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Reaching Out, Touching Lives

Arkansas Baptist

August 25, 1988



Swahili Pentecost

Cover Story



(BP) photo / Joanna Pinneo

Swahili Pentecost 23

More than 4,700 professions of faith were recorded in five-day crusade in Kenya.

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IT'S UPLIFTING

Floridians Make Surgery Possible

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (BP)—While a team of Florida Baptists led a revival in his home church, a Trinidad pastor was recovering in Miami's Baptist Hospital from heart surgery made possible by another group of Florida Baptists.

When Trinidad physicians recommended Paul Doon, pastor of the Mission Baptist Church in Curepe, travel to Venezuela to receive adequate diagnosis of his heart condition, Doon was surprised to discover the diagnosis alone would cost \$12,000.

Knowing their pastor did not have the needed money or insurance, members of the Trinidad church offered the pastor eight years of savings—money allocated for a church van.

But Willard Goforth, missionary to Trinidad, felt Southern Baptists had other resources and could help. So Goforth contacted Emit Ray, pastor of Riverside Baptist Church in Miami and the first Southern Baptist missionary appointed to Trinidad.

Ray and Baptist Hospital chaplain Robert Jakoby, a member of Ray's church, made arrangements for Doon's hospital stay and for the hospital to give financial assistance. Jakoby arranged for a surgeon to admit the Trinidad pastor.

Through connections at the American embassy, Goforth arranged visas and

passports for Doon and his wife.

Within days, Doon had an operation for five bypasses in his heart and soon was recuperating as an outpatient in an apartment near the hospital.

Although the cost of the surgery and hospital stay was estimated at about \$50,000, Doon paid only for the plane fare to and from the United States.

Heart specialist Nelson Moreno, the son of a Southern Baptist pastor in Miami, led a team of surgeons who donated their services. Riverside Church covered the Doons' expenses during their stay in Miami.

On his way to Trinidad to lead a Caribbean '88 revival in Doon's church, Bob Harlee, director of church extension for Jacksonville (Fla.) Baptist Association, visited Doon and his wife in the hospital's critical care unit, held their hands and prayed for Doon's safety. While in Trinidad, Harlee and his Florida team were recipients of the Doons' hospitality, staying in the pastor's home.

"It's a wonderful thing that we as Baptists can work together to help a man of God like this," Harlee said. "I'm so proud to be a part of such a team."

When the Doons returned to Trinidad July 27, they were welcomed at the airport by nearly 50 people. Included in that crowd were four of the island's missionaries "who have been a great blessing to me and my church," said Doon.

GOOD NEWS!

Citizens of Heaven

Philippians 3:17-21

No resident of Philippi took lightly any conduct unbecoming to a Roman citizen, and no Christian should be satisfied with conduct unbecoming his heavenly citizenship. As citizens of two worlds, Christians should hold each in its proper perspective. We should be mindful of:

The example we follow (v. 17)—In Christ we have the example of a self-emptied life (2:5-11). In Paul we have the example of a Christ-controlled, Spirit-led life. Unlike some other lives, Paul's life supported his claims.

Paul Harvey recently told about the radio spot announcements recorded by the governor of Vermont who admonished his constituents to conserve energy by vacationing in New England. "After all," he said, "New England provides everything anyone could possibly want to do or see." Harvey then pointed out that the governor had not yet heard the recording. He was vacationing in the West Indies!

The life we evade (v. 18-19)—Look at its condition (v. 18), a life of false pretenses. Note its characteristics; the life evaded is low-passioned (their god is their belly), morally perverse (they glory in their shame), and materially minded. Consider its culmination (v. 19); the citizen of heaven evades everlasting destruction.

The victory we await (v. 20-21)—It includes the Savior's return (v. 20). The greatest event in any Roman colony was a visit from the emperor. How much greater should be the joy of the citizen of heaven anticipating the return of Christ.

It includes the glorious resurrection (v. 21). At this time Christ "shall fashion anew the body of our humiliation" (ASV).

It includes the heavenly home (Jn. 14:2-3). The citizen of heaven who follows Paul's example shall share in the victory that is to come.

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Who is the Pastor?

J. EVERETT SNEED

[Editor's note: The following editorial was written by Bob Terry, editor of the *Word & Way*, newsjournal of Missouri Baptists. It was published Aug. 4, 1988.]

In my first pastorate, I became the target of some ugly rumors generated by a deacon in the church. I was shocked and hurt. Not only was I shocked by what was being repeated but by the one to whom the rumors were attributed. The deacon was a good man, a leader in the church and a life-long member of the community.

At first I dismissed the rumors. The deacon had said nothing to me nor had he acted as if anything were wrong. But after other deacons repeatedly told me what their fellow deacon was saying, I went to the man and told him what I heard. He denied ever saying such things and insisted that he had no problems with me or my leadership of the church.

It was all an unfortunate misunderstanding, I concluded and went about my business. But the rumors persisted and they were always traced back to the same deacon.

Finally, I asked a fellow deacon to go with me to visit the man. The fellow deacon contended he had heard the deacon in question tell lies about their pastor. . . . After being reminded of the biblical teaching of Matthew 18 about taking a witness when a problem arises, he reluctantly agreed to go.

We visited the man and confronted him with the accusations. Finally, he admitted what he had said and why. It was painful for all of us, but a serious problem was solved.

Looking back on the situation years later, I realized how fortunate I was. The deacons in the church supported their pastor, even to the point of confronting a fellow deacon with his unchristian actions. Often similar stories have a far different ending. More stories tell of deacons and church members refusing to confront a church troublemaker than tell of following the biblical pattern for such cases

According to the Bible, a pastor is not a "hired hand" to be ordered around, talked about or abused. A pastor is the under-shepherd of the flock. He is the spiritual leader of the church. By his very presence the pastor represents God to the congregation and the community. The office of



pastor is worthy of respect.

No, the pastor is not God. Nor does he stand between God and the members of the church committed to his care. But the pastor does stand beside his members helping them hear God's voice, helping them understand God's leadership, helping them respond to God's direction. No other member of the congregation has that responsibility.

The pastor is the leader of the church, the whole church. He cannot be content to preach on Sunday and play golf the rest of the week while someone else runs the church. The pastor is supposed to be the most knowledgeable person about the needs of the church. His input is vital.

The pastor is not a dictator. He must respect the personal priesthood of each member, for all have equal access to God

and all have equal standing in the church. That should not be questioned. He is the servant leader who leads by example and persuasion. When church members allow a disgruntled church member to undermine or usurp the pastor's leadership, it is a breakdown of personal responsibility, a failure of personal priesthood.

The pastor's suggestions should be discussed and evaluated like everyone else's suggestions. That is part of equal standing and equal responsibility of personal priesthood. But the pastor should be followed unless there are overriding reasons not to. The pastor is not in a contest with any other member to see whose ideas are best or who can round up the most votes for a business meeting.

People who study conflict management point out that when mutual trust and confidence exist, little concern is usually expressed about authority. But when relationships are failing, one of the first things people look for is official sanctions for power.

Could it be that failure of church members to stand by their pastor, failure to allow the pastor to be the leader of the church and failure to support and follow the pastor has driven some pastors to embrace a kind of dictatorial idea of pastoral authority?

Could it be that pastors have felt threatened and alone; that they have instinctively grabbed whatever offered help and support?

Perhaps if more church members accepted the responsibility for church actions as readily as they claim their privilege of equal access to God and equal standing in the congregation, there would be a corresponding decrease in concern about who has authority over whom.

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DANIEL R. GRANT

One Layman's Opinion



Two New Years

One of the exciting things about being in or around a college community is having two New Year's celebrations. Everyone enjoys all of the Jan. 1 festivities and traditions, plus the even more dramatic new year with the beginning of school activities in late summer.

Ouachita Baptist University has many more special events with a focus on "new beginnings" as students arrive for the fall semester, than it does for the Jan. 1 start of the calendar year. Thousands of words are spoken by faculty, staff, and students, all dealing with the theme, "Be Prepared," in one way or another.

Last year was one of the best Ouachita new beginnings ever, and one of the reasons was the remarks by a staff member. BSU Director Mark Baber spoke briefly at the conclusion of the faculty-staff banquet, noting that in the next 72 hours the campus would experience "the annual 'fall resurrection' as more than 1,400 young people make the annual pilgrimage to Arkadelphia." He warned us of the danger of losing "the shine and the gleam of our priceless opportunity and holy calling," in the face of the competing demands of "budget tensions, hectic schedules, personality clashes, and family pressures." He then reminded the faculty and staff of a Christian university that "ours is a priceless, golden opportunity: to love learning and lead many of the 1,400 students to do the same; to paint pictures of a world in need of servants, of keen minds, strong bodies, and warm hearts; to model the way of Christian service in the world; and to show our genuine relationship to God the Father through Jesus Christ the Lord in the context of unshamed openmindedness, and an unrelenting quest for a clearer understanding of the truth."

Mark Baber concluded with a prayer that we never lose sight of the opportunity to be servants of 1,400 invaluable lives—the OBU student body—as we enter the "daily grind" of the new school year. It's a good way to begin any year—whether calendar, school, church, or business year.

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

BOB PARKER

Today's Issues

Twenty-four Hours of Help

No better financial investment for youth can be made by your church than to spend \$130 for the recently released "24 Hour Counselor" tapes. There are two volumes of six cassette tapes each that speak personally and privately to a youth listener on the following subjects: AIDS, physical abuse, suicide, running away, loneliness, anorexia, stepparent relationships, appearance, alcohol, tobacco, relating to single parents, doubts about salvation, no desire to live, parents divorcing, drug use, guilt, pregnancy, parental trust, sexual abuse, dating, depression, failing in school, peer pressure and breakup with boyfriend/girlfriend.

One of the good things about this product made available by the Youth Ministry division of the Sunday School Board is that permission is given to make unlimited copies of the tapes for use with the youth of your church. These can be ordered through your Church Literature form or by calling 1-800-458-BSSB.

This is something that can be done for the youth of your church other than simply complaining about problems in which they are involved.

Bob Parker is director of the Christian Life Council.



Woman's Viewpoint

The Root of the Problem

LUE ROSS

Having been a public school teacher for a long time, I have run across many types of behavioral difficulties. Often times the answer to these problems lie just below the surface of the circumstances. Other times you have to dig for the root of the problem.

Those of us involved with raising children and teaching children can think of many situations in which we have been "stumped" by the behavior of a child. There are times when the key to the behavior of a young person was deep-rooted from a past situation. To have a better understanding of a child's behavior, one must be in touch with what a child thinks of himself. Careful consideration to each set of circumstances is very critical to each problem.



The Scriptures have a lot to say about how God looks at us and how we should look at ourselves. Proverbs 23:7 says, "As a man thinketh so is he." This seems to imply that one's behavior is very closely related to his self-image and view of life.

The way a child seeks to be known tells a lot about this thinking. In his own way, he will make a name for himself in his family and also in school.

Our society does not give out awards for equality, only superiority. So when a child determines which image will give him

the status he is seeking, then he behaves in such a way to achieve that image.

The young people we love and work with did not develop their views overnight. It takes years and years of teaching and working with them, reminding them what values are important in achieving the behavior pattern they want.

