

Ouachita Baptist University

Scholarly Commons @ Ouachita

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1985-1989

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

11-9-1989

November 9, 1989

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarlycommons.obu.edu/arbn_85-89

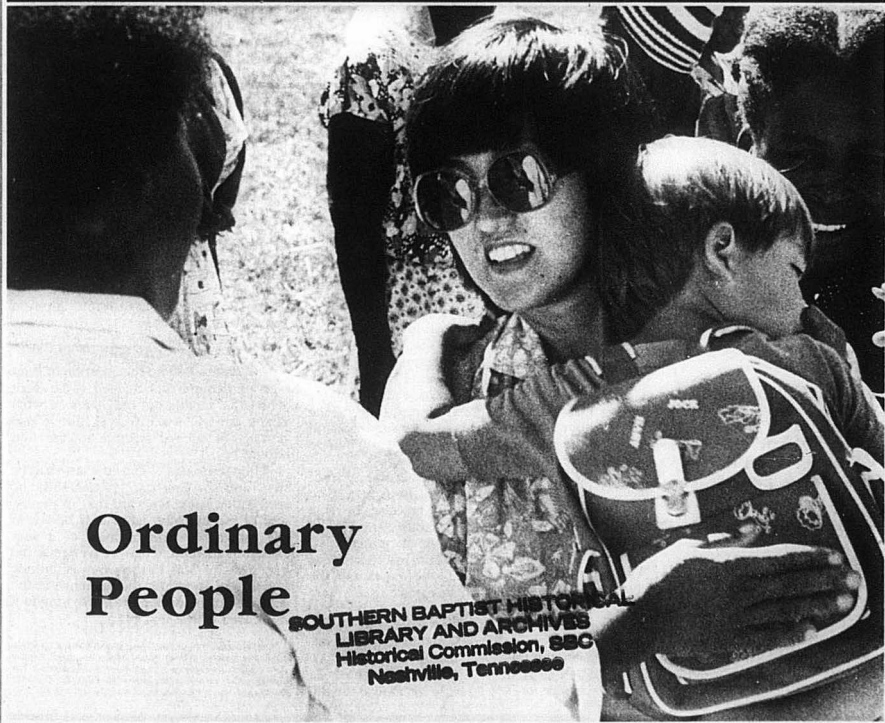


Part of the [Christian Denominations and Sects Commons](#), and the [Mass Communication Commons](#)

A Flood of Letters

Arkansas Baptist

November 9, 1989



**Ordinary
People**

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

Cover Story



(FMB) photo / Craig Bird

Ordinary People 20

Kathy Johnson, missionary to Zimbabwe and self-defined "ordinary" person, is a special example of what a human touch can do on the foreign mission field.

Editor's Page 3

Speak Up

- Letters to the Editor 4
- Today's Issues 4
- You'll Be Glad To Know 5

Local & State

- Graduate School to Close . . . 7
- Making Disciples 8
- Super Saturday 8
- 'An Urgent Moment' 9
- Arkansas All Over 10
- Floral Centennial 14
- How Many Messengers? . . . 14
- 'Solemn Assembly' 15
- Highland Court Revival . . . 15

Nation

- First Co-ed Missions 16
- Pressler Declines Post . . . 17
- Prof Faces Charges 17
- CP at \$137 Million 18
- Fired Prof Files Suit 18

Lessons For Living . 22

World

- Trustees Question Role . . . 19
- Requests Up 11 Percent . . . 19
- More Bibles for Russia . . . 24

IT'S UPLIFTING

Rising From The Ashes

DALLAS (BF)—Like the legendary Phoenix rising from ashes, Templo Bautista Emanuel of Fort Worth, Texas, has found new life and purpose in the months after an arsonist burned its facilities.

In April, fire completely destroyed the interior of Templo Emanuel's main building, which at one time had been the home of Rosemont Park Baptist Church. Two small educational buildings were relatively unscathed.

Investigators ruled the blaze as arson, noting it was the fourth congregation in the Fort Worth area to be torched in recent months.

"After the fire, we presented alternatives to the church," said Pastor Guillermo Soriano. "We could meet in the facilities of another church. We could rent a home or meet in the homes of members. Or we could do the best we could with our remaining buildings."

