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May 20, 1982

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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Arkansas Baptist

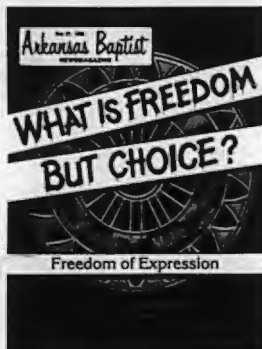
NEWSMAGAZINE

MAY 20 1982



**Baptists at
World's Fair**

**SBC preview
special section
pages 9-16**



Baptists have not forgotten their heritage of being advocates for religious freedom and separation of church and state. The Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs will be taking the lead in promoting observance of 1982 Religious Liberty Day in June. Charles C. Adams, a pastor and representative of the Progressive National Baptist Convention, one of five Baptist groups making up the BJC, has written an essay on freedom of expression, published on page 12 of this week's ABN.

Arkansans appointed to foreign fields

Two Arkansas natives were among 27 missionaries named by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board May 10 at Richmond, Va.

Mrs. Dennis A. Derby, who was born in Jonesboro, and her husband were appointed to Mauritius, and Lee R. Walker, of Little Rock, and his wife Phyllis, were appointed to Chile.

Mrs. Derby, the former Susanne Dacus, was born in Jonesboro and reared in California. Derby will serve in Mauritius as a general evangelist and Mrs. Derby as a church and home worker.

Walker, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Roy Walker of Little Rock, was born in Texas. He considers Little Rock home and Rosedale Church his home congregation.

He attended Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City, Tenn. and received the bachelor of church music degree from Ouachita Baptist University at Arkadelphia. He holds the master of church music degree from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He has served as music and youth director at three churches, including Piney Church in Hot Springs.

Mrs. Walker, a native of Louisiana, also attended Ouachita Baptist University. The Walkers have one son, born in 1980.

Walker will serve in Chile as a music consultant. Mrs. Walker will be a church and home worker.

Both couples will go to Pine Mountain, Ga. in September for a 12-week orientation before leaving for the field.



Mr. and Mrs. Derby



Mr. and Mrs. Walker

Ouachita fellowship scheduled at convention

ARKADELPHIA — Alumni, former students and friends of Ouachita Baptist University who attend the Southern Baptist Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana, June 15-17 are invited to a Ouachita fellowship on Tuesday night, June 15 at 9:30 p.m. following the evening session in the Hyatt Regency Conference Center adjoining the

Superdome.

Ouachita President and Mrs. Daniel R. Grant will be in attendance, a brief film presentation of the latest campus improvements and activities will be shown, and a time of fellowship within the Ouachita family will highlight the social event.

No reservations are required.

In this issue

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The SBC Committee on Boards declined recently to release the names of nominees to SBC boards and committees until the first day of the annual convention meeting. Due to an anonymous tip received by the (Texas) "Baptist Standard", however, the board nominees have been made public. Editor J. Everett Sneed reports the nominees and gives the ABN's rationale for publishing the information in an opinion piece.

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Eighty percent of Southern Baptist churches in the U.S. have membership below 300. These are the churches that must infiltrate the world if Bold Mission Thrust is to succeed, speakers told participants in a national Rural Evangelism Conference held in Little Rock.

Cooperative Program report: April

1981	1982
\$ 669,511.50	\$ 759,888.73
<u>670,874.69</u>	<u>765,475.10</u>
1,363.19	5,586.37
\$2,678,046.00	Budget year-to-date
<u>2,695,092.19</u>	Gifts year-to-date
17,046.19	Over (under)
	(41,666.75)

Arkansas Baptists have given 98.6% of the 1982 budget to date. The 11.24 percent increase over last year compares very favorably with the current 6.8 percent inflation rate. Gifts are \$302,795.98 above 1981's record. — James A. Walker, director



Most committed Christians desire a continuing relationship with God through Christ. Such a relationship is dependent upon a proper devotional life. Yet, the pressures of our contemporary world seem to make this more and more difficult. In order for an individual to have a proper devotional life he must identify the barriers to communication with God and eliminate them.

It is important to understand the true meaning of a devotional life. For many, a definition would simply involve regular church attendance, some Bible reading and, perhaps, an occasional retreat. Such a concept would limit an individual's devotional life to only a few prescribed religious activities. The Bible teaches that a person's devotional life can not be limited to prescribed religious activities but must, also, include his daily activities.

Both the Old and New Testaments emphasize that the devotional life must include every area of a person's life. For example, Isaiah said, "Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hateth: they are a trouble unto me; I am weary to bear them . . . Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow" (Is. 1:14-17).

Jesus often condemned the Pharisees who were ardently involved in a multitude of religious activities. On one occasion he classified them as hypocrites and said, ". . . Ye pay tithes of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone" (Matt. 23:23).

Many maintain that the primary deterrent to devotion is secularization. It is true that many a lifestyle is controlled almost exclusively by non-religious forces. It is, also, easy enough to see the changes which have developed in western society since the industrial revolution and secularization.

In the Middle Ages all life centered around "the placing the church in the middle. The devoted Christian would stop to pray as the church bell tolled the third, sixth and ninth hours of the day. Every morning and evening the faithful would go to church to pray, sing and listen. All matters of importance were settled by religious leaders. Almost

total authority rested in the hands of the church officials.

Of course, it is possible to exaggerate the power and control which was exercised by "the church" in the Middle Ages. But for many there was no choice except to abide by the prescribed worship. But such coerced conformity does not, in itself, guarantee true devotion to God. Ultimately, a true devotion to God must be an individual matter which springs forth from a willing and contrived heart.

The ultimate problem is not the change which has taken place in our society, although changes have had an impact on each of us, but the individual relationship with God through Christ. True devotion develops as an individual recognizes the transcendence of God and God's right to every area of life.

In the devotional life one seeks to become more and more like Christ. In the process, an individual submits to the sovereignty of God in every area of life. Prayer, Bible study and church attendance are not just rituals to be fulfilled but instruments which transform one's attitudes to those of Christ.

Perhaps the best measure of an individual's devotional development is his attitude toward others, particularly those who are less fortunate. Jesus pictured the kingdom-type person as one who reacts properly to human need. The list of things Christ mentioned were simple (Matt. 25:31-46), things which can be done every day — give a hungry man a meal, or a thirsty man a drink, welcome a stranger, cheer the sick, visit a prisoner. These are things which any normal, healthy person can do. Jesus said, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me" (Matt. 25:40).

It is easy for us to blame the pressures of the age in which we live for our lack of devotion to God. Every age has had its deterrents which individuals could use as excuses for not having proper commitment to God. Ultimately, devotion is an individual responsibility.

Yes, our society, with its emphasis on productivity, mechanization and secularization, has an impact on everyone. But inner commitment and desire to follow Christ is the key to devotion rather than outside pressures.

Arkansas Baptist

NEWSMAGAZINE

Arkansas' third largest publication,
meeting the information needs of Arkansas Baptists.

VOLUME 81

NUMBER 19

J. Everett Sneed, Ph.D. Editor
Betty Kennedy Managing Editor

Erwin L. McDonald, Litt. D. Editor Emeritus

Arkansas Baptist News Magazine Board of Directors: Jon M. Stubbelfield, Magnolia, chairman; Charles Chesser, Carlisle; Lyndon Finney, Little Rock; Leroy French, Fort Smith, Iles; Jennie Garner, Truman; Marie Milligan, Harrison; Tommy Robertson, El Dorado, Hon. Estelene Roy, Little Rock; and Lane Strother, Mountain Home

Letters to the editor expressing opinions are invited. Letters should be typed double-space and must be signed. Letters must not contain more than 350 words and must not defame the character of persons.

Photos submitted for publication will be returned only when accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope. Only black and white photos can be used.

Clippings by mail 30 cents each

Deaths of members of Arkansas churches will be reported in brief form when information is received not later than 14 days after the date of death.

Advertising rates on request

Opinions expressed in signed articles are those of the writer.

Member of Southern Baptist Press Association

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One layman's opinion

Daniel R. Grant/President, OBU

Breathing from the diaphragm and singing from the heart

It has never really been necessary for me to tell professional musicians that my professional music training has been minimal. It becomes pretty obvious after just a little bit of demonstration on my part, or even talking about music. I have sung in enough choirs, however, to have picked up a few pointers on what is good music and what is poor music.

I have heard choir directors stress the importance of "breathing from the diaphragm," of not "slurring tones," of singing "pear-shaped tones," and of avoiding shouting rather than singing, to name just a few. The more I sang in such groups as my high school quartet, church choirs, and the Ouachita Choir, the more I came to appreciate what professional musicians call good music. I began to have difficulty listening to those groups that violate the professional standards of good music.

Recently I was sitting in an interracial Baptist meeting and a choir began to sing music that was a little hard on even my rel-

atively untrained ear. My mind began to consider some other conflicting business that I had originally not thought important enough to keep me from attending this meeting. Just as I was about to make my move to leave the meeting, an untrained elderly voice in the choir took the lead in singing an unusual message. "I'm glad, oh, so glad," she began, "that man didn't make the sunshine." What a strange thing to say (and sing) I thought, and I began to listen for what would follow. She simply sang it again and again, each time with greater feeling and enthusiasm, and finally concluded emphatically, "If he made the sunshine, he might not let it shine on me!" The congregation got more and more into the spirit as she changed the message ever so slightly: "I'm glad, oh so glad, that man didn't make the raindrops; if he made the raindrops, he might forget to water the earth"; and "I'm glad, oh so glad, that man didn't make the heartaches; ... he might give me more than I can bear"; and on and

on.

I was still caught in the emotional grip of the feeling and wisdom with which she and the choir sang. When an elderly man took over the lead and changed to a new theme: "I can't take clay and mold it to make a man" and then repeated it several times before reaching a climax with "but I have a Father, oh I have a Father, who can!" Each stanza changed the opening statement, but stayed with the same strong concluding testimony. I was doubly blessed for staying.

I think I still prefer to hear the Ouachita Baptist University Choir sing Handel's "Worthy is the Lamb" or "The Lord's Prayer," but there are also some high moments of enjoyment and spiritual blessings when the musical message comes from the heart, even though the breathing may not come from the diaphragm.

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



Woman's viewpoint

Cynthia B. Price

Living proof

Although as Christians we believe and accept by faith that the Bible is God's holy word, it's always thrilling to see it proven right before our eyes.

Recently at one of our church's Ladies Bible Study meetings, we had the opportunity of meeting several women who live in our city and are from other countries. Among them were three from Japan, one from Nigeria, and one from Vietnam. Each had been in the United States various lengths of time, so our understanding of each other was limited. But the joy we all shared in our relationship to our Heavenly Father quickly transcended any language barriers.

One young lady's story was particularly touching to me. Several years ago a Baptist church close to the family reached out to her children through the bus ministry. Having a Buddhist background, she would not attend, but did allow the children to go. Gradually she began to feel the Holy Spirit speak to her heart. "I got up one Sunday morning and just had this strong urge to go to church; can't explain it, just a strong urge." Though having never read the Bible

for herself or been taught about God, she felt the need for him. The Living Bible tells us in Romans 1:18-20 that the truth about God is known to us instinctively because he has put this knowledge in our hearts, and that no man has an excuse for unbelief. A short time later, she accepted Jesus and put her faith in him.

God made us all different. We look different, talk different, act different. But one thing about the entire human race is the same. We all have a deep need for the love and forgiveness that he offers. Nothing else can take his place. People have tried to make all sorts of things fill that space. But nothing or no one else ever can. For it is God-shaped and only God will fit.

Cynthia B. Price is a homemaker from Pine Bluff. She is married to a real estate broker and is the mother of four children. She is a member of Watson Chapel Church, where she assists in teaching third graders and leads a ladies' Bible study group. She has had writing published in "Open Windows" in the July-Sept. 1982 edition and in another similar devotional book.

