 29:14
Consider Final Distribution	Luke 12:20

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Southwestern Seminary dedicates Roberts Library

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) — Friends of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary lit the beacon in a "Lighthouse of Knowledge" Oct. 19 — the A. Webb Roberts Library.

Sixteen ceremonial ribbons, cut by campus and community representatives, fluttered to the ground in a bright, fall breeze to officially open the nation's largest theological library.

"We dedicate this building to the end and purpose that the name of Jesus Christ should be exalted unto the ends of the earth," prayed James E. Coggin, chairman of Southwestern's board of trustees and pastor of Fort Worth Travis Avenue Church.

The new library, centerpiece and show-plate of Southwestern's Vision/85 Capital Needs and Endowment campaign, is named for A. Webb Roberts, Dallas investor and philanthropist who made the seminary resident beneficiary of his substantial family trust.

Roberts said, through his gift, the library could develop into the largest and best in the world. "I foresee people coming from all over the world to use the extensive and

valuable resources here," he said. Roberts, originally from Ball Ground, Ga., and members of his family were present at the dedication and at a luncheon in his honor which followed.

Roberts' pastor, W. A. Criswell of First Church, Dallas, prayed at the luncheon that God would bless Southwestern, "so that men and women trained here can move the

whole earth Christ-ward, God-ward and heaven-ward."

Robert A. Baker, professor emeritus of church history, called the new library "a lighthouse of knowledge" and traced the seminary's library of humble beginnings with 3,511 books in 1911 to its position as the nation's largest theological library with 577,625 items.



SWBTS photo/David Bell

missionary notes

Mr. and Mrs. Carl M. Rees Jr., missionaries to Honduras, have returned to the field (address: Apartado 279, Tegucigalpa, Honduras). Born in Thayer, Mo., he also lived in Jonesboro, Ark., and Springfield, Mo. The former Martha French, she was born in Bell, Calif., but lived most of her youth in Aurora, Mo. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1978.

Mr. and Mrs. Michael O. Canady, missionaries to Malawi, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: P.O. Box 1302, Van Buren, Ark. 72956). He was born in Many, La., and also lived in Texas and in Maplewood, La. The former Linda Patton, she was born in Fort Smith, Ark., and also lived in Maplewood, La. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1975, resigned in 1977 and reappointed in 1979.

James E. Coggin, (left) trustee chairman of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, stands with A. Webb Roberts, (center) and Russell H. Dilday Jr., seminary president, during dedication ceremonies for the library named for Roberts, Dallas businessman and philanthropist. Dedication of the library, the largest in the nation, was part of Southwestern's 75th anniversary celebration.

State Evangelism Conference

Jan. 24-25, 1983

Geyer Springs First Baptist Church, Little Rock

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by Maurice Hitt, Castle Hills First, Azle, Texas

Basic passage: Judges 6:1-8:21

Focal passages: Judges 6:3-6, 11-16; 7:20-21

Central truth: Those who would be used of God exhibit certain similar characteristics.

1. Gideon did not believe God would use him until he had assurance that he had found grace in God's sight (6:12-23). One must be saved and know it before he can truthfully say, "Here am I; send me."

2. With his relationship with God assured, God called Gideon to destroy a pagan shrine of his community (6:24-32). His obedience signaled that he had become an enemy of God's enemy. Likewise, we must so clearly break with today's paganism that the community will have no doubt where we stand (6:29).

3. Gideon's prayers mark his reluctance to believe rather than teaching us the norm for prayer (6:36-40). However, we are exhorted to seek diligently the will of God for our lives as did Gideon, and having discovered it, we should obey immediately (7:1).

4. Many responded to Gideon's call to arms, but more than two-thirds departed when told that the fearful should leave. Those who remained were no doubt afraid also, but they feared God more than they did God's enemies (7:2-3). The same will be true of those who would be used of God today.

5. Too many of the wrong kind of folk can be hindrance, instead of a help (7:2, 4). The kind that God uses are like the three hundred who lapped the water, for they were careful that the fulfillment of desires not lead to neglect of their guard against the wiles of the enemy (7:4-6).