The congregation voted to meet in the remaining educational buildings.

"It was very rough for our church," Soriano said. "At first, some of our people said, 'We used to be in homes. Now we're going to be right back where we were.'"

Determined to salvage their sanctuary, church representatives contacted J.D. Karnes of Northside Baptist Church in Weatherford, Texas, state director of the Texas Baptist Men Weekend Builders program.

Karnes was able to schedule the building program between other projects, and he acted as construction supervisor on the job.

Thanks to Karnes' expertise in supervision in obtaining the best subcontractors for the lowest price, Templo was able to use its insurance settlement to redesign the worship center to meet the congregation's specific needs and desires.

"In a sense, the fire did us good," said William Estep, a member of the former sponsoring church, Gambrell Street Church, who attends Templo Emanuel. "What we have now is not a hand-me-down, but a building we've had a hand in designing and reworking."

GOOD NEWS!

The Employer And His Workers

Matthew 20:1-16

Helmut Thielicke called this parable "a coded telegram" which can be understood only if we break the code. Where is the code to be found that provides the key to unlock this perplexing parable of the Lord? It is found in the question Peter asked in Matthew 19:27. Peter's question needed to be answered. Even more important, the attitude behind the question needed to be dealt with. With a promise and a parable Jesus dealt with both the question and the questioner. In so doing, he shed light on the relationship between God and man in the kingdom of heaven.

Generosity—When you become a part of the kingdom of heaven, Jesus said, God will provide for you because he is a generous God. This characteristic of God is illustrated throughout the parable.

Notice that in the relationship between the employer and the workers, the employer takes the initiative. So it is with the kingdom of God.

Notice also that the householder invites the workers to work in the vineyard at different hours. From the time of Origen (AD 185-254), these different hours have been understood by some to symbolize the dif-

ferent stages of human life at which men become Christians. It is never too late for a man to heed the call of God and become part of his kingdom's work.

The payment of wages is illustrative of the generosity of God. The point is not that everyone received the same reward. The point is that, whether the workers came early or late, all were provided for.

"What's in it for us?" is the question Peter asked. Jesus' answer was that we will be provided for because of the generosity of God.

Gratitude—Behind the question of Peter was an attitude that needed to be dealt with. The parable not only showed what God's attitude toward us is, but it also revealed what our attitude toward him should be.

When Jesus said, "Thus the last shall be first, and the first last" (v.16, NASB), he meant that some who are first in the extent of sacrifice and labor may be last in the esteem of God because of a self-righteous attitude. When we recognize the generosity of God, the only proper attitude is gratitude—gratitude that he allows us the privilege of being a part of the kingdom of heaven in the first place.

Adapted from "Proclaim," Jan-March 1983. Copyright 1983 The Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. All rights reserved. Used by permission. For subscription information, write to Material Services Dept., 127 Ninth Ave. North, Nashville, TN 37234.

Porn Peddling

J. EVERETT SNEED

Repeated surveys show that the majority of Americans claim to be opposed to pornography. Yet it has become a multi-million dollar cancer on our society. The only way we will be successful in stopping the dissemination of this filth, is for Christians to be willing to give time and energy in opposing it.

A national poll revealed that more than 57 percent of Americans believe that pornography destroys morals and encourages the crime of rape. We believe that almost all active Southern Baptists would be opposed to this evil if they knew what it is really like.

In May of 1983, John Finn, the executive director of the Christian Civic Foundation, and this editor went with the vice squad of Little Rock to examine some of the porn outlets in central Arkansas. What we saw in these outlets was too vile to describe. It included not only vivid sexual display, but included all kinds of homosexuality, oral sex, and bestiality. The filth and degradation being shown was unimaginable and shocking.

When individuals properly commit themselves to the stamping out of pornography, results can be registered. Since 1983, 10 of the hardcore porn houses have been closed in Little Rock. The Christian Civic Foundation in cooperation with other Christian organizations has been effective in fighting this unthinkable evil. Others across the state have also been effective, in varying degrees, in fighting pornography.

The Bible teaches that sex is a gift of God, intended for the enrichment and fulfillment of human life within the confines of marriage. Sex only becomes evil when it is practiced outside of marriage or perverted. The Scripture says, "... Male and female created he them" (Ge. 1:27). "God saw everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good..." (Ge. 1:31).