Letter to the editor

Let dead issues die

In recent weeks various petitions have been brought to me and I was asked to support and work for the causes listed on these petitions. These concerned things like a law suit being brought by Madalyn O'Hair and a film depicting the sex life of Christ to be shown on television. By contacting the ABN staff, I was able to determine that these matters are no longer relevant and we need to so inform these concerned people. I feel it is important to be properly informed so we can speak out when we need to but not to speak out on dead issues that we lose our credibility. — Gerald Hill, Gillham, Ark.



Your Baptist Association:
A base for mission strategy.

Associational
Emphasis Week
May 17-23, 1982

Lewis Gentry has been called to serve as pastor of the Fellowship Church in Batesville. Gentry, who has served as pastor of churches in both Arkansas and Kansas, is a graduate of Arkansas State University in Jonesboro and of Mid-America Seminary. He is married to the former Nina Coats. They are parents of two sons, Philip and Danny.

Martin Thielen will become pastor of Augusta First Church June 1, coming there from the Wyandotte Church, Wyandotte, Ind. He was graduated summa cum laude from Ouachita Baptist University and is presently working on a master of divinity degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. His wife, Paula, graduated from OBU with a degree in accounting. They have a son, Jonathan.

Jimmy Lloyd Barrentine has accepted the call to serve as director of missions for Ouachita Association, effective June 1. A native of Mississippi, he has pastored churches there and in Texas. Barrentine, for the past six years, has been serving as director of missions for the zone of Itapua, Paraguay, under appointment of the Foreign Mission Board. He is a graduate of Mississippi College in Clinton and of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He also holds a certificate in Spanish from the Spanish Language Institute in San Jose, Costa Rica. He and his wife, Joan, have two children, Danny, age 10, and Jennifer, age 4.

Larry Maples has been named as one of five students at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary to receive the 1982 Clyde T. Francisco Preaching Award. He is a former member of the accounting faculty at the University of Arkansas. He also served as a Sunday School department director and teacher at Fayetteville First Church during his university tenure.

Rodger B. Murchison has been named director of capital funding for Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He was director of placement and college relations at the seminary. A native of Arkansas, Murchison is a graduate of Baylor University and Southern Seminary.

Hal Hall has resigned as minister of youth at Chicot Road Church in Mabelvale to become summer youth minister at the First Church of Melbourne, Fla. He is a 1982 graduate of Ouachita Baptist University.

Cline Ellis has accepted the call to serve as pastor of the Kingsland Church.

M. L. Faler has accepted the call to become pastor of



Gentry



Thielen

the Watson Chapel Church in Pine Bluff, coming there from the Waller Church in Bossier City, La. A native of Mississippi, he is a graduate of William Carey College, Hattiesburg, and of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He has served churches in both his native state and in Louisiana. He is married to the former Betty Jo Boyette of Biloxi, Miss. They have two children, Nikki, age 23, and Monty, age 21.

David Cassidy has resigned as youth director at Mena First Church. He has been awarded a teaching fellowship in the philosophy department at Baylor University, Waco, Texas. He was graduated May 8 from Ouachita Baptist University. Cassidy and his wife, Rejeana, will move to Waco.

Robert B. Smith Jr. has been called as pastor of the Pine Ridge

Church.

C. H. Moore recently resigned as pastor of the Pine Ridge Church.

Lewin Newcomb of Hot Springs has been called to serve as pastor of the Mount Gilead Church at Black Springs.

Tim Love is serving as pastor of the Oak Grove Church at Caddo Gap.

Linda Fleming has been selected as hostess for Immanuel Church in Little Rock to succeed Mary Ruth King who will retire in August. Fleming is a native of Little Rock and a graduate of the University of Central Arkansas at Conway. She and her husband, George, have two daughters.

Randy Churchwell has resigned as pastor of Neals Chapel Lepanto.

Paul Lathem has resigned as pastor of the Valley View Church at Harrisburg.

Mrs. Boyd Baker died May 4 in her Texarkana home at age 80. She was a member of the Northeast Church there. Survivors are her husband, Rev. Boyd Baker, a retired Southern Baptist minister; a daughter, Betty Ann Parker, and a grandson, Justin Parker, both of Santa Fe, New Mexico.

briefly

Rison Church held a renewal celebration and homecoming May 16. Roy Chatham, minister of education for Conway First Church, spoke at the morning worship service. Testimonies, special music and a service of commitment and dedication were highlights of the afternoon. Pastor J. T. Harvill, Edwin McKinney and Ray Martin coordinated activities.

Greenlee Church at Pine Bluff observed homecoming May 9 with a celebration service. A note was burned to celebrate the church being free of debt on all buildings, including the parsonage.

Bryant First Southern Church ordained Mike Henderson to the gospel ministry May 9. His father-in-law, Jimmy Millikin, a professor at Mid-America Seminary, preached the ordination message.

Fayetteville First Church will be assisting with an Indiana work project June 20-26. Laymen of the church, assisted by Pastor Jere Mitchell and Pete Ramsey, minister of education, will do con-

struction work for the Heritage Church in Zionsville, a suburb of Indianapolis.

El Paso First Church will hold its second annual homecoming May 30. Activities will include the recognition of former members, a noon meal, and an afternoon program of gospel music. Norman Powell is pastor.

Trinity Church of Mabelvale was in revival April 4-11. Wes Kent, associate in the Evangelism Department of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, was evangelist. Doug Lowe directed music. Pastor Hoda Ward reported seven professions of faith, two additions by letter and one by statement.

Park Hill Church of North Little Rock is planning a puppet training seminar Friday, May 28 from 6:30 to 10 p.m. The session will be led by professional puppeteers from Puppet Productions, Inc., a San Diego, Calif. company that has trained more than 73,000 persons in similar sessions. Bobby Shows, Park Hill's director of activities, is coordinating the workshop.

Indiana director reports on linkage progress

by J. Everett Sneed

R. V. Haygood, executive director of the Indiana State Convention, was one of the major speakers at the Arkansas State Growth Conference which was held May 3-4, at Park Hill Church, North Little Rock. The primary purpose for Haygood's presence was to give a report on the progress of the linkage and to encourage additional churches and associations to assist in developing new work in Indiana.

Dr. Haygood said that several years ago when he was secretary of missions for Indiana that he spoke to the Home Mission Board at chapel presenting the needs of the North Central states. In these seven states there are nearly 47 million people. Of these, there are an estimated 68.3 percent who are unchurched.

At the conclusion of Haygood's message, staff members asked that his message be placed in manuscript form. Later that day as he was leaving, Arthur B. Rutledge, then executive secretary of the Home Mission Board, rushed to see Haygood. Dr. Rutledge said, "What Southern Baptists need is a Bold Mission Thrust to reach the lost people in our nation and around the world. Dr. Haygood said that this was the first time he had heard the term 'Bold Mission Thrust' used.

Haygood said, "Every convention is linked with some state. The established states are linked with one of the pioneer states."

Arkansas is linked with Indiana which has a population of nearly 5.2 million. Approximately 65 percent of the people of In-

diana are unchurched.

Currently, Arkansas churches and associations are linked up with 22 new mission sites in Indiana. In the very near future the 23rd will be started. There is a need for 252 new works to be started by Jan. 1, 1990.

In conclusion, Haygood expressed his

deep appreciation for the assistance that is being offered by Arkansas. He said, "I am deeply grateful to my home state for what the people are doing to assist us in reaching the lost in Indiana. I believe that both states will be blessed because of our linkage."



Representatives of Southeastern Association in Indiana met with Pulaski Association leaders to discuss plans for an Indiana/Pulaski linkup. Pictured (from left) are: Jim Bullock, stewardship chairman for Southeastern Association; Ray Bowyers, member of missions committee from Indiana; Ed Barnicot, moderator of Southeastern Association; Bob Crabb, pastor of Martindale Church in Little Rock and moderator of Pulaski Association; Dale Maddux, director of missions for two Indiana Associations; and Glenn E. Hickey, Pulaski Association director of missions.

Associations team up for linkup project

Members of Creekwood Church in Muncie, Ind. are grateful to Conway-Perry and Central Associations in Arkansas, and the Arkansas associations say they are grateful to the Arkansas-Indiana linkup mission program for an opportunity to take part in a vital ministry.

Refus Caldwell, director of missions for Conway-Perry, was one of a group of 60 Arkansas Baptists making a mission trip to Indiana last year. He came back with a burden for the work, and recommended that his executive board get involved in Indiana missions.

The original plan was to ask individuals to pledge \$5,200 toward work at Creekwood, and the 16 churches in the association to pledge an additional \$5,200. The executive board voted to send \$800 a month to begin the new work in east Muncie, and five churches put the mission project into their budgets.

Central Association, led by Director of Missions Carl Overton, also felt impressed to take part in the work, and

drummed up enough support to allow the two associations to contribute a \$20,742.48 annual package for a full-time pastor.

"What makes this thing so great," Caldwell said, "is in a year's time we won't average but about a thousand (in Sunday School attendance). We're talking about a pretty good thing when you get it down to per capita."

Creekwood is located in a large housing area with no Southern Baptist work nearby. There are six Southern Baptist churches in the 80,000-population northern Indiana city.

Caldwell said the excitement from the project has spilled over into the other programs of the association.

Twenty percent of the association attended WIN and WOW schools and 100 percent took part in simultaneous revivals.

"It's exciting for us," Caldwell said. "I think it would be something that would help any association to get involved."



Overton



Caldwell

Linda Dillworth, missionary to the Philippines, has arrived in the States for furlough (address: 3212 Sycamore Dr., Augusta, Ga. 30909). She was born in Fort Knox, Ky., and also lived in Germany, Fort Smith, Ark.; Lawton, Okla.; and Augusta, Ga. She was appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1977.

Mr. and Mrs. Orvell Bryant Jr., missionaries to the Windward Islands, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 910 Nella, Minden, La. 71055). He is a native of Spearsville, La. She is the former Suzan Ward of El Dorado, Ark. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1977.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim L. Barnes, missionaries to Taiwan, have arrived on the field to begin their first term of service (address: Box 427, Taipei 100 Taiwan, ROC). He is a native of Hartford, Ark.; she is the former Edna Harris of Alma, Ark. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1981.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim C. Dillard, missionaries to Kenya, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: P.O. Box 895, Nyeri, Kenya). He is a native of Tyrone, Ark. She is the former Janet Davis of Owensboro, Ky. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1969.



Statewide Bible Conference a success

About 100 pastors and other denominational leaders attended the fifth annual Statewide Pastors' Bible Conference April 26-28 at Ouachita Baptist University. Serving as conference teacher was J. W. MacGorman (left), professor of New Testament at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Conference preacher was Frank Pollard (center), pastor of First Church in San Antonio, Texas. Director of the conference was Gene Petty (right), assistant professor of religion at Ouachita. One pastor attending the conference, Walter H. Watts of Fort Smith, reports that many rated it the best conference ever. "Many of us felt as did Simon Peter on the mount," Watts said, "Lord, it is good to be here. Let us build here a permanent spring event of Arkansas Baptists, one for thee, one for pastors and one for the students of Ouachita Baptist University."

'And some . . . evangelists' Simons re-enters evangelistic field

James C. (Jimmy) Simons, Route 2, Lavaca, is seeking to re-enter evangelistic work following a three-year-plus stint in the pastorate. Simons, 59, entered the ministry 27 years ago. He has held pastorates at Moore Rock, Abbott, Bates and Shady Grove north of Van Buren and traveled widely for five years as a full time evangelist before returning to Shady Grove in 1978. He remained there until January 1982, and saw 43 baptisms and 13 additions by letter during his stay there.

Elva Adams, former director of missions for Butner Association, recommends Simons. "I take pleasure in recommending Simons. 'I take pleasure in recommending this man of God to any church to serve as your evangelist during your revival meeting.'" Adams said. "I assure you he will come to you with a warm heart of love and concern for your church and pastor, and with a compassion of soul for the lost. He is doctrinally sound; you can depend on him to preach the doctrines that Southern Baptists believe, and he will do it without compromise."

Simons can be contacted at Box 149, Route 2, Lavaca, Ark. 72941 or by phone at (501) 452-3440.