Once we, as teachers, know where a child is coming from, we have a better chance of helping resolve a behavioral problem. It takes steadfast love with consistent emphasis on children's assets to change that self image. It's not impossible; and building lives is what we are all about as teachers.

Lue Ross is a teacher with Pulaski County Schools and the mother of two sons. She is a member of Geyer Springs First Church.

Partnership and Commitment

by Rick Smith

Since the early 1970s, Southern Baptists have made aggressive efforts to minister directly to the needs of couples in marriage enrichment. Among those efforts was the development of the Baptist Marriage Enrichment System, designed to train and certify leader couples through the Family Ministry Department of the Sunday School Board. These couples would lead churches, associations, and state conventions in a retreat or conference format providing couples with various Christian marriage growth experiences. Although much success was experienced through the efforts of this system, it was discovered that only about 5 percent of Southern Baptist couples were actually being reached through this format for marriage enrichment.

In 1984, the Family Ministry Department recognized the need to build upon the existing strengths of Southern Baptist marriage enrichment programming and focus the biblical and theological concepts of those programs around a central idea. Out of that focus "Covenant Marriage" was born. The purpose of this 13-week course is to help marriage partners develop a stronger marital relationship by exercising the promises and expectations of God's covenant love in marriage. Marriages built on this concept produce partners who express steadfast loyalty, forgiveness, empathy, and commitment to resolving conflict constructively so as to encourage each other in spiritual growth.

Covenant Marriage is designed to help couples gain a better understanding of love and forgiveness in marriage; discover how their individual differences and similarities become a source of relationship growth; handle feelings of anger and manage conflict in ways that strengthen their covenant; handle crisis and stress so that their marriage grows stronger; encourage each other to share thoughts and feelings; and support and encourage each other's individuality. In addition, couples are encouraged to recognize the unique ministry partnership in which God has called them, and how to offer support to other couples in their church as they live out the principles and responsibilities of Covenant Marriage.

Covenant Marriage addresses several needs experienced by couples. First, the need for positive, biblically-based models for marriage. Many secular models are good, but a biblically-based model offers the greatest effectiveness for the Christian couple. Second, the need to recognize the individuality of spouses as well as the unity of the married partners. Even though two become one in marriage, each remains individual as well. Third, the need to emphasize the calling and responsibility of partners beyond caring for each other's needs. Although this is important, covenant partners bear fruit that touches the lives of others. Fourth, the need to understand biblical principles about anger and conflict, and skills for managing these features of human relationships redemptively. Fifth, the need for a definition of love as steadfast loyalty and committed, loving action, not as an emotion. Couples who sense they have "fallen out of love" often think of love exclusively as a feeling rather than a commitment upon which their marriage is built. Finally, the need for intention in marriage. A healthy, growing, and positive marital relationship does not naturally evolve. It is the volitional choice and behavioral intent of every married partner.

Covenant Marriage is one of the newest L.I.F.E. (Lay Institute for Equipping) courses written in six units and 12 lessons. It comes equipped with a leader's notebook and Couple's Guide available through Materials Services and the Undated Literature Order Form.

Rick Smith is associate pastor of Sylvan Hills First church in North Little Rock. He serves as family ministry director for the North Pulaski Association.

BEN EARLY

Early Reflections



A Life Changed

Jeff was a mischievous young lad who spent the majority of his time getting into or out of trouble. As his pastor I knew if there was any commotion or arguments in the youth department, Jeff would be in the middle of the entire situation. As the year passed, I grew to love Jeff and prayed that God might harness all of that energy and use it in a positive way for his glory.

One Sunday morning as the time of invitation began, Jeff once again gave every indication that he had not listened. Yet as we began the second stanza, he climbed over his friends and made his way toward the front of the church. As he took my hand, his words came quickly. He shared with me his desire to become a Christian, seek God's will and have a changed life. Next he prayed and invited Jesus into his heart, asking forgiveness for his sins.

After the service, I talked with this youth and told him I wanted to meet with him every Saturday morning for six weeks, to teach him about the Bible, our church and all that his commitment involved.

During the next six weeks, Jeff listened, prayed and shared. It was hard to know if a change had occurred and that he was grasping the new life in Christ.

However, the proof came after church one Sunday evening when I took all the youth to the local Dairy Queen.

Jeff had just gotten his ice cream cone and turned to walk away when another youth accidentally bumped into his arm, causing the ice cream to fall to the pavement with a resounding plop.

Silence fell across the youth group as Jeff turned on the person causing the accident, pushed himself as close as possible to the youth and fairly shouted, "It's a good thing for you I just became a Christian or I'd knock you flat!"

My silent prayer was simply, "Thank you Lord."

Jeff is like all of us who have let Christ become our Savior and Lord, the only one who can change our desire, our sinful nature.

Remember, never give up on anyone. We are to sow, and God will reap. A life changed is worth the effort, prayers, and tears.

Ben Early is director of public relations for Southern Baptist College in Walnut Ridge.

Letters to the Editor

Preachers, Preachers

Abraham Lincoln is quoted as saying, "The world will not long remember what we do here today." In reference to Resolution No. 5 adopted at the SBC—San Antonio, I could fervently wish this to be so.

Resolution No. 5 in regard to the priesthood of the believer was an omnibus resolution that needed to be divided into at least two, perhaps three, resolutions.

Paragraph 6 states "Whereas the priesthood of the believer can be used to justify the undermining of pastoral authority in the local church."

This paragraph, along with other statements make it clear to me the proponents support a non-biblical, non-Baptist interpretation in reference to pastoral authority. They are confusing pastoral leadership with pastoral dictatorship. The role of the pastor is that of proclaimer and leader. At no point does the New Testament establish a new clergy class that gives one man the right to dictate totally to a body of believers how they shall conduct their affairs.

In recent years the number of pastors fired or forced to resign has risen dramatically. The reasons are many. Chief among them is the simple fact many pastors have tried to become dictators in the churches. They exhibit an attitude that says, "When you come to church, bring your bodies and your billfolds, but leave your brains at home. I have all the brains that this church needs."

I have been blessed on two continents in two languages by many churches filled with Baptist priests. They have loved me, prayed for me, watched me make mistakes, forgiven me those mistakes, kept me from making mistakes. I will be eternally grateful for the priests who have followed my leadership and for those who have not. My life has been enriched by both.

Much of the problem in the SBC centers around the fact that it has become a convention of preachers by preachers and for preachers. Perhaps if our churches would keep all us preachers home for a few years and send the lay people, they might straighten out the mess we've made.—
Sidney G. Carswell, Little Rock

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WEEK-DAY RELIGION

Heed This Parable of the Snakes

by Erwin L. McDonald

Editor Emeritus, Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

Can Christians learn from bad examples? Consider this true story from an American ranch, a story first published in *Youth's Companion* and later in *Correct English*, by William M. Tanner, published by Ginn and Company and copyrighted by Tanner in 1931.

"One evening in summer several years ago, while I was on my way to look at a trawling line that I had set for whitefish in the North Platte River, I observed a commotion among my sheep. I knew at once that a rattlesnake was among them, for I could hear the rattles; but a moment or two later near the bank of the river I heard a noise of a different kind. On hurrying toward it I found a huge bull snake that was lashing his head hither and thither in a frenzied attempt to disgorge an overgrown toad.

"Just then I remembered the rather common tradition that bull snakes and rattlers are deadly enemies, and, grabbing the big fellow and thrusting him into a burlap bag I had expected to put my fish into, I ran at top speed to the place where I had heard the rattler. I found him; he was a gigantic fellow, thickest, powerful of jaw, and at least six feet long.

"I dropped my bag, and out came the bull snake, free from the toad. . . . When the bull snake had almost encircled his foe with his length, he suddenly drew himself together in a coil like that of his prey, and from the midst of it raised and lowered his glistening, egg-shaped head. Never had I imagined so much fury, such terrible ferocity.

"The two writhing masses approached each other, and the hissing and rattling ceased. The flat triangular head of the rattlesnake began warily to emerge. Then the two heads lifted a foot and came together with an impact almost like that which a baseball bat makes when it strikes a baseball. For a time both snakes were so active that you could not see

which had hold of the other. The two masses intertwined and lashed and tumbled and thrashed the earth too rapidly for the eye to follow.

"Then the movements became almost imperceptibly less violent, and I could see that the bull snake had hold of his antagonist two inches behind the head. The rattler was vainly trying to embed its fangs in his adversary; both fangs, almost an inch long, were in plain sight. His head was almost flat; his beady eyes looked as if they would shoot out like his forked tongue.

"Suddenly the bull snake made a terrific lunge, and his entire length shot to the other side of his enemy, which now lay stretched in the opposite direction. For a moment both lay outstretched; then the bull snake moved weakly away in the direction of the marsh. With his head bent back double, the rattler writhed in his last throes.

"I followed the victor, but he had not gone far before he stopped and drew his whole length up into lumps almost like knots; then he turned on his back. By the fading light I could see many little pricks, dark with blood. The venomous fangs of the rattler had pierced him in many places. Before long he ceased to move. I returned to the scene of the fight, and there lay the rattler dead. The big toad, the unwitting cause of the struggle, was the sole survivor of the tragedy."

Snakes are creatures of the jungle and were not made in the image of their Creator. They cannot love and forgive. But they can show Christians what it's like to be unforgiving and to hate and battle each other to death.

On the contrary, God calls us to love one another as he loves us, and to pray daily. "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." Paul reminds us: "But if you act like wild animals, hurting and harming each other, then watch out, or you will completely destroy one another" (Ga. 5:15, TEV).

A SMILE OR TWO

Remember when the only tanning parlor in town was the woodshed?

—Modern Maturity

Funny how a dollar can look so big when you're spending it, and so small when you're saving it.

—Bits and Pieces

To obtain maximum attention, it's hard to beat a good, big mistake.

Human vanity being what it is, most people consider themselves exceptions to the rules.

BAPTIST MEN

Seeing New Churches

by Jim Burton

SBC Brotherhood Commission

EASTOVER, S.C. (BP)—Halfway between the South Carolina cities of Columbia and Sumter lies the community of Eastover. It's hard to see any semblance of a community from the highway, but it's there.

A sign along the highway indicates that there on 54 acres Eastover will soon have a church, Grandview Baptist. It isn't there yet, but when Hubert Line walks through the tall pines, he already sees it.

As coordinator of volunteer ministries for the South Carolina Brotherhood Department, Line has a vision for new churches.

This year, an estimated 5,000 South Carolina Baptist Men and their families will become involved in church-building projects. Their work could take them to Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, New York, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio, St. Thomas, Peru, Panama or Puerto Rico. In addition, they will conduct 13 volunteer church-building projects within South Carolina.

With nearly 1 percent of the state's Southern Baptists participating, South Carolina is a leader in volunteer church building.

"Missions involvement and missions support have been high among the priorities of South Carolina Baptists historically," said Ray P. Rust, executive secretary of the South Carolina Baptist Convention. "If it hadn't been for Hubert coming, this would not have been nearly so successful."

Not even Line could foresee the growing commitment to building new churches.