Paul in speaking of sexual immorality said, "Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lust of their own hearts, to dishonor their own bodies between themselves" (Ro. 1:24). The word translated "lust" or "desires" is the key word to the passage. It means a desire for forbidden pleasure. It is that which makes a person do immoral and shameful things, a kind of insanity which makes a person



do sexual acts he would not have done had it not been for evil desire. It is a sign that a person has set his heart on pleasures God never intended or approved.

Most pornography also promotes homosexuality. This kind of perversion is nothing new, as it was rampant in the time of Paul. Prominent historians have listed it among the causes of the collapse and fall of the Roman Empire. Paul said that those who practiced this sin shall not inherit the Kingdom of God (see 1 Co. 6:9-10). But the power of God can deliver the truly repentant from this practice. The Apostle said, "And such were some of you; but you have been washed, ye have been sanctified..." (1 Co. 6:11).

Some argue that pornography has absolutely no effect on those who view it. An exhaustive study conducted by Dolf

Zillmann and Jennings Bryant shows that subjects who are exposed to repeated doses of pornography, whether or not they ever assent to its messages and values, have their attitudes shaped accordingly. Simply stated, large doses of repeated hard core pornography will cause an individual to be involved in the most vile sexual conduct and commit the most heinous of deeds.

How can we stop pornography? First, letters, mass mailings, personal visits, dialogues, and community forums should be exhausted before any economic steps are considered. But if all else fails, we must commit ourselves to economic boycotts.

Second, it is essential that individuals who are fighting pornography make it clear that they have no desire to hurt the corporations or their employees. It is simply their desire to influence corporate policy to stop pornography. Committed, decent Christian people simply want the laws against obscenity to be enforced for the good of the community.

Third, those fighting pornography must establish definite, achievable goals. It may be to remove certain magazines or certain video tapes from certain businesses. It may be to eliminate adult pornography from cable television in a particular area. Whatever the target, it is essential that the goal be definite in specific terms so that both the distributor and the public will know exactly what the issue is.

Finally, in beginning a boycott, individuals must continue until their goals are obtained.

The peddling of filth is big business, so it isn't easy to stop pornography. But if Christians will take a stand, it can be done. When individuals work together, the tide can be reversed.

Arkansas Baptist

VOLUME 88

NUMBER 35

J. Everett Sneed, Ph.D. Editor
Mark Kelly Managing Editor
Erwin L. McDonald, Litt. D. ... Editor Emeritus

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, Inc. Board of Directors:
Lane Strother, Mountain Home, president; Jimmy Anderson,
Leachville; Joanne Caldwell, Texarkana; Nelson Wilhelm,
Waldron; Bert Thomas, Searcy; Lyndon Finney, Little Rock;
Phelan Boone, El Dorado; Harold Gately, Fayetteville; and Don
Heuer, Batesville.

Letters to the editor are invited. Letters should be typed
double-space and may not contain more than 350 words. Let-
ters must be signed and marked "for publication." A complete
policy statement is available on request.

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

Copies by mail 50 cents each.

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

Advertising accepted in writing only. Rates on request.

Opinions expressed in signed articles are those of the writer
and do not necessarily reflect the editorial position of the
Arkansas Baptist.

Member of the Southern Baptist Press Association.

The Arkansas Baptist (ISSN 1040-6506) is published by the
Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, Inc., 601 A W Capitol, Little
Rock, AR 72201. Subscription rates are \$6.99 per year (in-
dividual), \$5.52 per year (Every Resident Family Plan), \$6.12
per year (Group Plan). Foreign address rates on request.

Address: Send correspondence and address changes to
Arkansas Baptist, P. O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203.

Telephone: 501-376-4791.

Letters to the Editor

You Be the Judge

The *Gazette*, The *Democrat*, and the *News* magazine have contained articles or letters concerning a tape recording of a meeting of a group of Baptist men in our state. Some people have referred to the tape as a "secret tape" because the men were unaware the recording was being made.

Before writing this letter, I secured a copy of the tape and listened to a group of men discussing the number of messengers they could count on to vote for their candidate for President of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. Joe W. Atchison, Ronnie Floyd and Mark Brooks were among those men at the meeting.