Simons

290 graduate at Ouachita

ARCADELPHIA — 290 students received degrees in commencement activities at Ouachita Baptist University Saturday, May 8.

Two honorary degrees were awarded during commencement ceremonies. Ernest E. Mosley of Springfield, Ill., executive director of the Illinois Baptist State Association, received an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree and Hugh R. Wilbourn, Jr. of Little Rock, chairman emeritus and chairman of the executive committee of the board of directors of Allied Telephone Company, received an honorary Doctor of Law degree.

The Distinguished Alumnus award was presented to Bernes Selph of Benton, pastor emeritus of First Church of Benton, and former president of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

Four OBU faculty members retiring at the end of the academic year were honored during the ceremony. They received Professors Emeritus status, an award given to retiring faculty members who have been employed by Ouachita for 15 years or more.

Those honored as retirees were Dr. Dewey E. Chapel, professor of education and dean of graduate studies; Dr. Carl E. Goodson, vice president for academic affairs and professor of religion; Dr. William M. Hurley, professor of psychology; Kathryn Jones, associate professor of mathematics; and Dr. W. C. Mims, associate professor of education.

Degrees given during the commencement ceremony included 153 bachelor of arts degrees, 18 bachelor of science degrees, 155 bachelor of science in education degrees, 12 bachelor of music degrees, eight bachelor of music education degrees, 42 master of science in education and two master of music education degrees.

Speakers for commencement were Randall O'Brien, instructor in religion at OBU, and Jay Shell of Clinton, a senior and vice president of Internal Affairs for the OBU Student Senate. Both speakers were chosen by the senior class.

Using ideas from the flip chart in background, Acteens (right) spent time in planning an exciting program from their monthly magazine "Accent". Linda Richards was conference leader.

Ideas for short term mission opportunities in the local church setting were both listed and discussed when Acteens participated in a conference led by Pete Petty, director of Special Missions Ministries for Arkansas Baptist State Convention.



Text and photos
by Millie Gill

Acteens gain information for spiritual pilgrimage

The 280 Acteens attending a statewide Encounter April 30-May 1 revealed an eagerness to glean information that would aid them in their daily Christian pilgrimage.

"The Journey" was theme for the Encounter held at North Little Rock First Church under the guidance of Betty Jo Lacy, Acteens director for Arkansas Baptist Woman's Missionary Union.

The "inward journey" of a salvation experience that leads to an "outward journey" of service was the Acteen personal journey emphasized by missionary to the Philip-

pines, Kathie Braughton.

Sojourner Judi Alstatt, journeyman Jeff Pounders, musician John Dresbach and Debbie Moore, recently appointed to the foreign mission field of Liberia, shared their spiritual journeys. They emphasized the importance of seeking God's guidance in the daily journey of life.

Conferences were offered on combating moral problems, short term mission opportunities, programs, student preparation and foreign mission opportunities.



Bob Parker, director of Christian Life Council for Arkansas Baptist State Convention (background), distributed posters to be used in combating moral problems as Acteens and their leaders left his conference.

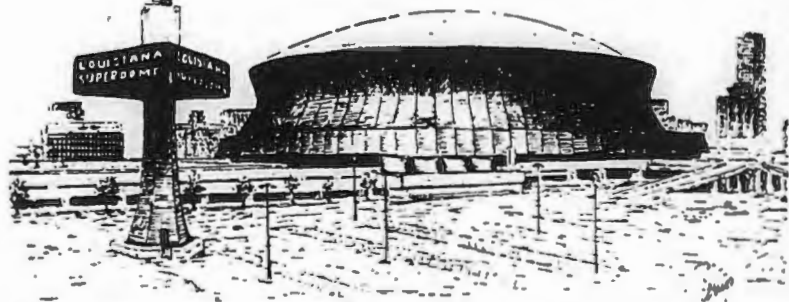


GAs plan for summer camp

GAs from Park Hill Church in North Little Rock decide which week they will attend GA Camp at Camp Paron. Freda Jones is Girls in Action Director at Park Hill. GAs pictured are: (clockwise) Deanna Dudley, Brandey Jones, Rachel Roberts, and Paige Partridge.

All GA directors or leaders are encouraged to promote State GA Camps in their church. Camp weeks are as follows: July 5-9 (combination GA/Acteens week), July 12-16, July 19-23 (deaf emphasis week), July 26-30. Contact State WMU office for registration information.

1982 annual meeting, New Orleans, June 15-17



SBC programmers seek continued L.A. spirit

NEW ORLEANS (BP) — An abbreviated Southern Baptist Convention program June 15-17 in the Louisiana Superdome seeks more of the harmonious spirit that pleasantly surprised participants in the 1981 meeting in Los Angeles.

Program Committee Chairman Charles G. Fuller, pastor of First Church, Roanoke, Va., said his committee felt a "keen commitment to continue the spirit the convention had in Los Angeles and to build from that point."

Of most interest will be the election of a president to succeed Bailey Smith, who will have reached his constitutional limit of two one-year terms. Smith, who has had an eventful presidency, survived an unusual mid-term challenge last year and rallied the convention to harmony.

Messengers, elected by any of the 35,600 Southern Baptist churches, will vote on a \$106 million budget for 1982-83. Other business, the presidential election, evangelistic rallies and a convenient geographic location in New Orleans are elements expected to draw 15,000 registrants and up to 25,000 participants to this year's meeting.

Concerted prayer and conscious efforts by convention speakers to be conciliatory averted what many feared would be a meeting to further polarize the convention over biblical inerrancy and alleged liberalism in convention agencies. The harmonious spirit of the Los Angeles meeting was the subject of editorials in state Baptist newspapers for weeks.

"The spirit of the committee was very positive and prayerful," said Fuller, in his first year on the program committee. "I'm

not just saying that to be 'appropriate.' There was a real effort to keep the convention focused on its course of missions and evangelism.

"The exaltation of Christ kept coming up over and over again. We want to exalt Christ and not just a position regarding him."

Fuller said there was "very little" polarized communication to the committee this year by elements in the convention wanting influence on the program. He did say, however, he believes the spirit of the Los Angeles meeting will be tested.

An abbreviated program, with no Thursday evening session, is the result of a resolution passed in Los Angeles that the 1982 meeting make a definite evangelistic thrust in New Orleans. SBC Pastors' Conference President Ed Young, with SBC President Bailey Smith, initiated a Bold Mission Thrust Rally, with evangelist Billy Graham as principal speaker, on the Sunday evening preceding the SBC meeting and a youth evangelism rally the preceding Saturday. The Graham rally is expected to draw 25,000 to the Superdome June 13.

Those sessions, said Fuller, fulfill the inspirational function traditional to the usual Thursday evening session. To repeat on Thursday night a unity rally when that hopefully, will be accomplished through the evangelism rallies, would be "really too much," he said.

The evangelism rallies, while an integral part of the entire convention week in New Orleans, are actually separate from the SBC meeting itself. In a graphic display of cooperation, SBC-affiliated groups that tra-

ditionally meet on Sunday and Monday before the convention, have arranged their Sunday evening sessions to be able to participate in the rallies. And rally planners started it late enough to allow the groups some meeting time beforehand.

"This is not a Pastors' Conference session to which we all are invited," said Fuller. "But this is a Pastors' Conference sponsored event in which we all are asked to be involved."

Responding to another observation that there is often too little time reserved for convention business, Fuller's committee set aside two full hours on the final afternoon. All business referred until that session should have ample time for discussion without being rushed through, he said.

Theme for the convention is "Affirming Christ's Bold Commands." Daily themes include Tuesday's "Reach People," Wednesday's "Develop Believers," and Thursday's "Strengthen Families."

There will be traditional doses of singing and preaching with much of the music load carried by members and staff of First Southern Baptist Church, Del City, Okla., church of SBC President Smith. Smith's music director Aubie McSwain will lead the church's Celebration Singers and Sounds of Joy orchestra and congregational singing on several occasions.

Other music highlights include songs by the Centurymen, George Beverly Shea and Kurt Kaiser. William E. Hull, pastor of First Baptist Church in Shreveport, La., will bring the convention sermon. Program participants hail from at least 17 states.

Evangelism thrust planned for New Orleans meeting

by Oscar Hoffmeyer Jr.

NEW ORLEANS (BP) — Baptists are making extensive plans to share their Christian faith with residents of New Orleans when the Southern Baptist Convention meets there in June.

Ron Herrod, pastor of First Church, Kenner, and chairman of "Bold Mission — New Orleans," said approximately 5,000 ministers and laypersons from all areas of the country are expected to participate in an adult evangelism effort June 12 and 13, prior to the convention meeting June 15-17.

A special youth evangelism program, also expected to draw 5,000 participants, will take place June 11 and 12. Evangelist Arthur Blessitt and singer David Meece will lead a youth rally at New Orleans Municipal Auditorium June 11. The following day the young people, currently studying witness techniques, will move into suburban areas of New Orleans for house-to-house visitation, according to Calvin Cantrell, associate evangelism director for the Louisiana Baptist Convention, and coordinator for the youth rally.

Adults will meet in the afternoon June 13 at the Superdome to organize into teams then disperse into inner-city residential and business areas for witnessing, Herrod said.

Billy Graham is scheduled to preach in the Superdome that night at an evangelistic rally to climax the witnessing efforts of the

two days.

Ed Young, president of the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference and pastor of Houston's Second Church, said the June 13 evening session of the annual Pastors' Conference will join in with the rally when Graham preaches.

SBC-affiliated groups that traditionally meet before the convention are expected to participate in the Superdome rally and Herrod expects many city churches to transfer their Sunday night services to the Superdome.

The evangelistic thrust was prompted by a resolution passed at the 1981 convention in Los Angeles asking for an evangelistic outreach during the SBC meeting in New Orleans.

Herrod said the Sunday schedule begins at the Superdome with bus captains meeting at 1 p.m. Participants gather at 2 p.m. for materials and assignments to pre-arranged areas of the city. Buses will leave no later than 3 p.m. and return to the Superdome at 5:30 p.m.

Persons making visits will be organized into teams. Each worker will be given materials including evangelistic tracts and information about Southern Baptists. Names of local Baptist churches will be printed on materials so people will have a specific place to contact if they are interested in at-

tending church.


Preliminary planners noted that 2,500 witness teams, each visiting five households during the afternoon, could contact 12,500 households. Statistics indicate the inner city of New Orleans has approximately 110,000 households.

Herrod said, "Obviously the task is enormous and the potential is tremendous."

Alan Woodward, pastor of Highland Baptist Church and chairman of the bus committee, said 170 to 200 buses will be needed to transport workers. He asked that churches contact him to offer use of their buses or vans.

Herrod said while the opportunity for witnessing is great in a city the size of New Orleans, the task will not be easy.

"Many of the people of New Orleans have experienced so many types of events and lifestyles they tend to be blasé about most things," he said. "The only way we can reach this world city is to be in the spirit of prayer and in God's will. Just because we visit them at the doors of their homes or in the streets does not mean great throngs will come to the Superdome for the Sunday night evangelistic service. We must be serious about our commitment to share our faith with those who do not know Christ as Savior and be concerned about their spiritual needs."



The Louisiana Superdome, site of the 1982 Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting, commands prime turf in the delta city of New Orleans. Special construction was required because the huge structure sits just five feet above the water table. It was built for \$163 million between 1971-75.

Revival, preaching clinic planned for pastors' meeting

NEW ORLEANS (BP) — A "revival for pastors" and a preaching clinic are planned for the 1982 Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference, June 13-14 at the Louisiana Superdome.

The Pastors' Conference is one of several meetings preliminary to the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-17, also in the Louisiana Superdome.

"I think this is our revival," said Ed Young, pastor of Second Church of Houston and Pastors' Conference president. "We (pastors) give out so much; we need to be fed."

The main event of the two-day conference will be an evangelistic rally Sunday night in the Superdome, featuring evangelist Billy Graham, entertainers Johnny and June Carter Cash and members of the Graham team.