He worked as a contractor for more than 25 years in Kentucky while supporting a wife and seven children. He then came to South Carolina to work with the Federal Housing Authority and gained another valuable skill— program planning.

"I know that the Lord was preparing me then to do what I'm doing now as a volunteer," said Line. "I wondered back then why it was so hard. I learned to be flexible."

About 10 years ago, Line began going alone to West Virginia to work on churches there. As other Baptist Men learned about the West Virginia projects, they began to join him.

Then, in 1984, a tornado struck north-eastern South Carolina, causing severe damage in McColl. Line coordinated the South Carolina Brotherhood department's disaster relief response. During the next year, Baptist men helped rebuild 70 homes and repaired 150 others.

The McColl tornado allowed Line to work with hundreds of Baptist men from across the state. That experience was the springboard leading to a state-wide movement that now gives more than 20,000 man-days per year to church building.

Ben Connell, state Brotherhood director, said volunteer ministries gives the state's Baptist Men program a channel for missions involvement. But without a full-time volunteer coordinator, the ministry never would have grown this large.

With about 50 buildings in progress at any one time, the system of coordination and communication developed by Line has not only given the program credibility, it has resulted in additional savings for small congregations seeking to build.

Line estimated South Carolina volunteers save Baptist churches about \$1 million each year in construction costs alone. Savings on interest payments makes that figure even more significant.

At Highland Baptist Church in Orangeburg, S.C., Line not only helped save money, he prevented potential disaster. The church had signed a contract with a builder to construct a building with a 2,500 square-foot auditorium for \$125,000. The contractor was going to pour the foundation on fill dirt, which is equivalent to building on sand. Line got the church out of the contract and reworked the plans.

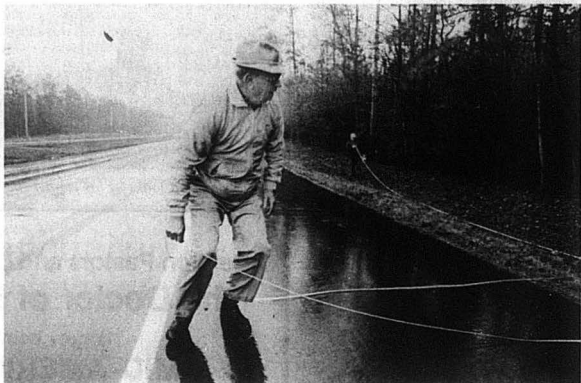
"We went down as much as 10 feet to get a solid foundation so the church wouldn't shift and crack," said Line.

In addition, the church added another 3,500 square feet to the plans and built the church for less than \$125,000. An insurance firm later valued the facility at \$300,000.

Dallas Redding, pastor of Highland Baptist, watched his congregation grow from 33 members to more than 90 as the building was completed. As the congregation became involved in the construction of its own church, miracles began to happen as God supplied needs.

"It's better than a revival meeting," said Redding.

Photo / SBC Brotherhood Commission



Hubert Line measures a property line for Grandview Church.

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STATE MISSIONS

Believing in Jesus

by Mark Kelly

Managing Editor, Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

A little girl, age 10, walks the aisle to profess her faith in Christ. Everyone smiles as the pastor wraps his arms around the child and ushers her into the kingdom. Although she doesn't yet understand all the implications of her decision, she understands enough to know her need of Christ, and she is welcomed into the family.

"Jesus said we must come to him as little children, and we'll embrace the 10-year-old who makes a profession of faith. Believing in Jesus is a simple matter," observes Arkansas chaplain Chris Copeland. "But if one of the thousands of retarded adults in our state—who are at the same level mentally and emotionally—wanted to make the same decision, many of us would be reluctant.

"I don't see anything so complicated about believing in Jesus that would keep many of them from faith," adds Copeland, whose ministry at the Booneville Human Development Center puts him in daily contact with the facility's 175 retarded clients and 330 staff members.

Of the nearly 70,000 retarded persons living in Arkansas, only 3 percent are institutionalized in centers like the one at Booneville, Copeland notes. Yet few of those people may be found in Arkansas Baptist churches.

The reason, he believes, is that the churches have not given the acceptance and support those families need. Afraid of saying or doing the wrong thing, or thinking they lack the budget, the churches hold back, and the parents withdraw.

Copeland's congregation is more visible. In addition to counseling clients and staff, he holds chapel services three times a week. His goal is simple: to help them understand that God loves and accepts them. He tries to help them believe in Jesus.

Since 99 percent of his clients can't read, Copeland uses a variety of techniques to create visual images for them. Excerpts from video movies, puppets, object lessons, illusions, and role-playing help his flock experience the Bible. Once the story has come alive, he can help them understand what Jesus wants them to know.

In his 11 years as chaplain, the Texas native has refined his techniques for sharing the good news with his special people. But only in the last year has he finally been able to begin improving the facility where they come to learn about Jesus.

With the help of Keith Fox, a retired engineer from Heber Springs, Copeland has launched a major overhaul of the vintage 1930s building he uses as a chapel. The

2,570 square foot facility has been paneled, centrally heated and air conditioned, and had a suspended ceiling installed and a stage built. In addition, plans call for stained glass windows to be installed and additional parking spaces created. Still on Copeland's shopping list are church furniture and a large screen TV.

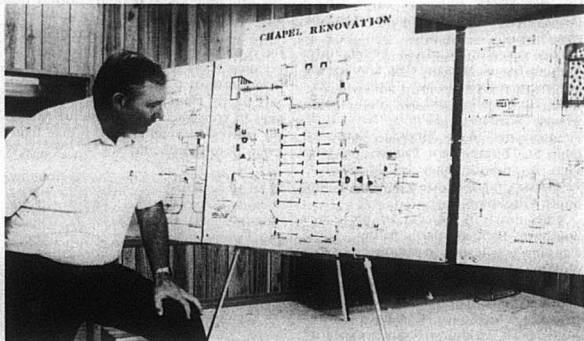
The Human Development Center has provided about half of the \$12,000 spent on the project so far, according to Copeland. The rest has come from

volunteer labor and supportive churches in Texarkana, Heber Springs, and Rogers.

Such support is crucial. He receives no program funds from the center, which provides the chapel facility and covers utilities and office supplies. Arkansas Baptists pay Copeland's salary.

Copeland and other Baptist chaplains in the state are in the spotlight during this year's Dixie Jackson campaign for state missions. Under the theme, "Reaching Out... Touching Lives," Arkansas Baptists are being challenged to give \$475,000 to further their comprehensive program of missions ministries. The Week of Prayer for State Missions will be Sept. 18-25.

ABN photo / Mark Kelly



Chris Copeland looks at his chapel renovation plans.

Attention Pastors and Denominational Workers

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For further information write: Doctor of Ministry Office, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, P.O. Box 3624, Memphis, TN 38173-0624; or call (901) 726-9171.

Look Back, Look Ahead

OBU's Dan Grant Retiring Aug. 31

by J. Everett Sneed
Editor, Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

Daniel R. Grant, president of Ouachita Baptist University since 1970, will retire on August 31. On August 11 the OBU board of trustees, faculty members, development council members and friends met to pay tribute to Dr. and Mrs. Grant. Representatives of the State of Arkansas, the Arkadelphia community and the Arkansas Baptist State Convention were among those who participated in the event.

Several gifts were presented to the Grants. Among these was establishment of a program of exchange with other nations which will be entitled the "Daniel Grant International Studies Program." The program is to be seated with \$100,000. At this point more than 40 sponsors who will contribute \$1,000 or more have joined in the project.

Other gifts included the presentation of a check to Mrs. Grant, a gift of a hanging wall plaque commemorating special events in the Grant's life presented by the Grant children, and the construction of a plaza as a campus gathering place which will bear a plaque of tribute to Dr. Grant.

The final gift was a Mercury Marquis presented by William H. "Buddy" Sutton, chairman of the OBU board of trustees. Virgil Waggoner, president of Sterling Chemicals, presented a check for \$200,000 to the Ouachita building fund, which will pay off the construction loan on the

physical education center.

Grant, who has been president of Ouachita 18 years and seven months, said that his biggest concern when he came to Ouachita was to be able to strengthen both the academic and Christian commitment areas equally. He said, "It was my assumption that this was possible and that it could be done without weakening either one."

"It has been my observation," Grant continued, "that many church related colleges have veered in one direction or the other. It has been extremely satisfying that Ouachita has been able to move forward in both of these areas."

Grant said that there were many ways to evaluate religious achievement at a Baptist college. He indicated that the Religion Department had grown much stronger both theologically and in scholarly competence. But Grant believes that in spiritual performance outside the classroom the school has increased in strength. To underwrite this claim, he pointed to one of the strongest activity programs in the country. Ouachita now has a strong mission outlook

and has become "the doorway to the world."

Grant indicated that academic achievement also can be measured in many ways. The accrediting association looks at the formal credentials of the faculty. When Grant came to Ouachita, 31 percent of the faculty held a terminal (usually the Ph.D.) degree. Today over 50 percent of the faculty holds the terminal degree.

Ouachita has also grown in academic retirement in the state of Arkansas. Ouachita is consistently listed as one of the three or four strongest academic institutions in the state according to surveys.

The institution has also been strengthened through the endowment of nine fully-funded chairs. Dr. Grant said, "The endowment of specific chairs has enabled us to compete financially with other



The Grants' new car and retirement home

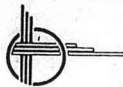
Arkansas institutions in obtaining outstanding individuals."

The most often mentioned achievement is the dramatic improvement of buildings and grounds. Grant said, "It surprises me that we have been able to improve as dramatically as we have in new construction. But I believe that the less visible achievements are just as dynamic. It has been a joy to work with people both on and off the campus."

Grant's retirement plans are incomplete. Among future activities will be his serving as the academic consultant for a consortium of Baptist colleges who are seeking to be of greater service to higher educational institutions around the world. This group of Baptist colleges known as Cooperative Services International Education Consortium, will not only seek excellence in educational enterprises but will also offer an opportunity for a Christian witness within the laws of the various countries.

Other activities in which Grant will be involved include the revision of his political science textbook, the possibility of teaching political science at Ouachita, spending more time with his children and grandchildren and spending more time on the tennis court.

Dr. Grant said, "It has been a tremendous joy to work with the people of Arkansas. I have particularly enjoyed my relationship with Arkansas Baptists and I look forward to a continuing relationship with my friends." The Grants will continue to live in Arkadelphia.



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Texas; Wheaton, Illinois; and Stanton, California.

Arkansas All Over

MILLIE GILL

People

Ervin Keathley has joined the staff of Parkway Place Church in Little Rock as part-time minister of music. Keathley, recently retired as director of the Church Music Department of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

Sam Caery has accepted a call to serve as youth minister at Mount Carmel Church, Cabot, going there from Second Church, Arkadelphia, where he has been serving as youth minister. Caery, a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University, is married to the former Lora Whitlach of Trumann.

Roy Hargraves has resigned as pastor of Philadelphia Church, Jonesboro, to serve as pastor of Trinity Church in Memphis.

Chester Caduallader, a teacher at Mid-America Seminary in Memphis, is serving as pastor of Childress Church, Monette.

Ray Tate is serving First Church, Fouke, as music director.