6. It was not great faith, but faith in a great God that caused Gideon's band to obey the commands concerning their weapons and the attack. We are not called upon to win victories, but to announce the victory. Victory is not to the strong and clever, but to those who trust and obey.

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Life and Work

Faith and actions

by Bert Thomas, Toltec Church, Scott

Basic passage: James 2

Focal passages: James 2:1-4, 8, 14-19, 26

Central truth: The proof of our faith is our deeds.

Chants of "Boring! Boring! Boring!" came from the gymnasium of the local high school where a basketball game was in progress. The visiting team had taken the lead and was "freezing" the ball. The spectators were expressing their displeasure because of the lack of action in the game. The lack of action in a Christian's life is also a problem. This lesson deals with the relationship of faith and works in a Christian's life.

1. Christ is the model for our actions. In James' appeal for correct actions he used Christ as an example. With gentleness and wisdom he approached the serious problem of partiality in the church. His appeal was made by a common bond when he addressed them as "brethren". This very word, when understood and applied correctly, would solve a multitude of church problems. Someone has said the ground is level at the foot of the cross.

2. Christians are to respond to human needs. The opportunity to respond to these needs are multiple. They start with giving of ourselves to Christ and include the sharing of our material goods to those in need. Only a self-centered, cold, and uncaring person would say, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled", to someone in need of the bare necessities of life. Yet, the greatest need of mankind is to know Christ. It is only when we respond to that deep spiritual need that we really put our faith into action.

3. The Christian life is one of faith and works. Faith in the Lord Jesus will result in proper Christian action. Abraham's faith was demonstrated when he offered up Isaac on the altar.

Rahab's faith in God was shown by receiving, protecting and sending out the spies from Joshua's army. James concluded this section by indicating that faith and works cannot be separated. We are saved by grace through faith (Eph. 2:8). As a result of this salvation experience we become God's workmanship created in Christ Jesus for good works (Eph. 2:10).

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Bible Book

Principles of giving

by Larry Maddox, Second Church of Little Rock

Basic passage: II Corinthians 9:1-15

Focal passage: II Corinthians 9:3-15

Central truth: Giving that originates in a purposeful heart and is carried out through God's enabling power will bring rich blessings to the giver.

After discussing the motivations for giving in chapter eight, Paul turned to the principles of generous giving.

1. The principle of enrichment (v. 6). Rather than leading to impoverishment as some seem to fear, generous giving leads to enrichment. Giving is investing with God. When you invest with God you get a return on your investment. When you sow bountifully you will reap bountifully. Jesus said, "Give and it shall be given unto you" (Luke 6:38). That is not a suggestion that might come to pass, it is a principle that will come to pass. You can count on God. You need not worry about his end of the bargain. Jesus used four terms to describe God's bounty: "good measure" — an honorable quantity; "pressed down, shaken together" — to make room for more; and "running over" — continuously pouring out.

Giving turns heaven's resources loose in your life! You discover you cannot outgive God. Giving is enrichment. "God supplies all our needs according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 4:19). There is no maximum beyond which God's ability to provide cannot go. God is backed by infinite resources — "riches in glory".

2. The principle of purpose (v. 7). The word "purpose" means to choose beforehand. You are to pray, plan, prepare — rather than giving haphazardly. Paul contrasts purposeful giving with giving "grudgingly" or "of necessity". "Grudgingly" comes from a word meaning "out of pain". "Of necessity" implies outward coercion. Giving with a purpose is far superior to giving painfully or giving because of pressure.

3. The principle of enablement (v. 8-11). It is God who enables you to give generously. Because "God is able" you have "all sufficiency in all things". Sufficiency means "enough". It is always in proportion to your needs. Your sufficiency is from God, but it is not an end in itself. Your sufficiency is to enable you to be generous in giving.