"We are hoping to have 80,000 people present ... the largest gathering of Southern Baptists in history," Young said, adding that the emphasis will be an "intensive effort in New Orleans to reach the city and to touch all of Louisiana for Christ."

The rally will be coupled with a witnessing and visitation effort on Saturday and Sunday afternoon preceding the rally.

"We are encouraging pastors and their families to come early to be part of this blitz," Young said.

The other groups which meet in advance of the SBC — the Woman's Missionary Union, music, education, directors of missions — will participate in the rally. "We appreciate that they will be meeting earlier so they can take part," Young said.

Young added he hopes the rally and conference "will set the tone" for the SBC, and allow the meeting to "start on a note of what we are about as an evangelistic and missionary body, seeking to touch this world for Christ."

The conference has a theme of "Preaching the Great Texts ... Preaching Great Truths, Building Great Churches."

"I have tried to prepare a spiritual menu of Bible truths, Bible doctrines and Bible principles, based on the great texts," Young said. "I have assigned each of the preachers one of the great texts, and asked them to bring a 25-minute expository sermon on it."

"I think expository preaching is the mood of the hour and we will hear some of our great pastor preachers and evangelistic preachers exegete (explain verse by verse) these texts. I hope it will be a program that will revive the hearts of the pastors and will also be a model for them to preach exegetically," Young said.

"We also want to revive and inspire the pastor to go back home and get into the Book (Bible) and feed their churches," he added.

The Great Texts and their preachers include: The great beginning, by Barry Landrum, pastor of First Church of Bossier City, La.; the great commandment, by O. S. Hawkins, pastor of First Church of Fort Lauderdale, Fla.; the great invitation, by Charles T. Carter, pastor of Shades Crest Church of Birmingham, Ala.;

The great sermon, by Adrian Rogers, a former SBC president and pastor of Belle-

vue Church of Memphis, Tenn.; the great presence, by James T. Draper, pastor of First Church of Euless, Texas; the great promise, by William Tolar, dean of the school of theology at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas;

The great gift, by Bob Werner of First Church of Ferguson in St. Louis, Mo.; the great fellowship, by Zig Ziglar, a motivational specialist from Dallas; the great confession, by Tal Bonham, executive director of the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio;

The great sacrifice, by Franklin Paschall, former president of the SBC, and pastor of First Church of Nashville, Tenn.; the great victory, by Ron Dunn, evangelist and Bible conference teacher from Irving, Texas, and the great commission, by Stephen Olford, an evangelist from Wheaton, Ill.

Music will be under the direction of Gary Moore, minister of music at Second Church in Houston, and will feature evangelistic singers Jeoff Benward and Beverly Terrell from Houston; Martha Branham and Calvin Marsh of Dallas; Willa Dorsey and Cliff Barrows of the Graham team; Mary Rome Foster of Columbia, S.C., and Dennis Agajanian of San Diego, Calif.

Other music will be presented by pianist Steve Lawson of Ruston, La.; the choir of Second Church and Cottage Hill Church of Mobile, Ala.; the Texas All-State Youth Choir, under direction of Lloyd Hawthorne, of Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, and the Texas All-State Youth Band, under direction of Gregg Berry, of Wayland Baptist University in Plainview.

Smith names key committee leaders

DEL CITY, Okla. (BP) — Bailey E. Smith, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, has named Homer G. Lindsey Jr. as chairman of the committee on committees and Norris Sydner Jr. as chairman of the resolutions committee.

Lindsey, a former president of the SBC Pastors' Conference, is pastor of First Church of Jacksonville, Fla., and Sydner is the bivocational pastor of Riverside Church, Oxon Hill, Md., a mission of Seabrook Baptist Church in Seabrook, Md. Proposed resolutions may be sent to Sydner at 10605 Parrish Lane, Mitchellville, Md. 20716.

Sydner also is vice president for development for Booker T. Washington Foundation in Washington, D.C., a research and development organization for minority business enterprise.

Sydner, a black, sees his appointment as a sign of Smith's progressive spirit in the SBC presidency. While he sees no new issues surfacing for the convention, he anticipates

theological issues rising. "It would be wrong to presuppose or speculate what they would be," he said.

Smith announced the appointments in a telephone interview with Baptist Press, but declined to reveal the other members of either committee until the first day of the 1982 annual meeting in New Orleans, June 15.

Earlier, Smith said he "probably" would not announce membership of the two committees. The withholding of the appointments is the second such action in two months. In late March, the Committee on Boards officially voted it would not report its nominees until the first day of the convention. The committee on boards nominates persons to serve as trustees of the SBC institutions and agencies.

"I will not release them (the appointments)," Smith told Baptist Press. "There is no reason I should; I am not required to do so."

Part of his reason for refusing to make

the appointments public is that he did announce them in April 1981, in advance of the annual meeting in Los Angeles, setting off a wave of criticism and controversy. Smith revised both committees in the wake of the furor.

While some persons have said the early announcement allowed for full discussion and contributed to a harmonious meeting, Smith disagrees. "The criticism and all of the ugly things said last year just made my job harder. The discussion did not clear the air; it just muddied the water. Some people took the list of appointments, misprinted it and even put in fictitious names. Some even put in information about people (appointees) that was just not so."

His decision not to release the names this year will "avoid misuse" of the list, he said.

'Witnessing women' WMU meeting theme

NEW ORLEANS (BP) — "Witnessing Women" will be the theme of the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union in their national annual meeting in New Orleans, June 13-14.

The 1.1-million member auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention will be meeting in its traditional slot preceding the convention, but the usual format will be embellished.

The traditional general mass meetings with dramatic features on world missions will be held at 2:30 p.m., Sunday, June 13, and on Monday morning, afternoon and evening, June 14. New features include prayer groups, missions issues conferences and banquets.

The new format for WMU's meeting comes in the first term of Dorothy Elliott Sample's presidency. Sample, a psychologist and educator from Flint, Mich., will be eligible for re-election, as will Mrs. Betty Gilreath of Charlotte, N.C., national recording secretary.

Sample said: "Our meetings have been famous for their missions inspiration. We think that our people want this, but more. This year they will have a chance to get up close to the real issues of missions, and make themselves heard. They will have opportunity for personal fellowship with others in the missions family."

The new features in WMU's meeting:
Hotel setting — All sessions, except a riverboat trip for teenagers, will be at the New Orleans Hilton, the first time WMU has taken its meeting outside an auditorium format.

Missions concerns conferences — At 11:15 a.m., Monday, convention-goers can choose among conferences on 15 critical issues in Baptist missions, led by one or more authorities on each issue. Those in the conference will be asked to frame a resolution of concern for presentation to the general business session.

Missions prayer groups — Activities

Monday will begin at 8 a.m. with 11 prayer groups led by missionaries and international guests.

Age-level focus activities — For the first time, WMU will be staging high-visibility gatherings for its younger members. Baptist Young Women (WMU's organization for women ages 18-29) will have a luncheon and a special program on Monday, and will be featured in the Monday morning general session. Acteens (WMU's organization for girls in grades 7-12) will take a river cruise for dinner Monday afternoon, and will be featured in the Monday evening general session.

Sample said that these activities are being added to "open wider the opportunity for young women to have a part in WMU leadership."

Child care — Nursery facilities and child care for those younger than seventh grade will be provided in the New Orleans Hilton. This service, an adjunct of child care usually provided during the Southern Baptist Convention, is being extended to cover WMU's meeting for the first time.

Women in Ministry — Women, professionally employed in Southern Baptist ministries, will have a dinner meeting Sunday night, featuring a formal presentation by sociologist Sarah Frances Anders, of Louisiana College, Pineville, on the status of women in the SBC. Sara Ann Hobbs, director of missions in the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, will lead a group activity to find out "What Women in Ministry Think."

This is the second time WMU has sponsored a forum for women in church-related vocations. A dinner in 1979 attracted 300 persons.

State meetings — State WMU organizations that make up the national WMU organization have usually had a low profile in the SBC-wide meeting. This time, however, 12 states will hold their own late-night meetings Sunday for business and social

purposes. And 15 state WMU presidents will preside in the missions concerns conferences.

Seminary focus — The six Southern Baptist seminaries will be hosting receptions for their women graduates and other guests in connection with WMU's agenda. The receptions, at the Hilton at 4:30 p.m. Sunday, relate to the observance of the 75th anniversary of Baptist theological education for women.

In 1907, Woman's Missionary Union began sponsorship of the WMU Training School for women in Louisville, Ky. In the early 1960s, after all seminary programs were opened for women, the school was merged into Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Eight of the WMU program personalities are alumnae of the Training School. All alumnae and guests are invited to attend the anniversary reunion at lunch on Monday.

Witnessing Women — The program theme brings 14 women to WMU's general platform to give personal testimonies about their work in evangelism. The speakers include a business executive, a woman who started a church, an ethnic, a laywoman who engineered a massive refugee program, a volunteer missionary, and home and foreign missionaries. The designer of WMU's training program for women in evangelism, Ophelia Humphrey of Amarillo, Texas, will present four mini-workshops on "Ways to Witness."

To broaden the scope of the meeting, WMU has invited leaders of several international WMUs to appear on the program. Akiko Matsumura, former vice-president of the Baptist World Alliance and former president of the WMU of Japan, will teach Bible each general session. The president of WMU of Nigeria, Deborah Dahuni, will be the finale speaker. Both Matsumura and Dahuni are graduates of the WMU Training School. Also, WMU officials of Korea and Japan will attend and be featured.

Shuttle bus system scheduled for SBC

NEW ORLEANS (BP) — Parking will be very limited for the 1982 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in the Louisiana Superdome, according to local arrangements officials, who urge all messengers — especially those staying downtown — to use the New Orleans bus system.

For the morning and afternoon sessions, all adjacent lots and two-thirds of the parking at the Superdome will be used by New Orleans residents who work in the down-

town areas. The entire parking supply will be available only for the evening sessions.

Cost for the parking will vary. Daytime parking — 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. — will be \$2 in the Northwest Garage and \$2.50 in all other garages. Nighttime parking will be \$3 in all garages. The prices do not include in-out privileges.

Space will be available for 70 buses and 30 campers in the Superdome side lot at a cost of \$55 for Sunday-Thursday or \$35 for

Tuesday-Thursday. Permits for bus and camper parking are available through the Baptist Association of Greater New Orleans, 2222 Lakeshore Drive, New Orleans, La. 70122, or by telephone at 504-282-1428.

The camper/bus permits provide in-out privileges, but overnight parking is prohibited. The permits, available first-come, first-served, become valid at 5 p.m. Sunday, June 13.

According to local arrangements offi-

cials, messengers may use the shuttle bus system in the downtown area. A map of the routes will be included in messenger packets. Cost of the ride is 20 cents, and the buses run every eight minutes from 6:30 a.m. to 7:15 p.m.

A night shuttle service will be provided on Tuesday and Wednesday only, at a cost of 50 cents per ride. The buses will run from 9 to 10:30 p.m.

Regular bus service also is available to messengers, particularly those lodging on Tulane Ave. Buses run every 15 minutes from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. and cost 40 cents per ride.

For airport transportation, buses run on a variable schedule to the New Orleans airport at a cost of 65 cents one way.

Taxis are available for a 90-cent drop charge and 80 cents per mile. The charge airport to downtown is \$18.25 for up to three persons, or \$6 per person for four or more.

Camping, large group housing may be open

NEW ORLEANS (BP) — Two more housing opportunities are available for Southern Baptists planning to attend the annual meeting June 15-17 in New Orleans.

Although space among hotels cooperating with the convention housing bureau is long gone, three local universities and the YMCA have large-group space available. Also, there are four campgrounds within 20 minutes of the Louisiana Superdome, site of the meeting.

Persons still wishing accommodations for large groups should contact Blake Touchstone, Tulane University, 504-865-5426; Monica McClure, University of New Orleans, 504-286-6585; Manny Kinard, Loyola University, 504-865-3622; or Loraine Hoffman, YMCA, 800-568-9622.