W. Trueman Moore observed 16 years of service as pastor of East Side Church, Fort Smith, Aug. 2.

Don Hook of Little Rock, who has been serving as interim pastor of Woodson Church, has accepted a call to serve the church as full-time pastor.

Floyd H. Ward of Little Rock died Aug. 9 at age 87. Ward, who served as pastor emeritus of Holland Church, Vilonia, was both a retired Southern Baptist pastor and a school teacher. His funeral services were held Aug. 12 in Heber Springs. Survivors are his wife, Alta V. Ward; two sons, Grady S. Ward of Parker, Colo., and William H. Ward of Little Rock; a daughter, Alta B. Lewelling of Blytheville; two brothers; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Memorials may be made to the Gideon Bible Society.

Charles Alley of Helena, died Aug. 8 at age 64. His funeral services were held in Helena Aug. 10 by Billy Hammonds and Carl Fawcett. Survivors are his wife, Lucille Shields Alley; and two sisters. Memorials may be made to Northside Church, Helena, where he served as pastor.

Bernice Thompson was honored Aug. 21 when South Highland Church in Little Rock dedicated the Bernice Thompson



Keathley



Caery

Church Library in recognition of her 19 years of service as church librarian.

Osie Harvey Colvert of Little Rock died Aug. 1 at age 86. He had been member of Little Rock Second Church for 61 years where he served as a deacon and had served as Sunday School superintendent. He was a volunteer for the Arkansas School for the Blind. Survivors are a son, James Colvert of Houston, Tex.; a daughter, Mariana Rollins of Anchorage, Alaska; a brother; and five grandchildren. Memorials may be made to Little Rock Second Church.

Mary Edna Smith was presented a love offering Aug. 7 by Baring Cross Church in North Little Rock in recognition of her 37 years as church organist.

Brad Shaw, who has been serving Little Rock Second Church as youth minister, was licensed by the church to the gospel ministry Aug. 12 prior to his leaving to continue his studies at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Elmer Goble of Los Angeles, who formerly served as director of religious activities and the Baptist Student Union at Ouachita Baptist University, recently was elected assistant director of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's special mission ministries department.

Richard and Linda Toland, members of First Church, Parkin, have returned from work with the Tennessee/Venezuela Health Care Project at the Santa Rosa Clinic in Maracaibo, Venezuela.

Allan Greer, minister of education, senior adults, and single adults at Baring Cross Church in North Little Rock, was ordained to the gospel ministry by the church Aug. 14. He and his wife, Nancy, and their son, Hunter, were honored with a reception following the ordination.

Steve Waechter is serving as pastor of Gladden Church, Earle.

Troy Bush is serving Crawfordsville Church as youth director.

Billy Beech, a student at Mid-America Seminary, is serving as interim pastor of Brickley Church.

Don McCormick has resigned as pastor of Goodwin Church.

Sam Simmons is serving as interim pastor of First Church, West Memphis.

Dean Holbrook has resigned as pastor of Pleasant Hill Church, Wynne.

The Douglas Wilson family has returned from a mission trip to Pennsylvania and New York financed by Barton Chapel, Tyrnosa, where he serves as pastor.

Charles Cockman has resigned as minister of Nall's Memorial Church, Little Rock, effective Aug. 28.

Frank Flowers has resigned as pastor of Shibley Church, Van Buren.

Sam Howell is again serving as pastor of Woodland Church, Clarksville, going there from Spadra Church, Clarksville.

Briefly

Woodsprings Church at Jonesboro observed homecoming Aug. 21 with a potluck dinner and a special musical program.

Rowe's Chapel at Caraway observed homecoming Aug. 21 when Bill Hawkins, a former pastor, was guest speaker and the Messenger Quartet provided special music.

Bald Knob Central Church youth led the Aug. 7 evening worship service, serving as ushers, providing special music, and leading scripture reading. Greg Meharg was speaker.

Marked Tree Trinity Church was in a revival Aug. 7-11 led by Ken Whitman of Bellevue Church, Memphis. Members celebrated homecoming Aug. 28 with worship services, a potluck luncheon, and a musical program.

Batesville West Church honored Pastor Randy Maxwell and associate pastor Bill Tohlen Aug. 14 in recognition of Maxwell's nine years of service, and Tohlen's eight years of service.

North Little Rock 47th Street Church will celebrate its 40th anniversary Sept. 11 when R. D. Harrington, the first pastor, will return to deliver the morning message at 11 a.m. Luncheon will be served at noon, followed by a 1:30 p.m. service. W.L. Bruce Jr. is pastor.

Havana Church has begun an extensive building and remodeling program that includes the construction of an educational building, an auditorium with a seating capacity of 225, and the remodeling of the present building for a fellowship hall and additional educational space. Total cost of the program is estimated at approximately \$160,000.

Caddo Gap Church at Bonnerdale recently conducted a Vacation Bible School with the help of workers from First Church, Mount Ida. Enrollment included 38 students and 11 workers. There were 20 in Sunday School the day prior to beginning of the VBS and the following Sunday there were 54 in attendance.

Park Hill Church in North Little Rock will host an aerobirhythms workshop Aug. 26-27 at the church's Christian Activities Center. Bobby Shows and Roberta Wallace are serving as coordinators.

Green Meadows Church at Pine Bluff held a service Aug. 5 to dedicate a baptistry scene painted by Carolyn Tucker as a memorial to Debra Nixon.

Douglasville Church in Little Rock will observe homecoming Aug. 28 with a service led by the Global Ministries, according to Pastor Glen Smith.

Conway Second Church mission team has completed three summer projects that included the painting of a church in Altoona, Penn.; the planting of a church in Rockyville, Md.; and the starting of a mission church at Brookside Trailer Park in Conway. Jim Stockdale, Dennis Bergfield, and Jim Moore coordinated the work.

Springdale First Church will launch a program for women in September that will include a monthly meeting for spiritual inspiration and challenge, as well as providing fellowship for women of the church.

Springdale Elmdale Church and **Lincoln First Church** men recently returned from a mission trip to Soure, Brazil, where they helped build the only Baptist church in the city of 40,000. They also worked in Vacation Bible School, revival

meetings, Scripture distribution, and personal evangelism. The effort resulted in 70 professions of faith.

Hensley East End Church will observe homecoming Aug. 28 with regular morning services, a noon potluck meal, and an afternoon musical program which will feature the Kinsmen Quartet from Pine Bluff. The church's youth choir was on a summer tour July 24-30, performing in Vicksburg, Miss., and Gulf Breeze and Cottage Hill, Fla.

Clarksville Second Church recently concluded a Vacation Bible School which resulted in nine professions of faith, two baptisms, an enrollment of 133, and an average attendance of 105, according to Pastor Marvin James.

Ward Calvary Church will be in revival Sept. 18-21 with Don Moseley, pastor of Sylvan Hills First Church in North Little Rock, serving as evangelist. Music will be provided by the choirs of Calvary and Sylvan Hills First Churches. Calvary Church held its annual Vacation Bible School Aug. 1-5 with an average attendance of 82. Pastor John Sammons reported seven professions of faith.

Newport First Church mission team has recently returned from a week's trip to Topeka, Kans., where they led backyard Bible clubs, did survey work, and held revivals that resulted in nine professions of faith. The 38 member team was led by Pastor Gene Crawley.

Little Rock Immanuel Church celebrated the 15th anniversary of its television ministry Aug. 21.

Piggott First Church will honor Marge Wheat Aug. 28 in recognition of her resignation from the staff following six years of service, presenting her with a money tree.

Plumerville First Church will celebrate its 97th anniversary Aug. 28 with a morning worship service led by former pastor Tommy Monk, a fellowship luncheon, and an old-time singing program in the afternoon. Matt Harness is pastor.

White River Association sponsored a Literature Interpretation Workshop July 21 with Larry Sherman, associate in the Sunday School Department of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, serving as leader. An association children's Sunday School leadership diploma was presented to Charlotte Poor.

Cabot First Church sponsored an Estate Awareness Conference Aug. 14 led by Larry Page, vice-president of the Arkansas Baptist Foundation.

ABN photo / J. Everett Sneed



The Lonoke church dedicated a new \$500,000 sanctuary Aug. 7. The new facility contains 11,000 square feet and seats more than 500 people. Three stained glass windows are already complete and 16 others will be placed in the facility in the near future. A choir room adjoins the sanctuary providing a rehearsal area and additional classroom space. A Rogers organ was also purchased to complete the musical needs of the congregation. The Sunday morning message "God Makes This Church" from Mark 2:1-12 was delivered by pastor Ed Simpson. Those participating in the afternoon dedicatory service included Dr. Simpson; minister of music and youth Gary Ellis; associational director of missions W. T. Byrum; Harry Buffalo; Greg Cook, son of a former pastor; Janet Ellis, daughter of Gary Ellis; and Ed Linzel of Capitol Keyboards who presented a celebration and dedication in music.

LOCAL & STATE

Photos / Pete Petty



Innovate!—No matter how many students volunteer, there are never enough to meet all the opportunities for summer missions ministries. This year, a new avenue of involving students in summer missions was opened up with the assignment of two "Innovators" at Queen Wilhelmina State Park near Mena. Innovators are college students who work at full-time jobs and also serve in ministry assignments during their leisure hours. Pioneering the program in Arkansas were Sherry Barr of Paragould (above left), a recent graduate of Southern Baptist

College, who worked at the registration desk in the park lodge, and Becca Petty of Little Rock (right), a student at Ouachita Baptist University, who worked as a naturalist and park interpreter. In addition to their regular duties, the two young women also ran a day camp, held evening family program and Sunday worship services, and did clowning, puppetry, and one-on-one witnessing and ministry. The Innovator approach allows mission personnel to serve in locations where summer missionaries could not be placed.



Dulaski Heights
Baptist Church

75th Anniversary Weekend Celebration

Friday, August 26	Ice cream social and fellowship.....	7:30 p.m.
Saturday, August 27	Golf and tennis tournaments	
	Picnic supper, Burns Park.....	5:00 p.m.
	Activities for all ages during afternoon	
Sunday, August 28	Dedicate field house.....	8:30 a.m.
	Sunday School.....	9:30 a.m.
	Parlor dedication.....	10:00 a.m.
	Worship service.....	10:45 a.m.
	Lunch and program.....	Noon

All former members and staff are invited to join us!

Dr. William H. Elder III, Pastor
Dr. W. Harold Hicks, Pastor Emeritus

2200 Kavanaugh
Little Rock, Ark.

Summer Seminary Graduates

Twelve Arkansans graduated from Southern Baptist seminaries this summer.

Ten were among the 151 summer graduates at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary's commencement July 15 in North Worth, Texas.

Receiving the master of divinity degree were: Barry S. Burnett, son of Johnny N. and Barbara Burnett, Irving, Texas, son-in-law of Dale and Janet Lindstrom, Grand Junction, Colo.; his home church is First Church, Arkadelphia.

Stephen Austin Butler, son of Marion L. and the late Robert A. Butler Jr. of Hot Springs, son-in-law of R.C. and Zonola Parker, Hot Springs; his home church is Emmanuel Church, Hot Springs.