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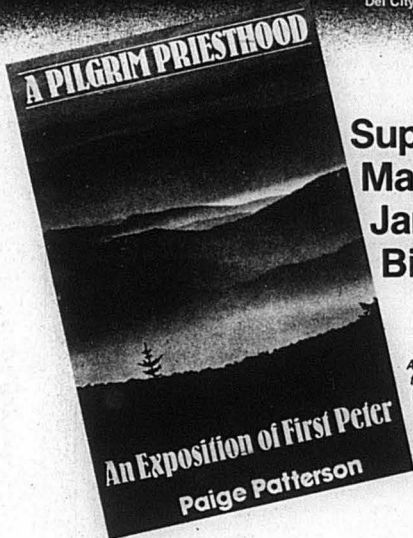
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BSSB Search Committee begins interview process

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — The chairman of the Baptist Sunday School Board presidential search committee has reported the seven-member group is reviewing nominations submitted by the Oct. 1 deadline and is arranging interviews with potential candidates.

John J. Bryan of Bluefield, W. Va., said in a recent progress report to the board's trustees that the nominations represent diversity in geographical areas and include men and women, laypersons and ministers and persons outside and within the Sunday School Board. He said all nominees will receive committee consideration.

"Some have been nominated without their knowledge or consent, others have been aware of their nomination, but to the best of our knowledge no one is seeking the position," said Bryan, a physician.

Bryan said other officers of the committee are Warren Hultgren, pastor of First Church Tulsa, Okla., vice chairman, and Raymond Langlois, pastor of Judson Church, Nashville, secretary-treasurer.

Bryan said the work of the committee will continue to be done "in a strictly confidential manner. This protects the nominees in their present positions and insures the integrity of the committee."

He told trustees: "The committee, individually and collectively, has been totally free of outside pressure. We are grateful to you and Southern Baptists that your attitude has been one of prayer."

Earlier the committee indicated they hoped to present a nominee to the trustees at the next regular meeting in February 1982, or at a called meeting as soon thereafter as possible.

High Court to review Nebraska chaplaincy

WASHINGTON (BP) — Responding to an appeal by the state of Nebraska, the U.S. Supreme Court agreed to review lower court decisions striking down the Nebraska legislature's longstanding practice of hiring and paying a single individual as chaplain over an extended period of time.

Neither party to the case is asking the high court to strike down the policy of having a chaplain open each day's legislative session with prayer.

What is at issue is the Nebraska unicameral legislature's longtime retention of Presbyterian Chaplain Robert E. Palmer who has served in that capacity since 1965, the state's monthly payment to Palmer of \$320 and the legislature's decision in three instances to print Palmer's prayers at public expense.

After those practices were challenged in 1980 by state senator Ernest Chambers, a U.S. district court ruled that while the First Amendment's ban on an establishment of religion was not violated by having a chaplain open each day's session with a prayer, it was abridged by paying him and by printing his prayers from public funds.

On appeal the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled last year that retention and compensation of a single chaplain for an extended tenure violated the establishment clause. But the same tribunal has allowed the practice to continue pending final disposition of the case by the Supreme Court (82-23, Marsh vs. Chambers).

In other church-state actions announced Nov. 1 the high court:

— Declined to review a ruling by Massa-

chusetts' highest court upholding a state law which requires all private schools, religious or secular, to report to town school superintendents the names, ages and residences of all children attending their schools. Such a requirement, the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court ruled, does not violate the free exercise or no establishment clauses of the First Amendment (82-390, Bailey vs. Bellotti).

— Let stand a decision by the Third Circuit Court of Appeals that the National Labor Relations Board properly asserted jurisdiction over a Pennsylvania cheese processing plant, even though the milk for the processing comes from a cooperative controlled by Old Order Amish farmers who oppose unions as a matter of religious belief. The case involves the New Wilmington, Pa., Old Order Amish community which claimed its beliefs prohibit dealing with or associating with labor organizations (82-141, Jacobo Marti & Sons, Inc., vs. NLRB).

— Declared it could find no "substantial federal question" to review in a case challenging the New Jersey board of education's requirement that local school districts maintain sex education programs. The policy was challenged by parents who argued that it violated both the free exercise and no establishment clauses but the New Jersey Supreme Court ruled the rights of objecting parents were protected by the policy's provision excusing children if participation conflicted with conscientiously held religious beliefs (82-309, Smith vs. Brandt).

Since the World Food Conference in 1974, a major goal of the anti-hunger movement has been the establishment of an international wheat reserve system to stabilize prices, so that poor countries could be as-

sured of affording food imports in cases of emergency. Negotiations on a global grain reserve were adjourned without success in 1979.

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