There is no on-site overnight camping at the Superdome. Four nearby campgrounds and reservation telephone numbers are: Park D'Orleans I, 504-241-3167; Parc D'Orleans II, 504-242-6176; New Orleans Travel Park, 504-242-7795; and New Orleans West KOA, 504-467-1792. A fifth campground, New Orleans East KOA, is within 35 minutes of the Superdome, phone 504-643-3850.

Missions day camp slated for SBC

The Brotherhood Commission, in cooperation with the Brotherhood Department of the Louisiana Baptist Convention, and the New Orleans Baptist Association, will again sponsor a missions day camp during SBC day sessions in New Orleans.

Girls and boys who have been in grades

1-6 during the current year may register for the camp which will be at Audubon Park-land Zoo, about eight miles from the Superdome.

Registration for Day Camp will open Monday June 14, at the Missions Day Camp booth in the registration lobby at the Convention Center. Parents may leave their children at a designated place within the Convention Center beginning Tuesday morning. The campers are to be picked up at the close of the morning session on Wednesday and the close of the afternoon sessions on Tuesday and Thursday.

The camp cost is \$5 per person per day — or \$15 for three days for one child. For two children in a family the cost will be \$25 for three days and \$45 for three days for three children in one family. The cost covers insurance, supplies two noon lunches, the charge for the camp site and transportation between the Convention Center and the camp site.

This is the ninth year the Missions Day Camp has been provided for boys and girls while their parents attend the Southern Baptist Convention. This year the Day Camp will be under the direction of Reverend Jimmy Autry, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Westwego, La. Karl Bozeman, Director of Crusader Royal Ambassador Services, Brotherhood Commission, will give general supervision to the program.

Convention child care director asks children be pre-enrolled

NEW ORLEANS (BP) — Janet Kemp, child care director for the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in New Orleans, is offering a discount to parents who pre-register their children.

Child care rates for the convention June 15-17 and its related meetings are discounted as much as \$4 per day for children registered by May 31.

Kemp, director of the preschool education center for New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, will return a registration form to each parent who writes her at the seminary, 3939 Gentilly Blvd., New Orleans, La., 70126. One form is required for each child and the request must be postmarked by May 31.

Rates vary session to session and day to day. Because of the special evangelism events this year, child care will be provided early, beginning with the Sunday afternoon witnessing blitz. Child care for that event will be at the Superdome and will cost \$4 per child, if pre-registered, \$6 at the door.

Child care during the Billy Graham rally that evening is at the Superdome for \$4 if pre-registered, \$6 at the door.

Child care for parents attending the Woman's Missionary Union June 13-14 will be available at the Hilton Hotel, site of the meeting, for \$4 June 13 and \$8 June 14. Prices at the door are \$6 and \$12. Lunch Monday is \$5.

Daily costs for child care during convention sessions Tuesday through Thursday will be \$8 per pre-registered child, regardless of the number of daily sessions involved. Daily cost per child after May 31 will be \$12.

Child care facilities will open 30 minutes before each session and remain open for 30 after the session closes. Keep emphasizes that no local children will be accepted for care.

Child care is limited to children who have not entered first grade.

Hunger concert at SBC to feature Nutt, Clawson

NEW ORLEANS, La. (BP) — A world hunger benefit concert featuring Christian humorist Grady Nutt and Dove Award winner Cynthia Clawson will be held after the evening session of the Southern Baptist Convention in New Orleans June 15.

Billed as "a celebration of commitment," the concert also will feature recording artist Gary Rand, Bob and Jan Salley, gospel duet and founders of World Hunger Relief, Inc.; and Darrell Adams, composer and artist of "God! What a World."

The concert, to be in the chapel at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, is sponsored by SEEDS an Atlanta-based magazine and educational ministry by Southern Baptists concerned about hunger. Concert co-sponsors are St. Charles Avenue Baptist Church in New Orleans and the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Hunger Committee.

Nutt, self-styled "prime minister of humor," is a regular cast member of the syndicated television program "Hee Haw." Clawson, voted gospel music's top female vocalist at the 1981 Dove Awards ceremony for the second consecutive year, also won a Grammy in February.

Ken Sehested, director of program for SEEDS, reported all donations from the concert will go to the hunger relief funds of the Home and Foreign Mission Boards of the Southern Baptist Convention. The artists have agreed to donate their time and travel expenses.

Free transportation from the Superdome will be provided to the concert. Buses will shuttle back and forth approximately every 20 minutes.

An earlier concert is scheduled at 7 p.m. for New Orleans area Baptists and is open to the public, Sehested said.

Ministers' wives to meet

The 27th annual luncheon of the Conference of Ministers' Wives will be held in conjunction with the Southern Baptist Convention at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in New Orleans, Tuesday, June 15, at 12:00.

Reservations may be made in advance by sending a check for \$11, payable to the Conference of Ministers' Wives, to Geraldine Adams, Route 4, Box 345-15, Texarkana, Arkansas 75502. Tickets are to be picked up at the Advance Reservations Table in the Superdome.

Tickets purchased at the convention will be \$12. However, seating is limited and advance reservations are strongly recommended. No reservations after May 31.

The theme of the luncheon this year is "A tribute to the minister's wife." The keynote speaker, Gladys Lewis, is a former medical missionary to Paraguay, a free lance writer, and is noted for her humorous truthfulness.

Religious educators focus on faith, unity, mission

NEW ORLEANS (BP) — Faith, unity and mission will be the focus of the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Religious Educators Association, June 13-14, in the New Orleans Marriott Hotel.

The meeting is one of several related meetings preceding the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-17, in the Louisiana Superdome.

"We will be focusing on the practical aspects of religious education," said Charles Gwaltney, SBREA president and minister of education at First Church of Baton Rouge, La.

"We felt there was the need to have a program that would focus on the ministry of religious education, and thus we have broken it down into separate sections on faith development, staff unity and the continuing mission of religious educators," he added.

The association will cooperate with the SBC Pastors' Conference and the SBC Order of Business Committee by participating in an evangelistic rally in the Superdome on Sunday, June 13. The rally will feature Billy Graham as main speaker.

"We chose to go along with the programming and include participation in the evangelistic rally," Gwaltney said. "We normally start our program on Sunday evening, and had already completed the programming when they contacted us about participating (in the rally)."

"We regret the circumstances, but we rearranged our programming. We feel the effort (rally) is a good effort and we are cooperating," he added.

The first session of SBREA will center on faith development and will deal with the growth of the faith of individual religious educators, Gwaltney said.

The second session will concern staff unity, because for a subordinate staff person "one of the greatest problems faced is that of staff unity," Gwaltney said, adding that pressures from this direction are "extreme on the religious educator."

"We are planning to have audience participation, and will have presentations by professional guidance people, religious educators and a pastor," he added.

The concluding session will feature a "celebration of worship and inspiration," in which ministers of education will give personal testimonies about God's activities in their lives.

"They will not be giving church growth statistics, but will be giving very personal testimonies about God's leadership in their lives," he said.

During the annual SBREA luncheon at noon Monday, the association will make distinguished leadership awards, to retired educators who have made significant contributions to RE work.

"The awards were started two years ago, and during the previous years, only one award was made each year. This year we concluded we needed to increase the number of presentations until we have caught up with those who are deserving of the awards. We probably will have five awards," Gwaltney said.

Conference of evangelists to honor seventeen veterans

NEW ORLEANS (BP) — Seventeen veteran Southern Baptist evangelists will be honored during the annual meeting of the Conference of Southern Baptist Evangelists (CSBE) June 16.

The veteran evangelists, to be honored during a 6 p.m. banquet in the Hilton Hotel, include Sam Allen, Lubbock, Texas; Hyman Appleman, Kansas City, Mo.; Porter Barrington, Thousand Oaks, Calif.; Clifton Brannon, Longview, Texas; G. P. Comer, Dallas; E. J. Daniel, Orlando, Fla.; Eddie Lieberman, Greenville, S.C.;

Also, Eddie Martin, Lancaster, Pa.; Angel Martinez, Fort Smith, Ark.; Percy Ray, Myrtle, Miss.; Jack Stanton, Bolivar, Mo.; Steve Taylor, Greenville, S.C.; John Tierney, Greenville, S.C.; J. Oscar Wells, Bethany, Okla., and Grady Wilson, Montreat, N.C.

The veterans will be presented with a plaque of appreciation and a color photograph of themselves and denominational leaders, including SBC President Bailey E. Smith.

Bobby Sunderland, director of mass

evangelism at the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, and Stan Coffey, pastor of First Baptist Church of Albuquerque, N.M., will emcee the banquet.

The general session of the CSBE will be from 12:30 to 5:30 p.m., and will include addresses by evangelists Larry Taylor of San Antonio, Texas; Manley Beasley of Eufaula, Texas; James Robison of Hurst, Texas, and J. Harold Smith of Orlando, Fla.

Also to participate are Darrell Robinson, pastor of Dauphin Way Baptist Church of Mobile, Ala.; Adrian Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church of Memphis, Tenn., and past president of the SBC, and Paige Patterson, president of the Criswell Center for Biblical Studies in Dallas.

Directors of mission feature skills development program

NEW ORLEANS (BP) — Skills development and the sharing of key ideas will be featured in the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Conference of Directors of Missions, June 13-14 at the Gateway Hotel in New Orleans.

"We are trying to make this a skills development time," said Cline W. Borders, president of the conference. "We want this to be something the director of missions can participate in and go away with new ideas which will speak to some of the frustrations he is having."

Borders, who is director of missions for the Kings Mountain Baptist Association, said the program comes out of his having had the opportunity to talk with a number of his peers. "This gave me a feel for the frustrations the men are having and some of the problems they are facing."

The program includes such ideas as the abbreviated church letter, World Missions Conferences, establishment of a youth corps, saturation evangelism, new work, the format of the annual associational meeting and training for pastors.

Golden Gate SBC luncheon tickets on sale

MILL VALLEY, Calif. — The Annual Meeting and Luncheon of the Golden Gate Seminary Alumni Association will be held in the Hyatt Regency Hotel, New Orleans, Wednesday, June 16, at 12:30 p.m.

The hotel is adjacent to the Louisiana Superdome where the Southern Baptist Convention will meet.

Tickets for the luncheon purchased before June 1 will cost \$9. After that, tickets will be \$11 per person.

Added to this year's Seminary activities at the SBC will be a reception honoring all women alumni and guests on Sunday, June

13, from 4:30 to 5:45 p.m. in the Belle Chasse Room of the New Orleans Hilton Hotel. Guest speaker will be Mrs. A. Harrison Gregory, president of Women's Missionary Union of the Southern Baptist Convention.

To order tickets for the annual meeting and luncheon or to make reservations for the Alumnae Reception, contact Larry C. Baker, Vice President for Alumni Relations, Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, California 94941.

The reduced price of the luncheon is made possible through grants from Broadman and Baptist Book Stores.

Southern Seminary hosts luncheon at convention

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — The annual reunion luncheon for alumni and friends of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary will be held Wednesday, June 16, during the Southern Baptist Convention in New Orleans.

The luncheon, which will include an address by new seminary president Roy L. Honeycutt, begins at 1 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom at the New Orleans Marriott Hotel. Altus Newell, pastor of St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville and national alumni association president for the semi-

nary, will preside at the meeting.

Tickets may be ordered in advance from the seminary by sending \$9 per ticket with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Alumni Reunion Tickets, Southern Seminary, Louisville, KY 40280. Tickets ordered after May 20 will be \$15 each.

Music ministers explore ministry of instrumental

NEW ORLEANS (BP) — A wide array of church music, much of it instrumental, will greet participants in the annual Southern Baptist Church Music Conference June 13-14 at First Church in New Orleans.

The conference is one of several adjunct meetings to the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting, held June 15-17 at the Louisiana Superdome.

The meeting's theme Reaching People Through Instrumental Music, is adopted from a similar theme of the Baptist Sunday School Board church music department. It will be played in New Orleans with organ, piano and brass combinations.