Alan Russell Daws, son of Duane and Carolyn Daws of Crossett, son-in-law of Ray and Luettia Plaster, Springfield, Mo.; his home church is University Church, Fayetteville.

David Marc McCord, son of Eddie and Margie McCord of Batesville, son-in-law of Marvin and Ola Turner of Pine Bluff; he is pastor of Linwod Church, Pine Bluff.

Michael Kirby Whitmore, son of James and Bonnie Whitmore of Springdale, son-in-law of Zelpha Threest of Magnolia and the late James Threest of Paron; his home church is University Church, Fayetteville.

Receiving the master of music degree was John William Talley Jr., son of Billy and Emily Talley Sr. of Little Rock and son-in-law of James and Shirley Burselon, Little Rock; his home church is Geyer Springs

First Church, Little Rock.

Receiving the master of arts in church social services was Raetta Daws, daughter of Ray and Luettia Plaster, Springfield, Mo., and daughter-in-law of Duane and Caroline Daws, Crossett; her home church is University Church, Fayetteville.

Receiving the master of arts in marriage and family counseling was R. Keldon Henley, son of Floyd E. and Dorothy Henley of El Dorado; his home church is First Church, Norphlet.

Receiving the master of arts in religious education were: Rick Hyde, son of Ruby and the late Claude Hyde of Paragould and son-in-law of Joye and the late Leland Holeman of Sparkman; he is pastor of First Church, Murfreesboro.

John Steven Kiefer, son of Roscoe Kiefer of Poplar Bluff and Erdine Behunin of Edgewood, N.M., son-in-law of Paul and Betty Wooldrige, Lewisville; his home church is Natural Steps Church, Roland.

Two Arkansans graduated from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisiana on July 29.

Receiving the master of divinity degree were: Phillip W. Smith from Strong, son of Mrs. Martha L. Smith of El Dorado, and the late Bobby Smith. Smith is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia.

Robert Franklin Courtney III of Dumas; he is married to Renee Throgmartin Courtney of Cotter. He is a graduate of Southern Arkansas University Technical Branch, East Camden, and Arkansas State University.

SBC Employs Five

WALNUT RIDGE—Five persons have been added to the faculty and administrative staff at Southern Baptist College in Walnut Ridge.

Ty J. Handy has been employed as assistant professor of business administration. A graduate of Western Kentucky University and Drexel University, Handy will serve as chairman of the Division of Business and Education.

Dr. Randy L. Hatchett will serve as assistant professor of religion. A graduate of Dallas Baptist University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Hatchett has been pastor of Baker Church in Parker County since 1983.

Bobby J. Womack has been employed as director of financial aid. A graduate of the University of Central Arkansas at Conway, Womack has been assistant director of financial aid at UCA.

Carl R. Gasaway has been named director of counseling. A graduate of Southern Illinois University and the University of Illinois, Gasaway is retired from the Illinois State Board of Education.

Also added to the administrative staff was Scott Turbeyville. A graduate of the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, Turbeyville has been employed by the Mirth and Meier Foundation of Richardson, Texas.

Correction

The Aug. 4 *Arkansas Baptist* should have reported that Jonesboro First Chapel held its first Vacation Bible School with an enrollment of 59 and an average attendance of 35. Cooperative Program offerings came to \$50. Troy Prince is pastor.

Bivocational — Small Church Evangelism Conference

Featuring



Carlos McLeod
Director of
Texas Evangelism

- | | |
|----------|--|
| Sept. 19 | Southern Baptist College
Walnut Ridge |
| Sept. 20 | Northvale Church
Harrison |
| Sept. 22 | Grand Avenue Church
Hot Springs |

7:00 p.m. each evening

Interest conferences:

- Youth leaders and teachers
- Layti in witnessing
- Evangelistic music
- Evangelistic preaching

Classifieds

Needed—Baptist church needs experienced secretary weekday mornings. Near UALR. 565-5536. 8/25

Kamp Paddle Trails—Youth camp, retreat, and conference center, near Siloam Springs, on Illinois River. Dorm-housing for 25 to 100 campers. For reservations, call 918-723-3546 or write Rt. 1 Box 210, Watts, OK 74964. 9/1

Classified ads must be submitted in writing to the ABN office no less than 10 days prior to the date of publication desired. A check or money order in the proper amount, figured at 85 cents per word, must be included. Multiple insertions of the same ad must be paid for in advance. The ABN reserves the right to reject any ad because of unsuitable subject matter. Classified ads will be inserted on a space-available basis. No endorsement by the ABN is implied.

OBU Registration

ARKADELPHIA—Registration for the fall semester at Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia will be held Tuesday, Aug. 30.

Because of continued efforts to improve student recruitment and retention, Admissions Counseling Director Randy Garner is expecting a 15 percent increase in new student enrollment.

An orientation assembly for new students and their parents will be held Saturday, Aug. 28, and classes will begin Wednesday, Aug. 31. The last day to register or add a class will be Tuesday, Sept. 13.

New Faculty Member

ARKADELPHIA—Dr. Keith Randolph has joined the faculty of Ouachita Baptist University as assistant professor of biology.

Randolph comes to OBU from the faculty of Wayland Baptist University in Plainview, Texas. In addition to an undergraduate degree from Wayland, Randolph holds a Ph.D. from Wake Forest University and Bowman Gray School of Medicine in Winston-Salem, N.C.

THINK ABOUT IT!

Seventy-two percent of the people believe the Bible to be the Word of God, but only 12 percent read it daily.

Eighteen percent of Protestants are daily Bible readers. Forty-one percent read the Bible less than once a month.

Campers on Mission



Fall Rally
September 8-11
Greers Ferry State Park
Upper Dam Site, Area I

Campsites have electricity only
Fill water tanks before parking

Thursday, 6:00 p.m.
Bring your own hamburger meat
and homemade ice cream

Friday, 6:30 p.m.
Potluck — Big Pavilion

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100, Powhatan, AR 72458; 878-6319;
or Pete Petty, P.O. Box 552, Little
Rock, AR 72203; 376-4791

Getting Started

Arkansas' New Music Director Planning To Listen

by J. Everett Sneed

Editor, Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

M. Lester McCullough began work as director of the ABSC Church Music Department June 1.

It is McCullough's plan to build on the work that has been done in the past. His goal is to provide training opportunities, opportunities for personal growth and development that would assist a



McCullough

music director in fulfilling his or her call to music ministry, and opportunities for personal growth.

McCullough's wish is to minister to churches of all sizes, abilities and needs in the area of church music. This includes vocal music, keyboard music and instrumental music. He wants to assist not only individuals and groups in performing but also in developing music for worship.

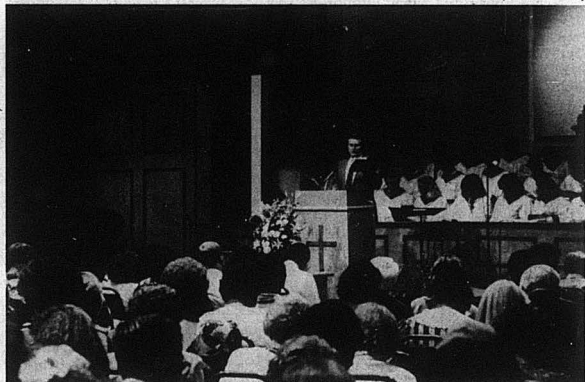
McCullough plans to develop specific

programs for small churches who have part-time or volunteer directors for their music programs. McCullough emphasized that he also wishes to assist the larger churches. He said, "I want to provide materials which will enhance their music ministry as well as challenge them to reach new heights."

Developing good relationships between music ministers and other staff members and church members will be another emphasis for McCullough. He observed that much of the success of the music ministry depends on good relationships.

McCullough is anxious to meet all of the music leadership, pastors and directors of missions in the state. He has set a personal goal to be in every association during his first year of service. Since it is impossible for him to be in every church, he plans to be in each association and to invite music leadership and pastors to come. He said, "I want to meet with an open agenda. I will not be coming to promote anything. It is my plan to listen and to learn about the strengths and needs of the music ministries within our state."

ABN photo / Mark Kelly



Jonesboro Celebration—Don Moore, executive director of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, was the featured speaker when Jonesboro's Walnut Street Church celebrated 75 years of ministry Sunday, Aug. 14. Moore, a former pastor of the congregation highlighted the morning program, which began at 10 a.m. and included greetings from Jonesboro Mayor Hubert Brodell and C.A. Johnson, who recently resigned as pastor of Walnut Street to become director of missions for the Greene County Association. An afternoon program featuring Curtis Smith, pastor of Marmaduke First Church and a former member of Walnut Street, followed a noon luncheon. Walnut Street was launched as a mission of Jonesboro First Church in 1913, after a tent revival which lasted six weeks.

September Events

by Don Moore
ABC Executive Director

I can tell you the events of next month are filled with potential for helping you as an individual to grow in your effectiveness as a servant of the Lord in your church. Look them over and find the area where you most naturally fit and make a special effort to participate in these events. Our Lord wants his church to be a "glorious church without spot or wrinkle." The thoroughness of your preparation and depth of your commitment will move your church on toward that goal.



Here is a great place to start!

Worship Seminar—The man most recognized for his spiritual grasp of the truth and experience of worship, Dr. Bruce Leafblad, will be coming to lead this seminar. Dr. Leafblad is a world renowned teacher on this subject. The meeting will be Sept. 19, at First Church, Little Rock, and will prove to be a cherished opportunity for our pastors and music directors.

Impact 88 meetings—These seven meetings will provide WMU leadership in our churches the best training we can give. The specific dates and places may be found elsewhere. I just want our ladies to enjoy their ministry on behalf of world missions. If they know what to do, how to do, and have the encouragement of the pastor, they will have meaningful ministries. What our people do not know about missions is killing us. Proof of this is found in the fact that our churches again this year have given a smaller percent of their undesignated receipts to the Cooperative Program than in the previous year. The WMU can help your church in its attitude and outreach, that is, if they know what to do and how to do.

"Reaching Out... Touching Lives!"—Can you think of a better theme for a follower of Christ? This is actually the theme for the Season of Prayer for State Missions scheduled for Sept. 18-25. The Dixie Jackson State Mission offering will be received in conjunction with that study and prayer emphasis.

Some of our churches do not have a WMU to lead them in a study and emphasis. In those cases there will be a pastor, or a layperson with the interest and aptitude to present an interesting and informative program on state missions. It would do wonders if all of our churches would conduct some special activity related to

this and give their people an opportunity to give! Pastoral aid, chaplains, migrant missionaries, new church sites, assistance to congregations that worship in 7 different languages, help for the deaf, and a score of other ministries in Arkansas depend upon this Dixie Jackson State Mission offering for survival. The ministries are worthy and needful.

We need to go over our goal of \$475,000 to meet the needs. Since all state causes of our agencies, institutions and the Executive Board only will receive a .58 percent increase over the previous year, this offering is crucial.

State Sunday School Conference (Convention)—What can we expect? This meeting has come to be so blessed—so well attended—we have hardly known where to go with it. Sunday School workers are getting superb help in these annual meetings. You'll not want to miss the one this year. It will be held at Geyer Springs First Church, Little Rock, Sept. 23-24. It will again be on Friday night and Saturday so that employed people, particularly bi-vocationalists, can participate. We'll be prepared with a good slate of leaders for you.

Two Small Church Emphases!—Evangelism conferences have been planned in three areas on Sept. 19, 20, 22 for those who are not able to attend the State Evangelism Conference in January each year. The locations are as follows: Sept. 19, Southern Baptist College; Sept. 20, Northvale, Harrison; Sept. 22, Grand Avenue, Hot Springs. Use these to rally your people to greater efforts in reaching your communities.

A Small Sunday School Workshop will be held Sept. 30-Oct. 1 at Southern Baptist College. All workers in that area with Sunday Schools of 150 or less enrolled should try to attend. Improved teaching skills, confidence and vision will doubtless come from this experience. These churches are so vital to our witness. We want to encourage them and help them do their best.

Music in Evangelism Workshop—Calvary, Blytheville, is the site for this meeting designed to help those who are called on to help with revival music. Most of us could benefit from this workshop. One thing is certain, when the salvation of souls is at stake, we do not need sloppy, unprepared, inappropriate music to distract from the goal of presenting Jesus clearly to them.

Baptist Youth Day 1988—One of the biggest in the year is Sept. 10. Literally thousands of teenagers from our 1,283 Baptist churches flood Magic Springs in Hot Springs. Fun, entertainment, great

fellowship and spiritual growth will come to those who make the most of this big event. The amusement park with all of its rides, shows, etc., creates a setting that is just right for kids. You've been wanting to. Push on out and make it this year!

Senior Adults Chautauqua—Glorieta! Senior adults and their leaders come back from this annual meeting with real excitement. We would like to help you of your attend this year. Call Bob Holley (376-4791) for more information. It's a choice opportunity for growth and enjoyment.

Administration Observe CP Month

Churches all across the convention will have a great opportunity to make people aware of the Cooperative Program. October is Cooperative Program Month!

During this month, churches can plan and implement several activities that would make the month very exciting and helpful. Some of these activities include:

(1) Having a "Missions Advance 87-89" speaker. One hundred and sixteen pastors, laypeople, and directors of missions have been trained to present the challenge of Cooperative Program support in our Arkansas churches. These speakers are available to our churches at no cost. All they want is an invitation!

If you need more information about this emphasis and how to enlist a speaker, write to: Jimmie Sheffield, Arkansas Baptist State Convention, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203.

(2) Conducting a churchwide study of *Cooperation: The Baptist Way to a Lost World*. (Available from the Southern Baptist Convention Stewardship Services, 127 Ninth Avenue, North, Nashville, TN 37234)

(3) Sharing one of the following films during a Sunday or Wednesday evening service: "More than Money," "Like a Mighty River," or "The Darkness Shall Turn" (these films are available from the state office).

(4) Having testimonies from church members who can relate to the Cooperative Program and the ministries it provides.

(5) Using Cooperative Program Month posters and bulletin inserts (available free from the state office).

(6) Inviting a furloughing missionary to speak during a worship service.

Your state office has tracts and leaflets to help. Write or call the state office for an order form. It's not too late to plan an exciting month of missions information. Do it now!—Jimmie Sheffield, associate executive director

Church Music

Music Leader Workshop

Church musicians are always looking for new music and ideas. The Volunteer/Part-Time Music Leader Workshop is the place to find them.

The Church Music Department is sponsoring two workshops in October. The first is Oct. 1 at First Church, Smackover, and the second is Oct. 15 at First Church, Ozark. Each of these Saturday workshops begins at 9 a.m. and concludes at 3:30 p.m.

Leaders will include Lester McCullough, the new director of the Church Music Department; Glen Ennes, associate; Peggy Pearson, associate; and Becky Moore, Immanuel, Pine Bluff (Oct. 1 only). Each workshop will include a pedalpoint clinic for pianists and organists, a reading session of new music designed for the small church, and training and inspiration for the volunteer/part-time music director.

Where else can you get your spiritual battery recharged, spend time in sharpening music skills, find new music and ideas to improve the worship experience and have lunch at no cost? Make plans now to attend and bring someone with you. Contact the Church Music Department at 376-4791 for more information.—Lester McCullough, director

Church Administration

Bivocational Conference

"Guiding the Single Staff Church" will be the theme of Arkansas' second State Bivocational Pastor's Conference to be held Oct. 7-8 at the Olivet Church in Little Rock. The conference will begin with the Friday evening session at 7 p.m. and adjourn at noon on Saturday.

Each session will feature worship, inspirational messages and practical leadership conferences as well as fellowship. Wives of bivocational pastors are also invited to attend conferences planned especially for them. The conferences for pastors will focus on practical skills such as "How to Give Your Job Away," "Helping Others Plan Better," and "Equipping Deacons for Ministry and Leadership."



Holley

Conference leaders will include D. G. McCoury, a specialist in the single staff church. He is the compiler of "Understanding the Single Staff Church" and "Guiding the Single Staff Church," both to be released soon. McCoury is a consultant in the Church Administration Department, Baptist Sunday School Board. Dale Holloway, consultant on bivocational ministries with the Home Mission Board, will speak at the opening session of the conference on Friday night. He will also lead a conference for directors of missions and associational pastoral ministries directors on the development of an Associational Bivocational Fellowship. Other conference leaders include Charles Belt, deacon ministry consultant, and Trumann Brown, pastoral leadership and growth consultant, both from the Church Administration Department.

Our state convention will assist with expenses for lodging and travel for bivocational pastors and their wives who attend this conference. Bivocational pastors: Make your plans now to be a part of this experience that will offer inspiration and fellowship for you and your wife!—Robert Holley, director

Stewardship/Annuity Retirement Benefits

The minister is the chief beneficiary from a church's participation in the Annuity Board's retirement program. A monthly benefit is paid at retirement. The minister's spouse will receive a monthly benefit at the minister's death.

Churches also benefit when they participate on behalf of their ministers. A \$17.50 monthly contribution from the Arkansas Baptist State Convention provides protection benefits for participating ministers who qualify.

It is possible for a minister's survivor to receive from \$45,000 to \$3,000 as a lump sum or regular income because of the convention's contribution. This is protection for the church. A disability benefit is also provided by the \$17.50 monthly contribution. Though insufficient for total needs, this is protection for the church, the minister and his family.

Many retired ministers volunteer for mission service. The church, by contributing to the retirement program, has helped the minister prepare for volunteer service.

Ministers and other staff members worry about future security. Contributions to the Annuity Board's retirement program frees ministers to do the work of ministry

without excessive worry.

When churches contribute to the Church Annuity Plan, they have the satisfaction of providing benefits for their employees.

Churches should provide retirement contributions as a benefit for its employees. The package plan may expose ministers, other employees and the church to unnecessary risks. Contact your annuity representative for more information.—James A. Walker, annuity representative

Brotherhood 'Missionary-ing'

"Knock Knock." "Who's there?" "Miss." "Miss who?" Two answers are possible. "Missed opportunity" or "Missionary."

Unfortunately, among Baptists there are more who miss opportunities than those who "missionary." Let's look at some:

(1) Lay persons who work or visit abroad. It is not necessary that your church or the Foreign Mission Board send you overseas for any Baptist can get involved in missions there.

The Foreign Mission Board can help those employed overseas by companies or the armed services. Do you know any Baptist overseas that could be "missionary-ing"? Don't miss your opportunity to "missionary" by sending his or her name and address to the Arkansas State Brotherhood Department.

(2) There are some 200,000 Southern Baptists who travel overseas during each calendar year. These Baptists may have opportunities to show the Christian life to many as well as to share the gospel message. In many countries closed to the gospel this may be God's only way to touch them with the gospel.

(3) Baptist Men, according to Cameron Byler, spend an average of 3 minutes a day praying. They miss completely the opportunity to be missionaries by praying. Our Foreign Mission Board is beginning to emphasize intercessory prayer as a principal strategy for global evangelization. Don't we agree:

- There is power in prayer.
- There are no closed countries to prayer.
- Prayer is something every believer do "effectually."
- Prayer can do anything God can do.

As you read this a group of Arkansas Baptist men are involved in two mission projects in South Africa. Pray for the pastors who are leading revivals in the East London area. Pray that they may preach with power. Pray that the South African Christians may experience genuine renewal and revival.

Pray for the other project in Zulu-Land. Pray that God will open hearts and minds to receive the gospel as Arkansas men share it personally from house to house. This is the first time that Southern Baptists have ever witnessed to the Zulu people. Arkansas Men are pioneer missionaries in the Zulu nation right now. Pray for their health, wisdom and zeal to present the claims of Jesus Christ.

Pray that God will guide and empower your SBC missionaries as they will continue the task and seek to plant churches in Zwazulu.—Glendon Grober, director

Woman's Missionary Union Not For The Fainthearted

Launching a second century of missions education calls for commitment, imagination, risk and relevance. No, missions is not for the fainthearted!

IMPACT 88 is for all church WMU leaders. The following 10 conferences will be offered to equip leaders in each age level: WMU officers; WMU mission study and mission support directors; Baptist Women presidents and secretaries; Baptist Women mission study chairman and group leaders; Baptist Women mission support chairmen and prayer group leaders; Baptist Women mission action/personal witnessing chairmen and group leaders; Baptist Young Women officers and members; Acteens leaders; GA leaders, and Mission Friends leaders.

Listed below are nine churches hosting IMPACT 88 training meetings. Choose one that best meets your schedule: Aug. 29—Central, Magnolia (a.m./p.m.); Aug. 30—First, Fordyce (p.m.); Aug. 31—First, Fordyce (a.m.); Sept. 1—Second, Hot Springs (a.m./p.m.); Sept. 12—First, Forrest City (a.m./p.m.); Sept. 13—First, Paragould (p.m.); Sept. 14—First, Paragould a.m.); Sept. 15—Markham St., Little Rock (a.m./p.m.); Sept. 26—Eastside, Fort Smith (a.m./p.m.); Sept. 27—First, Rogers (p.m.); Sept. 28—First, Rogers (a.m.); and Sept. 29—First, Mountain Home (a.m./p.m.).

Day sessions begin at 10 a.m. and conclude at 2:30 p.m. The night sessions are from 7-9 p.m. A nursery for preschoolers is provided. Participants will need to bring a sack lunch (day only), manual, magazines and a keen desire to gain skill in leading a missions organization. A Baptist Book Store display will enable leaders to purchase materials for the new year.

With commitment to Christ, imagination to find new ways to accomplish the work, belief in the relevance of the Great Com-

mission and risk-taking that results in deeper and greater involvement in kingdom pursuits, we will IMPACT the world and glorify the Father.

For more information, contact Arkansas WMU, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203.—Carolyn Porterfield, Baptist Women/BYU director

Sunday School State Sunday School Conference

The 1988 State Sunday School Conference will be held on Sept. 23-24 in Geyer Springs First Church, Little Rock.

Forty conferences are scheduled. They will include conferences for teachers of all age groups, pastors and church staff members, Sunday School directors, homebound workers, outreach leaders and preschool and children's division directors. Conferences are



Frost

also planned for teachers from churches with 150 or less enrolled in Sunday School.