Traditional voice concerts will also be in abundant supply with presentations by the Centurymen; Paducah Boys Choir; the youth choir of Bellevue Baptist Church,

Memphis, Tenn.; Texas Baptist All State Band and Choir; Louisiana Baptist College Choir; William Carey College Choir and others.

The annual commissioned work, this year "Sing Unto the Lord" by Jack Dean, retired professor from Hardin-Simmons University, will be performed at 1:45 p.m., June 14, by the Texas Baptist All State Band and Choir.

"We have two strong worship leaders in Don Burke, pastor of Greenwich Baptist Church, Greenwich, Conn., and Doug Smith, music minister at Highland Baptist Church, Louisville, Ky.," said Al Washburn, conference president.

Washburn, chairman of the church music division at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, said the conference will adopt a revised list of objectives. Primary, he said, are goals for spiritual and musical renewal, and for conference members to be more creative ministers-musicians.

A pre-conference hymnody symposium at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary begins at 10 a.m. June 12 and continues until 4 p.m. Washburn says the symposium is open to all.

Twenty-five to 30 exhibits from music publishers, robe manufacturers and bookstores will be set up in the church gymnasium.

Graham appearance to highlight SBC, Pleitz predicts

by Erwin L. McDonald

An appearance of evangelist Billy Graham in New Orleans just ahead of the opening of the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention is likely to prove the highlight of the week, James L. Pleitz, pastor of Park Cities Church in Dallas, and prominent Southern Baptist leader, said here last week, in an interview.



Pleitz

Graham will be speaking in the Louisiana Superdome in a service Sunday night, June 13, at 8 p.m. under the sponsorship of the Southern Baptist Convention Pastors Conference.

"Pleitz, here for a revival at Park Hill Church in North Little Rock, said Graham would be back from his "controversial" speaking mission to Russia, and "Southern Baptists will be most eager to hear him." He predicted that the 80,000-capacity Superdome might be filled to capacity.

"Dr. Graham has become quite involved in the last few years about this matter of seeking peace," Pleitz said. "His stand has been clear. I think he has tried to avoid controversy. The world we live in is a tinder box. We are going to have to learn how to live with people."

Ranking second in importance only to the Graham service will be the election of a new president of the convention, Pleitz predicted. Asked if he expected to be nominated for the position, he said he did not. Among those prominently mentioned, he said, is James Draper, pastor of First Church of Irving, Texas. He said Draper "would have the blessing of the people who have been very much involved in the election of Bailey Smith," the retiring SBC president. He added, "Draper would have their endorsement."

Others expected to be nominated, Pleitz said, include Ed Young, president of the SBC Pastors Conference and pastor of Houston Second Church; Perry Sanders, pastor of First Church of Lafayette, La.; and Duke K. McCall, retired president of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

Pleitz expressed hope that the convention will elect as president "somebody who can pull us back together and sound a positive note." He added that Southern Baptists "have had enough witch hunting," referring to charges of liberalism some have hurled at SBC seminaries.

"I feel that I know as many pastors as anybody," Pleitz said, "and I don't know a liberal anywhere. I don't know a preacher anywhere in the Southern Baptist Convention who doesn't believe the Bible and the great doctrines of the faith."

Pleitz said "a lot of good things are happening in our denomination. Many of our churches are doing a better job of winning people to Jesus than ever before. And our people are doing a fair job of monetary support of our church ministries. We are no longer waiting for the hired staff to do all that's done."

One of the greatest developments in Southern Baptist churches in recent years, Pleitz said, is that more and more of our people are going at their own expense to serve as volunteer missionaries.

Erwin L. McDonald is editor emeritus of the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine.

Church messenger, be responsible

by Larry L. McSwain

One of the greatest privileges a Southern Baptist has is to be elected by a local church to serve as a messenger to the Southern Baptist Convention. The SBC is the largest and most democratic denomination in the world. Every SBC church has the opportunity of participating in the denomination's business. This guarantees Southern Baptists will not be controlled by a select few from either the right or the left.

I am a member of a church from which more members attend the annual convention than the maximum of 10 messengers. So, I have attended some conventions in which I had no vote. What a helpless feeling not to be able to share in response to God's leading as important decisions are made! But I support limiting the number of messengers even the largest churches can elect so we can maintain fairness for all our churches.

We Southern Baptists do have a critical problem, however. The privilege of service as a messenger is being abused by irresponsibility among a few churches and individuals. If something is not done to restore integrity to this important role, we may discover in future years we have lost the democracy we so value. We need a new covenant of responsibility from both churches and the messengers they elect if we are to work together as God's people in a meaningful way.

What are the abuses? The worst abuse is messengers who do not participate. Hundreds of elected messengers every year go to the convention to enjoy a vacation or attend only one session. Often the church has shared in the expenses of the trip. But these messengers attend few sessions and never vote on a critical issue. Something is wrong when 85% of the messengers vote on who will be president of the SBC but only 25% vote on the more crucial issues of the convention. Something is wrong when hundreds drive in as a part of a political movement only to elect their candidate for a particular office. Something is wrong when children who do not understand what they are doing serve as messengers and provide their parents a "double" vote, even though the constitution allows such to happen. Something is wrong when a messenger leaves the proceedings and gives his ballots to someone else to cast. Something is wrong when so-called "leaders" are elected as messengers of churches in which they are not a member. Something is wrong when non-Southern Baptist groups pass out their literature attempting to influence convention decisions. Can anything be done? Yes.

First, the church must be responsible. The church should elect only those who wish to serve as SBC messengers and only those who will be responsible. This means

no one but the church itself should decide who will be messenger. It is a poor practice for the pastor or other leaders to select messengers for the church. Only members should be elected. Only those who are planning to attend all convention sessions should be elected. Only those members willing to become informed about the denomination's work and willing to pray about their vote should be elected.

The church must be responsible for securing the necessary messenger cards and filling them out correctly for those duly elected as messengers.

Second, elected messengers must be responsible. No Southern Baptist should allow oneself to be elected as a messenger by any church in which he or she is not a member in good standing. A messenger should plan to attend as many of the sessions as possible. A copy of the *Book of Reports* should be secured and studied so as to be well informed on the matters of business at hand. Every messenger should pray daily before and during the convention to know the mind of Christ in the matters to be decided. No messenger should ever ask another to cast his/her ballot. If forced to leave the convention, a messenger should destroy the remaining ballots.

Third, the convention must be responsible. Superb work is now being done by the Credentials Committee and the Registration Secretary to insure fairness and correctness in procedure. But more can be done. If the abuses continue, the convention should pass a by-law requiring churches to certify their messengers six weeks prior to the SBC. Messenger cards would then be sent directly to the elected individuals. Unethical behavior should be openly publicized and messengers freely report the abuses they observe. Each person speaking to an issue should clearly identify the church of which he/she is a messenger. The period of registration of messengers should be closed at the beginning of the convention so as to guard against group assaults on "single issues" confronting the convention. The election of the President should be scheduled near the end of the sessions as the culmination of the week's work and voting limited to those who have participated in the total work of the convention sessions.

You may not agree with all of these suggestions. Surely all of us, however, can agree that God is best honored in our convention by the most serious deliberation conducted by prayerful people serving as responsible messengers.

Larry L. McSwain is associate professor of church and community at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary at Louisville, Kentucky.

auxiliary meetings

Campus ministers meet to examine opportunities

NEW ORLEANS (BP) — The Association of Southern Baptist Campus Ministers will look at the trends and opportunities for campus ministries when it meets in New Orleans June 13-14.

The association is one of several groups which will meet in advance of the 1982 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-17 in the Louisiana Superdome.

The campus ministers will meet at St. Mary's Dominican College, beginning at 1:30 p.m. Sunday and will continue through a 7 p.m. banquet Monday, June 14.

"We are trying to look at the trends which will be facing us in campus ministry," said Skip Noble Jr., campus minister at Louisiana State University at Shreveport, and program vice president of the ASBMC.

Key speakers will include Pope Duncan, president of Stetson University in Deland, Fla., and Bill Clohan, who recently resigned as undersecretary of the Department of Education in the Reagan administration.

Duncan will address the ministers on the needs for ministering to faculty and "possible future areas of positive and negative tension between campus ministry and academia." Clohan will discuss the "case for separation of church and state in higher education."

"There will be a dialogue portion and we hope the speakers will be able to field a lot of questions on the legal aspects of campus ministry as well as on the economic aspects of the Reagan administration," Noble said.

Also scheduled to speak is Howard Foshee, director of the division of Christian development at the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville, Tenn., who will discuss the future directions of National Student Ministries, which is part of the BSSB.

Baptist Men's Fellowship breakfast set for SBC

NEW ORLEANS (BP) — The Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission will host a Baptist Men's Fellowship breakfast June 16, prior to the morning session of the Southern Baptist Convention.

More than 200 men are expected to attend the breakfast which begins at 7 a.m. at Gentilly Church, 5141 Franklin St. Testimonies from active Baptist Men, inspiration and recognitions are planned for the breakfast.

Royal Ambassadors who have earned the National Service Award will be individually recognized. The Service Award represents at least 750 hours of service performed in ministry and worship projects.

**Bold
Mission
Thrust**
ACTS 1:8



1982-85

- Reaching people
- Developing believers
- Strengthening families

Arkansas launches Bold Mission Thrust with State Church Growth Thrust Conference

The recent State Church Growth Thrust Conference held at Park Hill Church in North Little Rock was attended by over 270 persons from 38 Arkansas associations. This conference was the first major step in the launch of Arkansas' strategy for Bold Mission Thrust 1982-85. These teams received training and program information to equip them to conduct Associational Church Growth Workshops this summer.

Included on these associational teams were the director of missions or moderator, the associational Sunday School, Church Training, WMU, Brotherhood, and Music directors and the associational chairmen of evangelism, stewardship, and missions. Some associations were also represented by a pastoral ministries leader. These persons will lead conferences during their Associational Church Growth Workshops. They will interpret materials and approaches to help churches as they plan to implement the three major Bold Mission Thrust emphases — (1) reaching people, (2) developing believers, and (3) strengthening families.

The Associational Church Growth Workshop

The Associational Church Growth Workshop is a key element in the plan to involve every church in Arkansas. It is in this workshop that church leaders will receive information, inspiration and practical helps for leading their churches to become involved in the Church Growth Emphasis. In this workshop, for the first time, many will discover that every church can and must become a part of Bold Mission Thrust and that this means strengthening our witness and ministry at home, as well as around the world.

The key church leaders who should attend the Associational Church Growth Workshop include the pastor, church staff, Sunday School, Church Training, WMU, Brotherhood, and music directors and the chairmen of the church missions, stewardship, and evangelism committees. Most associations will schedule this meeting in June, July or August. The schedule and length of the workshop will vary, but most will conduct a two-night workshop. Consult your associational office for the date(s), time and location of your Associational Church Growth Workshop and get your key leaders committed to attend.

The Spiritual Directions Weekend

The primary action for helping the church prepare for growth is the Spiritual Directions Weekend. This event, or series of events, is designed to prepare the church spiritually and emotionally for growth. It is suggested that it be conducted in August or September. It should be scheduled after the Associational Church Growth Workshop. The church's key leaders need the training provided at the associational workshop in preparation for their planning together.

The suggested schedule for the Spiritual Directions Weekend includes a Friday night, Saturday morning and Sunday. The biblical foundations for growth and practical approaches to growth are set forth in these sessions with key leaders and with the entire congregation on Sunday.

The *Pastor's Manual* (pp. 6-10) sets forth detailed planning helps. Pastors will receive additional help in the pastor's conference at their Associational Church Growth Workshop.

(Reaching People, The Pastor's Manual for Church Growth, 1982-85) has been mailed to all pastors in our state. The manual provides help for planning and conducting the Spiritual Directions Weekend. It also contains detailed helps for implementing the 8.5 Sunday School Growth Emphasis, the Bold New Work Emphasis and the Bold Witness Training Emphasis. It introduces the Developing Believers and Strengthening Families Emphases also.