General sessions are planned for Friday evening. General officers and workers with adults will convene in the auditorium at 6:50 p.m., and James Frost will be the featured speaker. He is president of Church Ministries, Inc., Atlantic Beach, Fla.

Gearl Spicer, minister of education and administration for Geyer Springs First Church, will speak to workers with youth, children, and preschoolers in their general session which will begin at 8:25 p.m. The Praise Singers from Ouachita Baptist University will provide special music in both general sessions.

Conferences are scheduled on Friday evening at 6:50-8:25 for workers with youth, children, and preschoolers, and 7:45-9:15 for general officers and workers with adults. On Saturday morning the conferences will be held from 8:30-12:30.

Child care will be provided for preschoolers birth through three for those from outside the Little Rock-North Little Rock area.

The September issue of *Vision* magazine will include a poster listing all the conferences and conference leaders, the schedule, and details about preschool child care. This poster should be displayed in a prominent place in your church. Extra copies of the poster are available upon request.—Pat Rattton, associate



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Next Month in Arkansas: September

September 1, IMPACT 88, Hot Springs Second Church (WMU)
September 1, Area Brotherhood Conference, Hot Springs Second Church (Bbd)
September 9, Furloughing Missionaries Orientation, Baptist Building (SA)
September 9-11, Campers on Mission Rally, Heber Springs (Mn)
September 10, Baptist Youth Day, Magic Springs, Hot Springs (CT)
September 12, IMPACT 88, Forrest City First Church (WMU)
September 12, Area Brotherhood Conference, Forrest City First Church (Bbd)
September 12, Music in Evangelism Workshop, Batesville Calvary Church (M)
September 13-14, IMPACT 88, Paragould First Church (WMU)
September 13, Area Brotherhood

Conference, Paragould First Church (Bbd)
September 15, IMPACT 88, Little Rock Markham Street Church (WMU)
September 15, Area Brotherhood Conference, Little Rock Markham Street Church (Bbd)
September 16-17, CPA Pastors/Wives Retreat, Petit Jean State Park (Mn)
September 16-17, Adult Camp Craft Workshop, Spring Lake (Bbd)
September 17-24, Senior Adult Chautauqua, Glorieta (N.M.) Conference Center (CT)
September 18-25, Season of Prayer for State Missions and Dixie Jackson Offering (WMU)
September 19, Worship Seminar, Little Rock First Church (M)
September 19, Small Church Evangelism Conference, Southern Baptist College, Walnut Ridge (Ev)
September 20, Small Church

Evangelism Conference, Harrison Northvale Church (Ev)
September 22, Small Church Evangelism Conference, Hot Springs Grand Avenue Church (Ev)
September 23-24, State Sunday School Conference, Little Rock Geyer Springs First Church (SS)
September 26, IMPACT 88, Fort Smith East Side Church (WMU)
September 26, Area Brotherhood Conference, Fort Smith East Side Church (Bbd)
September 27-28, IMPACT 88, Rogers First Church (WMU)
September 27, Area Brotherhood Conference, Rogers First Church (Bbd)
September 29, IMPACT 88, Mountain Home First Church (WMU)
September 29, Area Brotherhood Conference, Mountain Home First Church (Bbd)

October

October 1, Northeast Arkansas Small Sunday School Workshop, Southern Baptist College, Walnut Ridge (SS)
October 1, Volunteer/Part Time Music Leader Workshop, Smackover First Church (M)
October 1-8, Senior Adult Chautauqua, Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Conference Center (CT)
October 3-6, National CWT Seminar,

Little Rock Geyer Springs Church (Ev)
October 7-8, Bivocational Pastors' Conference (CT)
October 7-8, Recreators' Retreat (CT)
October 7-9, Baptist Student Union Convention, University of Arkansas at Little Rock (Stu)
October 10-14, Church Building Tour (SS)
October 14-15, Royal Ambassador Tri-State Camp-O-Rec, Memphis, Tenn.

(Bbd)
October 15, Volunteer/Part Time Music Leader Workshop, Ozark First Church (M)
October 20-21, Baptist Women Retreat, Camp Paron (WMU)
October 20-21, Music Men/Singing Women Retreat, Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia (M)
October 21-22, Baptist Women Retreat, Camp Paron (WMU)

November and December

November 1-2, ABSC Annual Meeting, North Little Rock Park Hill Church (Ad)
November 6-12, RA Week (Bbd)
November 7, Language Pastors' Training, Baptist Building, Little Rock (Mn)
November 11-13, International Student Conference, Camp Paron (Stu)
November 15, State January Bible Study Clinic, Baptist Building, Little

Rock (SS)
November 22, Lay Evangelism School Update, Baptist Building, Little Rock (Ev)
November 28, "M" Night (CT)
November 20-23, Foreign Mission Study (WMU)
December 4-11, Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering (WMU)
December 8-9, Evangelism

Workshop, Camp Paron (Ev)
December 10, Laity Abroad Luncheon, Holiday Inn West, Little Rock (Bbd)
December 11, Foreign Missions Day in Sunday School
December 25, Student Day at Christmas (Stu)
December 29-30, Joy Explo '88 Youth Evangelism Conference, Hot Springs Convention Center (Ev)

Abbreviations: Ad - Administration; Bbd - Brotherhood; CLC - Christian Life Council; CT - Church Training; Ev - Evangelism; M - Music; Mn - Missions; SS - Sunday School; SA - Stewardship/Annuity; Stu - Student; WMU - Woman's Missionary Union

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EVANGELISM

'We Talk A Good Game'

by Susan Todd

SBC Woman's Missionary Union

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP)—Southern Baptists should quit kidding themselves and face facts about their commitment to evangelism and missions, a Southern Baptist Home Mission Board leader has charged.

"We talk a good game, but by practice and results, evangelism is not a priority of our convention, Southern Baptist churches or individuals," said Robert Banks, the board's executive vice president.

He addressed more than 1,100 participants of the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union summer conference at Glorieta (N.M.) Baptist Conference Center.

For example, only 5 percent of Southern Baptists actively tell other people about Christ, Banks said.

"If there were ever a time to reaffirm this missions objective, this cause for being, it is now," he said.

Only through prayer and the power of

God found in prayer will Southern Baptists be reconciled to the missions vision of winning non-Christians to faith in Jesus Christ, Banks said.

"I've come to one conclusion," he said. "It can't come through men. It can't be done through committees. There is too much ego, too much quest for power and control, too much winner-take-all, too much of the world in us."

The need for a vision of increased missions and evangelism has never been more needed in the denomination and in the nation, Banks said. "The Southern Baptist Convention is at a crossroads, a critical crossroads. In the last few years, we have talked more about the Bible, the Word of God, and yet we have lived it less.

"We have debated more about the book with the message of salvation, yet we have shared it less.

"We have talked about love and reconciliation, yet we have experienced it less."

Southern Baptists have seen themselves as "God's hope for the world, and God has blessed tremendously. But with those blessings come responsibility and accountability, and somehow, we may have come up short," he said.

It is time for Southern Baptists to come together on "the common ground around the cross," he said.

Banks applauded Woman's Missionary Union for staying on that common ground and for keeping missions and evangelism as top priorities.

"My conviction is that WMU wants no distraction, no division, no diversion to deter us from achieving the vision of increased missions and evangelism. And this attitude, this commitment, spells hope loud and clear for this denomination and the whole nation," Banks said.

"There is hope because of you (WMU), because of your history, but also because of your missions vision, your support, and your prayers."

Southern Baptist College Annual Bible Conference Sept. 19-21, 1988

Dr. Charles Chaney
SBC Home Mission Board

Evangelistic Music
Each Session

Schedule

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'Avoid Partisan Activity'

by Kathy Palen

Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (BP)—With the 1988 elections just a few months off, a Baptist church-state attorney has reminded churches to avoid partisan political activity that could jeopardize their tax-exempt status.

In a recent article, Oliver S. Thomas, general counsel for the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, said the Internal Revenue Code prohibits all tax-exempt organizations, including churches, from participating in any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate

for elective public office.

Thomas said if a church wishes to avoid jeopardizing its tax-exempt status, it should follow several basic principles:

— Do not endorse a candidate for elective public office directly or indirectly, whether through a sermon, church newsletter or sample ballot.

"Statements supporting or opposing a candidate must be avoided," Thomas explained. "In addition, churches should avoid using pejorative or inflammatory labels when mentioning a candidate by name."

If a church official endorses a candidate without the congregation's authorization, he added, the church should issue a disclaimer in the same forum, indicating the official's statement does not reflect the church's views.

— Do not provide financial or other support to a campaign for elective office.

A tax-exempt organization may not provide financial support for any candidate, political party or political action committee, Thomas said. It also may not provide volunteers, mailing lists, publicity or free use of facilities unless those facilities are made available on an equal basis to all other parties and candidates in the community.

— Do not distribute or display campaign literature on church premises.

Churches should not give permission to individual members to distribute campaign literature before or after services, except in the setting of a public forum or debate where all candidates are given an opportunity to state their views and distribute their literature, Thomas wrote.

— Do not organize, establish or support a political action committee.

While individual members of a congregation may establish a PAC for the support of a particular party or candidate, he said, the church may not support the PAC or provide a platform for its particular views.

"The list of prohibited activities almost can be summarized in a single sentence: You may talk about issues but not about individual parties or candidates," Thomas wrote.

On the other hand, he said, churches may conduct a number of legitimate voter education activities without jeopardizing their tax-exempt status. Those activities include:

— Distributing voting records of legislators or members of Congress that indicate no bias for or against a particular member. Statements that the legislator agrees or disagrees with the church's position on particular issues likely would be considered biased, he said.

— Polling all candidates through an unbiased questionnaire that covers a wide range of issues.

— Sponsoring public forums, debates and lectures during which all candidates are allowed to state their views and/or field questions.

exempt organizations may not support or oppose candidates for elective office, individual members have a constitutionally protected right to participate in the political process. A difficulty can arise when the individual member is a minister or other church official, he added.

"While the minister is free to participate in the political process, he or she must be careful to avoid the appearance of speaking or acting on behalf of the church," Thomas said.

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Convention Uniform

Fulfilling Your Call

by Randel Everett, First Church, Benton

Basic passage: Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Focal passage: Deuteronomy 34:9-12

Central truth: Moses was faithful to God's call.

When I met Claude O'Neal he was 93 years old. He had been a minister of music and education most of his life. At the age of 64, he was called as pastor of a church, ordained, and served that church 18 years. He had been officially retired for a few years even though he continued to be active in the church and preached every opportunity he had.

The last year I was his pastor, he was 97. For the previous year he had been so limited physically, he hardly ever left his house. One day when I was reminiscing with him, I asked what he believed to be the most useful period of his life for the kingdom of God. He quickly answered, "This past year."

I was totally taken by surprise. Surely he would mention some point during his active vocational ministry. "Why last year?" I asked. "I'll never forget his reply. 'For all these years I've been so busy doing the work of the Lord, I've not taken time to be with the Lord. Yet this year I've been too blind to do much for others, so I've spent the time praying.'"

When I asked what his prayer concerns had been, I realized much that had taken place in our church had been a direct result of his intercession.

God calls his children to be faithful to the end. There is no season for us to quit and let others carry the load. His calling for each one is unique, and he holds us responsible for our obedience to his will.

Moses began and ended his ministry in the presence of the Lord. He had not been perfect, yet he was faithful to the task God had called him to perform.

Moses was a man who knew the Lord. He was recognized as a servant of God, greatly used of the Lord. The people mourned his death. Yet the work continued. God raised up Joshua who led the children into the Promised Land.

Even at 120 years of age, Moses' vigor had not abated. He actively pursued the Lord's leadership.

What is the criterion for success? Faithfulness to God's claims on us as long as he gives us life.

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

Life and Work

Joy Associated with God

by Tom Harris, Park Place Church, Hot Springs

Basic passage: Nehemiah 12:27,43-47

Focal passage: Nehemiah 12:27,43-47

Central truth: By associating with God, God's people will experience God's joy.

(1.) Joy that comes from seeing God work.

The scene of Nehemiah 12 is the dedication service of the completed wall around Jerusalem. The people were so excited and full of joy and happiness because they had seen and experienced God intervening in their lives (v. 27). He had seen fit to have them released from captivity and now to inspire and allow them to build the wall (v. 43). They rejoiced with a great joy at God's work. This reminds us of the sons of Moses and Miriam in Exodus 15:1-21 when God worked by opening the Red Sea for their delivery. They too, rejoiced with a great joy. Psalm 126:2,3 says God's people laughed and sang because, "The Lord hath done great things for us. . . ." In Acts 8:8 after God had worked many miracles through Phillip, "there was great joy in that city." We as Christians experience great joy when God works in our midst by revivals or when we baptize a new believer.

(2.) Joy that comes from doing God's will.

The Jews (v. 43) rejoiced with a great joy also because they knew they had done God's will in building the wall. "God hath made them rejoice. . . ." God filled their soul with a smile because he was pleased with what they did. In 2 Chronicles 5:13 at the dedication of Solomon's temple there was great joy and great worship because the people had done God's will. Also in Ezra 3:10,11 they shouted with a great shout because they too knew in rebuilding the destroyed temple they had done exactly what God wanted to be done. David, inspired by the Spirit of God, said what was later quoted by Jesus (Ps. 40:3), "I delight to do Thy will, O my God." We experience joy when we do God's will.

(3.) Joy that comes from God leads to practical results.

(a.) Notice that joy leads to praise and singing. A joyful church should be full of song. (b.) Joy leads to sacrifice and giving (vv. 43,44). (c.) Joy leads to thanksgiving (v. 27). (d.) Joy leads to happiness in the whole family (v. 43).

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Bible Book

Jesus' Judgment

by David McLemore, Second Church, Russellville

Basic passage: Matthew 25:1-46

Focal passage: Matthew 25:31-32, 34-46

Central truth: The fruit of the Spirit is fleshed-out in the lives of the believers.

The most important truth of Christ's coming is not the sequence of the bowls of wrath nor where he will appear. The single most important fact is, who is his.

Everybody is gathered for this "sheep screening." All nations are eligible to be sheep. When Jesus tells of this judgment it is important for us to understand the he is not prescribing the requirements for being sheep. He would thereby be providing for a salvation by works. He was instead revealing that his sheep respond as he would respond. The Scriptures teach (2 Co. 5:17) that when we receive sonship into God's family we are changed.

We become expressive of godliness as result of what is within us, not what is without. We become more like God while letting him control us from within. It is impossible to become like God while directing our lives from external forces, such as the law.

There is no question here, Jesus is absolute, in that, if we are his we will feed, clothe, visit, etc. We do these acts as a result of the change he brings to our hearts.

Often it is easy to express love for God. When Jesus gave this illustration of how he would know his sheep. He caused us to re-evaluate the actual love of God. Jesus says that our love for him is measured by our ministry for the brethren.

The holiness of ministry is experienced in our involvement with people. When we turn them away, even for righteous reasons, we turn him away. How we treat the least of these is how we treat him.

The "goats" will eventually become tired of the ministry, and the people, and look for reasons (or excuses) to stop ministering. The "sheep" continue to minister to them time after time, despite Satan's attempts to discourage their efforts. When do we, as God's sheep, stop caring for the human race (the least of these)? After he comes again. How does your love for him measure up? Are you letting God direct your life, and are you responding as he would respond? Think about it!

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Swahili Pentecost

by Craig Bird
SBC Foreign Mission Board

MOMBASA, Kenya (BP)—It was a Swahili Pentecost.

Five days of evangelism through street preaching, door-to-door visitation and medical clinics in Mombasa, Kenya, led by 104 Southern Baptists who came to eastern Africa on a tour, has produced 4,720 professions of faith in Christ.

Several churches were organized, including one in an area where Baptists had been thrown out violently three times previously; a witch doctor accepted Christ and gave the woman who witnessed to him his beads; and bewildered German tourists halted in their walks along the beach as the Indian Ocean was turned into a baptistry.

Laymen who never had preached saw scores of people respond to their sermons, people who never had told another person

how to trust Christ successfully shared the gospel—the message of Jesus—with those anxious to accept it.

"You volunteers are making us professional missionaries look bad," Ralph Bethea Jr., the career missionary who was host for the group, joked one evening after listening to person after person recount almost unbelievable experiences of responses to the gospel.

But the joyful tears in his eyes revealed his true feelings about what is happening in the 1,000-year-old city that has long been a Muslim stronghold. The significance was enhanced since the decisions were made during Ramadan—a sacred month of fasting for Muslims.

Groups of volunteers teamed with local Baptist church members, and the response staggered the Americans. "You can feel the spirit of God all over this place—but I'm

not used to almost everyone I talk to accepting Jesus," was a typical testimony.

And the Mombasa Baptists gently chided the visitors for repeatedly asking new converts if they understood what they were doing: "They told you they understand, now hurry up—some more people (are) waiting to talk to us."

Over and over the contrast between Mombasa and the United States dominated conversations. "I took CWT (Christian Witness Training) a few years ago, and I figured I would use it here," said Bennie Norton, of Smyrna, Ga. "But I usually couldn't get past the second point before the person I was talking to would say he was ready to accept Christ."

John Bryan, pastor of Curtis Baptist Church in Augusta, Ga., used interpreters simultaneously. One gathered a crowd by telling them a man had come all the way from the United States to tell them something, another translated Bryan's sermon from English into Swahili to a second group while the third local Baptist took the names and addresses of people who had made decisions from the previous sermon.

"We were seeing the power of the Holy Spirit at work," explained Hoyt Dees of Atlanta. "We just needed to share a little bit, then get out of the way and let the Holy Spirit work."

The "tourists" were mostly from Georgia and Kentucky but included people from North Carolina, South Carolina, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Illinois, Florida, Tennessee, Missouri and Texas.

They were led by Wayne Dehoney, former Southern Baptist Convention president and a professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky. Dehoney owns a travel agency that specializes in evangelistic trips all over the world, often working with the volunteer section of the SBC Foreign Mission Board to tie in with Southern Baptist missionaries on the field.

Like other tour groups, this one traveled in rented vans, wore safari suits, carried cameras and struggled to convince waiters that, yes, they really did want a full glass of ice with their soft drinks instead of the two cubes Europeans prefer.

But unlike normal tourists, they pressed their Kenya van drivers into service as translators for medical clinics and spent most of their time far from the typical tourist haunts.

"You people are going where tourists never go," Bethea told the group the first day. "These people are going to know you care about them just because you are going into their communities."

"Working in Mombasa is like living the book of Acts," he insisted. "The Christians here read about the early church and don't see any reason it should not be the same on the Kenya coast."

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WORLD

'Escalate Evangelism'

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—The 10-year plan to have 70 percent of Southern Baptist missionaries giving more than half their time to evangelistic outreach and church planting is part of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's effort to escalate the rate of reaching the world for Christ, President R. Keith Parks said July 26.

It is one of a number of goals formulated by the new staff Global Strategy Group after input from missionaries and others and was recommended to the board from staff, Parks said. It is not intended to be an ultimatum that could force some missionaries to retrain or resign, as an article in the July 23 *Washington Post* indicated, he explained.

The Post article stated: "Under the new plan, hundreds of doctors, nurses, teachers, veterinarians, administrators and agriculturalists must retrain or resign. Medical missionaries and other professionals attending the meeting here (in Gloria, N.M.) expressed doubt that they can do justice to their professional service work on a less than half-time basis." The article also said board trustees "ordered a major 'reconfiguration' of its missionary work in favor of intensified soul-winning efforts."

Parks said the 70-30 ratio is part of an effort to set up some specific long-range goals rather than just saying "everybody ought to be involved in evangelistic outreach."

"I've never heard it said, never intended to even imply, that we'd have hundreds of people who are resigning," he said. "We have said that we will offer retraining to help emphasize the evangelistic outreach. But actually this is the basic purpose we've had all along."

The board is not trying to take someone with one specialty and retrain that person to be something else, Parks emphasized. Instead, he explained, the board wants to offer training in witnessing for Christ and in church-starting to missionaries who feel they need to sharpen their skills in these areas.

In some parts of the world, such as the Middle East, a 70-30 ratio may not be possible because open, aggressive evangelism is not possible, he noted.

He also pointed out that some doctors, agriculturalists and other lay people on the missionary force already are giving significant percentages of their time to direct evangelism and starting churches. He said these are "excellent models of what we're talking about and would be used as a model to encourage others to have a stronger evangelistic outreach."

The board will continue to send people as missionaries in a variety of job assignments, Parks said. He added: "But it is true we hope to intensify the evangelistic outreach. It's one part of the whole effort of trying to escalate the rate at which we are reaching the world for Christ."

Under the 70-30 plan, the other 30 percent would do tasks essential to balance and enhance the work of missionaries giving 50 percent or more of their time to direct evangelism, trustees were told during a July dialogue session.

The 70-30 ratio for use of missionary personnel is one of several major goals that can move the Foreign Mission Board toward achieving Bold Mission Thrust, the Southern Baptist Convention's effort to do its part in sharing the gospel with all people of the world by the year 2000, Parks said.

Missionary Notes

Jim and Louise Brillhart, missionaries to Togo, report a change of address (Mission Baptiste, BP 8, Anie, Togo). They both consider Little Rock their hometown. She is the former Louise Bowen. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1986.

Johnny and Barbara Burnett, missionaries to Brazil, have complete furlough and returned to the field (address: Caixa Postal 941, 66000 Belem, PA, Brazil). He is a native Texan. The former Barbara Evans, she was born in Hazelvalley. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1966.

Mike and Linda Canady, missionaries to Malawi, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 210 Vine St., Sulphur, LA 70663). He is a native of Louisiana. She is the former Linda Patton of Fort Smith. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1975.

Harold and Betty Cummins, missionaries to Kenya, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: Rt. 3, Bolivar, MO 65613). He was born in El Dorado and grew up in Calion. She is the former Betty Noe of Missouri. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1959.

Dennis and Judi Folds, missionaries to Japan, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 2001 Virginia Dr. Grand Prairie, TX 75051). He is a native of Louisiana. The former Judi Synco, she was born in Crossett and also lived in Hot Springs while growing up. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1980.

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