Additional copies of the *Pastor's Manual* may be purchased through the Baptist Book Store and associations may buy them at a special price.)

Church Growth Thrust objectives 1982-85

(A three year implementation of Bold Mission Thrust)

1. Increase Sunday School enrollment and attendance
2. Increase baptisms
3. Start new work — Sunday Schools and churches
4. Increase percent of budget for: Cooperative Program, and associational missions
5. Increase career missionaries and mission volunteers
6. Increase members trained to witness
7. Increase enrollment in discipleship doctrine training through Church Training
8. Every church involved in prayer support of Bold Mission Thrust
9. Increase member involvement in missions and stewardship
10. Increase emphasis on building Christian homes (through family worship, marriage enrichment and parenting skills)

Here's help for church planning

• *The Church Planning Guide* designed for use by Arkansas churches has been mailed to all pastors and church staff members. This *Planning Guide* is designed to help churches set their own goals related to reaching people, developing believers, and strengthening families. It suggests projects and actions that will enable a church to reach its goals. It also lists a wide range of conferences, workshops and resources provided by the State Convention to help churches reach their goals. A calendar planning section is provided to guide the church in planning its 1983 church calendar.

Mission accomplished for Arkansas construction team

An air-dental ministry in remote Maun, Botswana, providing dentistry, health and nutritional education, evangelism, Bible study, discipleship training and church development, when it gets in full swing in the African nation, will have four Arkansas men to thank.

A four-man construction team from Benton made the most of 10 working days to complete phase two of a sizeable building project which will aid missionary dentist Stephen "Pete" Baer and missionary pilot Randy Sprinkle in reaching outlying villages from a central location in Maun.

The Arkansans, Louis Irby and Jerry Dixon, both of Benton First; Gary Welchman of Highland Heights and Marty Sharp of Temple Church, completed a 21-by-14-foot building begun by a seven-man team from Oklahoma in February, roofing, wiring, plumbing, painting, building cabinets and doing interior and exterior finishing on

by Bob Allen

a dental lab and storeroom.

The men were sponsored for the trip by their churches after the need was brought to their attention by Dr. James Sawyer, a Benton dentist and member of the Foreign Mission Board. Back in Benton after the trip, the volunteers were as excited about participating as they had been before going.

"I never expected to fulfill the last part of the Great Commission myself," Irby, 64, a retired signal maintainer for the Missouri-Pacific Railroad said. Irby had been on three summer mission trips to various parts of the U.S., but the opportunity to travel to the "ends of the earth" was an added dimension to make this experience memorable.

Welchman described "an appreciation to God for calling us to have a part in his work. What a blessing we gain just by allowing him to work through us." Welch-

man, 29, is a draftsman by trade.

Dixon, former minister of youth and recreation at Benton First, was in Brazil for 10 weeks last summer, and said the trip to Maun reinforced an already-burning zeal for mission work in his own life. "It definitely does bring you closer to missions," he said.

Along with the opportunity to learn about African culture and to see the work going on there, the men felt good about being able to devote 10 days of solid, nonstop Christian service. They say they hope their story will spark interest in other churches to sponsor similar trips for volunteer missionaries.

"I think there's a tremendous need for volunteers from all walks of life," Dixon said. "The missionaries are begging for them in all countries. There's just tons of work out there to be done in all fields."

History forgotten as 'wall' falls between church, state

RALEIGH, N.C. (BP) — Baptists cannot have both freedom and special privilege from the state, says James Dunn, and those who want both are embracing doctrines long resisted.

Dunn, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs in Washington, D.C., addressed about 100 participants in the North Carolina Christian Life Commission church-state conference.

"They want no government intervention, but they'd like prayer in the public schools and tax credits for children in parochial schools," Dunn said. "We cannot have it both ways."

"Listen to the first person singular pronouns in the diatribes of television preachers," he said. "Hear their appeals to their own narrow experience as authority. Recognize that what they want is not a free nation but a theocracy, and each of them would like to be Thea."

Bill Elder, who began the Christian Citizenship Corps when he was with the Southern Baptist Convention's Christian Life Commission, said "too many well-intentioned Southern Baptists are being lured into the Right Wing fold for lack of an alternative."

He said Jerry Falwell did "remarkably well" in obtaining extensive funding for his

Moral Majority organization and admitted that far more Southern Baptists "were attracted to Moral Majority than was the case with our own denominational mechanism, the Christian Citizenship Corps. That should not be."

Elder, pastor of St. Charles Church in New Orleans, La., said when Southern Baptists embrace their own mechanisms for expressing Christian citizenship, then Right Wing para-churches will face "organizational and financial trauma."

Elder urged conference participants to work on behalf of Christian Citizenship on at least three levels:

—Rather than provide the Religious Right with any more attention and clout by painting them as the enemy, "We need to be assisting our people in discerning and eschewing civil religion, inauthentic discipleship, and those factors which undermine religious liberty."

—To step up efforts to channel and give legitimate expression to the political commitments of Southern Baptists by providing "alternative action networks."

—To find ways to "sensitize our people to biblically prioritized human values. We need to do some fresh thinking about how to speak persuasively, powerfully, and ethically to the widespread anxieties as to economic and military security."

Court limits cities' power over church fund-raising

WASHINGTON, D.C. (BP) — City officials may not decide which church activities are spiritual and which are secular in regulating solicitation of funds, the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled.

The 7-2 court action affirming two lower federal courts, struck down an Albuquerque, N.M., ordinance empowering city officials to forbid charitable solicitation un-

less numerous requirements were met.

Among other provisions, the Albuquerque law set up a solicitations review board to issue permits after it determined if the cost of solicitation would exceed 30 percent of the gross amount to be raised, if advertising material and promotional plans were false, misleading or deceptive, and if

Jameson to Southwestern, to direct news service

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Norman Jameson, Baptist Press feature editor since 1977, will become assistant director of news and information services at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, effective July 1.

Jameson, 29, will coordinate all news and information services at Southwestern. The newly created position is in the office of public affairs, directed by John E. Seelig. Jameson, a Wisconsin native, came to Baptist Press from Colorado Springs, Colo., where he was religion editor of the Gazette-Telegraph. He is a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University.

He has won awards in Baptist Public Relations Association and Religious Public Relations Council writing competitions. His coverage of the damage left by Hurricanes David and Frederick in the Caribbean in 1979 won five awards.

"Norman Jameson has done outstanding work as feature editor of Baptist Press," said Wilmer C. Fields, director of the news service. "We commend him for wanting to add theological education to his training and experience in journalism. This new post will allow him to be a student, as well as a professional staff member, for Southwestern Seminary."

the organization or its officers had been convicted of a crime involving charitable solicitation within the past 10 years.

Exempted were solicitations by religious organizations when the review board determined that they were "solely for evangelical, missionary, or religious but not secular purposes."

Christian Life Council

The talking leaves of Pope County

George Guess (Gist) is best remembered as Sequoyah, noted leader among the Cherokees.

Born and raised in the shadow of Lookout Mountain in south-central Tennessee, young George's mother was a full-blooded Cherokee. Along with others, he early marveled at the white man's ability to "talk on paper."

Challenged and without formal education, the young Cherokee labored for 18 years (1809-1821) putting his language on paper. Upon completion, he had used 85 symbols representing sounds in the Cherokee language.

Stewardship

Bold Mission encounter carries two objectives

The objectives of Bold Mission Encounter are: "To develop Southern Baptists' stewardship awareness for Bold Mission Thrust; and to increase members' giving through the local church and church gifts to support mission ministries."

Ashley County Baptists got a head start on Bold Mission Encounter when 17 laymen were trained as presenters on April 13.

Norman Lewis, director of missions, and Dan Webb, stewardship chairman, presented Bold Mission Encounter to the executive board. With enthusiasm, the board accepted the proposal and directed that a lay presenter be selected for each church in the association.

The presenters were trained in giving their stewardship testi-

Third Century Campaign

'We found our directions'

I support the BSU very strongly and want the Third Century Campaign to succeed because my wife and I found our direction for overseas Christian service through the BSU. While a senior at the University of Central Arkansas at Conway I met missionary Bill Bullington from Togo when he spoke to a noon luncheon at the BSU. Through him, I learned of the missionary Journeyman program, which offered the opportunity to serve in mission work for a period of two years before continuing in seminary and graduate school in preparation for their ministry.

During our two years in Kenya, Edith and I began to see the



Jenkins

Sequoyah began his monumental work in Tennessee. For all practical purposes it was completed after he had moved with other Cherokees in 1819 to present day Pope County, Arkansas. Many Cherokees, then and now, have come to know Jesus as Savior and Lord as a result of his talking to them on paper.

God in Christ continues talking to man. The Old and New Testaments are the very best compilation of his talking leaves.

We should all listen carefully to him as he talks to our hearts. His instructions are clear and we must all comply for salvation and the truly abundant life. — Bob Parker, director

monies, associational ministries and Cooperative Program ministries.

On April 18, Cooperative Program Day, the presenters went into the churches during the morning worship hour. Eighteen of the 20 associational churches are participating in Bold Mission Encounter.

Lewis and Webb praised the efforts of the lay presenters and have received excellent reports from the churches.

About half of the state's associations have scheduled training sessions during 1982. Others are set for 1983. — James A. Walker, director

reality of mission service and the possibility that we too could be career missionaries. After our return to the United States, our sense of call and events in our lives indicated that Kenya would be our place of ministry. We are now serving our second term as career missionaries. Through our experience here as Journeyman and our further study in language and culture, the Lord has led us to work in language and orientation for new missionaries coming to East Africa. We enjoy the African people and find their culture fascinating, and are thrilled to have a part in the growth and development of African Christians and African churches, who will also send missionaries to areas without the gospel.

BSU must continue to minister and the Third Century Campaign must succeed so that other young people may find direction for their lives in Christian service. — Orville Boyd Jenkins, graduate of UCA and Southern Baptist Missionary to Kenya

April Cooperative Program continues rampant pace

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — April mission gifts through Southern Baptists' national Cooperative Program continued a fiscal-year trend that surpasses all budget projections.

April's undesignated total of \$7,847,634 surpasses April 1981 by \$1.5 million, a 23.1 percent increase. Receipts for the first seven months of the fiscal year are \$54,839,170, nearly \$7.5 million or 15.8 percent ahead of the same period last year.

The rate of increase is twice that of the current inflation rate.

Designated giving also continued strongly. In April, Southern Baptists designated \$6,139,375 for national convention causes, an increase of 11.2 percent over April 1981. For the year, designated gifts are \$58,189,661, or 13.8 percent ahead of the same period last year.

Total designated and undesignated gifts forwarded by 34 Baptist state conventions to the national work of the Southern Baptist Convention in the first seven months of the 1981-82 fiscal year are \$113,028,831, an increase of \$14.5 million, or 14.8 percent.

Tokyo church launches 13 fellowships

TOKYO, Japan — Tokyo Church began 13 new home fellowship groups in March. Directed by lay church members, most of the groups will focus on Bible study, but several aim to start new churches in the city. House churches increasingly appear in crowded urban Japan, where land and buildings come at a premium. Southern Baptist missionary Richard Horn of Texas leads Tokyo church, which sponsors worship services in English and Japanese and a variety of weekday ministries.

Dunn challenges Reagan on school prayer amendment

by Stan Hasty

WASHINGTON (BP) — Baptists' chief church-state spokesman has condemned President Reagan's call for a constitutional amendment on public school prayer as "despicable demagoguery."

James M. Dunn, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs in Washington, reacted to Reagan's May 6 announcement asking Congress to pass the amendment. The President's appeal for the measure came during a Rose Garden ceremony held on this year's National Day of Prayer.

In a statement released to the press, Dunn declared: "It is despicable demagoguery for the President to play petty politics with prayer. He knows that the Supreme Court has never banned prayer in schools. It can't. Real prayer is always free."

Dunn said in spite of public misunderstanding of what the high court decided in its landmark 1962 and 1963 rulings outlawing state-sponsored devotional exercises in public schools, Reagan knows better. "He knows that the court in those prayer rulings affirmed and encouraged studies about religion in public school classrooms," Dunn

said. "What the court has done is protect religious liberty."

Noting that most religious bodies "have steadfastly supported" the rulings, Dunn said the Baptist Joint Committee, which works for 27 million U.S. Baptists; the National Council of Churches, encompassing 40 million mainline Christians; and every national Jewish organization have consistently opposed "compelled ritual."

Increasing religious pluralism all over the nation, Dunn added, argues against a constitutional amendment which would have the effect of placing decision-making power on prayer in schools in state legislatures and local school districts.

"Do we really want to turn the regulation of religious exercise over to state houses and school boards in diverse places such as Utah, Hawaii, Alabama and New York?" Dunn asked. "I say 'Never!'"

The President, Dunn said, "is being deliberately dishonest" by joining those who have misinterpreted the high court's position.

Although repeated efforts have been made for the past two decades to reverse

the effect of the school prayer rulings through a constitutional amendment, all have thus far failed. The closest opponents of the decisions came was in 1971, when the Senate passed an amendment but the House of Representatives narrowly defeated it.

Since that close call, efforts to amend the constitution on the issue have been bottled up in committees on both sides of Capitol Hill.

Just the same, chances for passage of such a measure have never seemed better to Supreme Court opponents, particularly since the Senate is now controlled by Republicans. In the House, the amendment is likely to be delayed by Rep. Peter W. Rodino Jr.'s judiciary committee. But its proponents could succeed in bringing it directly to the floor for an up-or-down vote if they convince 218 members to sign a petition discharging the measure from Rodino's panel.

In the meantime, Dunn pledged, the Baptist Joint Committee will help lead the battle against the amendment.

Baptist Pavillion opens amid pomp at World's Fair

by Jim Newton

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Following a three-hour opening ceremony filled with pomp, pagentry and a dedication by President Ronald Reagan, the Southern Baptist Pavillion opened at the 1982 World's Fair within a few hundred feet of the Court of Flags from where the president spoke.

Almost 90,000 people attended opening day at the fair, fewer than expected, and more than 870 visited the Baptist Pavillion.

A capacity crowd of almost 250 jammed the Baptist Pavillion when it opened one hour after Reagan's speech to watch a musical drama by an octet called PowerSource and a multi-image media presentation by Wayne Grinstead of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

Visitors leaving the Baptist Pavillion walked past an exhibit showing a first edition Gutenberg Bible housed in a huge walnut Bible display case built for the 1873 World's Fair in New Orleans. The Bible display case is on loan from the Baptist Sunday School Board and Philadelphia Museum of Art, and is valued at \$50,000.

"It's powerful," one Georgia woman said with tears in her eyes as she left the Baptist pavillion after watching the opening performance. "It made me proud to be a Baptist, and proud Baptists have a pavillion at the fair."

Southern Baptists are the only religious group with their own pavillion at the fair, and perhaps the only denomination ever to have their own pavillion at any world's fair, said David Peach, executive director of Baptist Ministries at the 1982 World's Fair.

Peach said Baptists are fortunate to have one of the best possible sites for the pavillion, located in a peak traffic pattern on the 72-acre fairgrounds in downtown Knoxville.

There are three other religious exhibits at the fair, all in the Technology and Lifestyle Building, across "Waters of the World" lake from the Baptist Pavillion and Court of Flags.

Both Seventh Day Adventists and the Church of Christ, worldwide, have their own exhibits.

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I spake as a child..."**

1 Cor. 13:11 (KJV)



**"When I was a child,
I made use of a
child's language..."**

1 Cor. 13:11 (BBE)

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Christ the righteous judge

by Jon M. Stubblefield, Central Church, Magnolia

Basic passage: Revelation 18:20

Focal passages: Revelation 19:11-16; 20:11-12

Central truth: Christ is the righteous judge before whom all people will stand one day to give account of their response to him.

1. Once a group of school children visited an art gallery. The guide pointed to a famous painting which was considered to be one of the outstanding masterpieces of all time. One boy glanced at it quickly and scoffed, "It doesn't look so great to me!" The guide wisely replied, "Young man, the painting is not on trial."

Christ is the righteous judge. The verdict of his judgment is fair and final. He is called "Faithful and True" (Rev. 19:11). His ways are not on trial, but we are!

2. Justice is incomplete in this life. God "makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust" (Matt. 5:45). The wicked prosper at the expense of the righteous. The thief goes on stealing, and the murderer ignores the sanctity of life. Clearly, a judgment beyond this world is necessary to balance the books. Human life longs for it; God's Word affirms it. One day Christ will come in triumph and will rule "with a rod of iron" and will "tread the wine press of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty" (Rev. 19:15).

3. The "great and small" will stand before the great white throne (Rev. 20:11-12). None will be excused. Kings and paupers will be examined. The book of life will be opened. The day of grace will have passed. The righteous judge will pronounce sentence. The law of sowing and reaping will be fully realized.

C. S. Lewis once observed that at the judgment God will say the same thing to both the saved and the lost, "Thy will be done." Death will not change a person's basic character, only his place or residence.

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Life and Work

The pitfall of pride

by Jim Guffie, Calvary Church of Osceola

Basic passages: Deuteronomy 8:11-9:29

Focal passages: Deuteronomy 8:11-14, 17-19; 9:6

Central truth: Ingratitude and pride result from forgetting God's role in our lives, and lead to sin and alienation from God.

1. In view of the providence which God had shown Israel, Israel was to be obedient to the stipulations of the covenant. But the danger facing Israel, in the land of Canaan, was to forget God. Thus the issue which Moses addressed was: Can individuals who confess to God's election and salvation, to his providence and guidance, really claim to be independent and self-sufficient? History testifies that such an attitude always leads to a fall. For this reason Israel was called upon to remember that their new found prosperity was the gift of God. One can't forget God and remain neutral. Forgetfulness means that lesser gods will be worshipped. If Israel did this, then the whole meaning of her election and existence would be lost, and she would suffer the fate of other nations. Modern man faces the same dilemma as Israel. Affluence tends to cause us to forget God. Yet our history warns us that to do so brings its own retribution.

2. Moses stated that Israel could attribute their success in overcoming her enemies to any reason they wished save one — their own righteousness. Israel could make no such claim. She had never yielded willingly to God's will. She had been a "stiffnecked" people. Consequently God had to drag her toward his purpose. Nevertheless Israel still had the opinion that she had received God's goodness in reward for her righteousness. This attitude of false pride was Israel's sin. True pride is akin to self-respect and is beneficial. False pride is mere egotism without foundation and tends to relegate God to a place of unimportance in our lives while elevating the self to the place of worship. Such an attitude calls for repentance. When this occurs, pride gives way to humility and self-worship is changed to God-worship in which we recognize that blessings come not from our merit but as a result of his loving grace.

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Bible Book

Amnon's sin and Absalom's revenge

by Charles Cheser, First Church, Carlisle

Basic passage: 2 Samuel 13:1-39

Focal passages: 2 Samuel 13:22-24, 26-29, 32, 37-39

Central truth: Disregard for the basic laws of God brings tragic results

1. A family out of control: A family that began with such promise produced a lot of unhappiness and misery. David was a "man after his (God's) own heart" (1 Sam. 13:14). The father set the example of disregarding God's laws and in this lesson two of his sons follow his unhappy example.

2. Lust out of control: Amnon, the crown prince of Israel, was possessed of unbecoming desires toward his half sister, Tamar. His unholy thoughts toward his sister became an obsession with him. In order to have good mental and spiritual health every person needs to hear what the Apostle Paul says in Philippians 4:8 about the control and discipline of our thoughts. Our thoughts are to be directed toward that which is pure and wholesome.

3. Hatred out of control: The incestuous rape of Tamar by Amnon left Absalom stunned and angry. For two years he didn't take his hatred out on his brother, but took them inside himself and brooded over them. He gave Amnon the "silent treatment" (13:22). Perhaps it would have been better had he talked it and vented his anger. The murder that followed was all the more hideous because it was premeditated. He planned it thoroughly and followed his plans. In reflecting over the lessons of the past two weeks one is reminded of these statements by James: "When lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death" (James 1:15). "For he that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, do not kill" (James 2:11).

We sing about the "sunny side of life" but in this study we have been exposed to the "seamy side". Here again, however, David has shown maturity in accepting what he could not change, "For he was comforted concerning Amnon, seeing he was dead" (13:39b).

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The commissioning service, one of two held each year by the board, took place at Second Ponce de Leon Baptist Church.

Home Mission Board Vice President Gerald Palmer said it was significant the service was held at a church which so strongly supports missions, "because it really is the 36,000 churches of the Southern Baptist Convention that are the real commissioners of missionaries.

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What's It All About?

Do the right things

by Pat Ratton

Since the days of our childhood, we have been encouraged to do the right things in order to keep physically fit: eat well-balanced meals, get plenty of rest, exercise regularly.

We are admonished to "do the right things" in order to grow and develop spiritually: read your Bible daily, pray, study God's word in Sunday School, worship with fellow Christians.

Churches need to "do the right things" to insure growth in their Sunday Schools. Many of these have been suggested in the six previous articles in this series: make a commitment to grow, set goals, use the associational Sunday School organization to encourage Sunday School growth, plan special church and associational events that will encourage Sunday School workers to reach people and do a better job of Bible teaching.

Now let me remind you of a few additional basic "right things" that churches need to do through their Sunday Schools.

The enlistment of qualified, committed teachers and officers is a must if a Sunday School is to reach prospects and teach the truths of the Bible. The Sunday School director and the nominating committee must seek out those who are qualified to lead departmental organization. The department director then joins forces with the Sunday School director and nominating committee in enlisting teachers.

Each age division has a suggested teacher-pupil ratio. These can be found in the "Basic" study course books. Ratios will also be given in the May and June issues of the *Sunday School News*. A good overall rule-of-thumb is one teacher for 10 pupils enrolled in a Sunday School: If your Sunday School enrollment is 200, you probably have — or need, 20 workers.

These teachers and officers should be people who realize the magnitude of their tasks. The teacher of bed babies should feel that her job is just as important as that of the teacher of young adults. All directors, teachers, outreach leaders, and secretaries should accept their positions as sacred responsibilities and work toward doing their best for the Lord.



Ratton

Training workers is another "right thing" that should be done.

Someone has said that some Sunday School workers feel that they are ripe. They know everything that needs to be known about teaching. They have studied all the study course books. The speaker then popped this question: "What is the next stage after ripe?" You guessed it! Rotten! Wouldn't it be better to be green all the time? Wouldn't it be better to feel that you never get to the point that you know it all? Then, you would never reach the rotten stage!

Encourage workers to work toward achieving a Worker's Diploma. This involves receiving credit on a specified list of study course books. The Sunday School department can provide a leaflet that will outline these requirements. Study course credit can be obtained through individual or class study. From there, the worker can go on to work toward achieving the Advanced Workers' Diploma.

Participation in associational training schools and state training events will help teachers do a better job.

Include weekly workers' meeting in your church calendar. Weekly workers' meeting will do more than anything else to improve the quality of teaching in your Sunday School. And quality teaching is necessary to reaching prospects and keeping them involved in regular Bible study.

Planning is essential to quality teaching. A team spirit is vital in developing a good Bible teaching program.

The last "right thing" I will mention is to provide space and equipment needed for effective Bible study. Difficulty in using our Southern Baptist literature often stems from inadequate space and equipment, especially in the preschool departments. Wouldn't you expect me to say that!

I don't mean to imply that every piece of equipment suggested by the BSSB is essential. Some equipment is basic. An intuitive teacher can take the teachers' material and improvise. Look to the "Basic" books for equipment and space suggestions. Make some provisions in your budget for some supplies and some equipment needed throughout your Sunday School.

There are other "right things," but I will stop here. Begin with these just listed and you will be on your way to doing your part in reaching people and helping your church do its part in reaching 8.5 by '85!