Here is what I heard:
"Johnny Jackson says if they run a pastor, we won't have any problem. . . ." "We get the people and they can vote and go home. . . ." " . . . that's Delton Beall's country. . . . Delton will bring 150. . . ." "David Miller has a tremendous amount out of his district."

"Freddie Gage has committed to bringing a RAPHA luncheon on that Monday at the Pastor's Conference. . . ." "He's buying votes with meals."

"What is Ronnie Mays doing with the Mid-America boys?" "I talked to Judge. You know you told me the next time Judge called, talk to him to see if he can give us any help. . . ."

These men discussed who was going to be placed on the committees. ". . . (it's) very important that we have people that'll listen to us, so we'll get the right people on the committees and boards."

"He hasn't been part of our group 'up til now. Let's see how he does. . . ." and "He (Sonny Simpson) needs to get burned a few more times."

I did not hear anyone mention God nor Jesus.

Having listened to the tape and read letters from Joe Atchison to these men, the evidence shows a network of men meeting secretly, plotting, scheming, and planning the takeover of the Arkansas Baptist State

Convention. Their goal is to elect the President. He will appoint their men to the committees and trustees so they can control the Baptist Building, the *News* magazine, and the colleges.

Secret tape verses secret meetings. You be the judge.—Lane Strother, Mountain Home

Need a New Day

Sex education is now mandatory in 41 states. Liberal/moderate Arkansas Baptists want us to join the ranks. They are secretly supporting the National Education Association's 1989-90 resolution C-27 Family Life Education, which teaches that homosexuality is an acceptable alternative lifestyle. They hoot and laugh at the conservatives and fundamentals who believe Leviticus 20.

The nation's governors met last month at the University of Virginia, birthplace of the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. Two hundred and two

Baptist churches in Virginia petitioned President George Washington in 1789, shortly after the Bill of Rights had been ratified, to do something to guarantee Baptists the freedom of worship. Thus the First Amendment was written.

Last year, Virginia public school teachers were reeducated to teach sex education beginning this year. They were confronted with models of male sex organs, and taught how to use a condom. A male instructor said, "If you don't want to put it on with your hand, you can always put it on with your mouth," and preceded to demonstrate.

Moderate Arkansas Baptists condemn conservatives for expressing our political views and exercising our rights. These hypocrites are constantly involved in government. A classic example is the hold up of the confirmation of Judge Paul Pressler, one of America's most dedicated Southern Baptist, as chairman of the President's ethics committee. Liberals know what Paul Pressler will do about elected officials such as Rep. Barney Franks, an ad-

BOB PARKER

Today's Issues

Racism and Nazism

A racist is as guilty in God's sight as a Nazi, because racism certainly doesn't come from God. Such is demonic, devil inspired, regardless of the method expressed.

How many of us today would have stood against Adolph Hitler and his program against those he hated as did two German Lutheran leaders of that time? As a young man, Martin Niemoeller had served as a German submarine officer during World War I. He was imprisoned by Hitler but not killed, probably because he was a popular "hero" of that war. Dietrich Bonhoeffer, son of a Berlin psychiatrist, was imprisoned and to death a short time before Hitler's death.

Many other fine Christians, opposed to the way Jews and others were mistreated by the Nazis, were imprisoned and killed because of their anti-racism stance. The late Corrie ten Boom and her sister are just two fine examples. They experienced the demonic hatred of the

Nazis in the Netherlands.

As Christians we must remind ourselves of the truth Paul presented to the churches in Galatia. "For we are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus" (Ga. 3:26-28).

Let us often consider the parable of the Good Samaritan and above all, we must obey the first and greatest two commandments which remind us to love God and our neighbor as ourselves.

The key to fight growing racism in our day is to win and disciple all to Christ not just the "beautiful people!" Let's not just complain about this satanic problem, let's do something!

Robert A. Parker is director of the Christian Life Council.



Delays

Some subscribers have complained recently about late delivery of the *Arkansas Baptist*. Persons experiencing such problems should contact their local postmaster, as well as the ABN office.

mitted homosexual, who reportedly operated a house of prostitution with a male prostitute in his apartment.

Arkansas Baptists must have leaders with spiritual convictions. Our president must be more interested in what God thinks than what people think. He must have the vitality to call abortion murder, fornication sin, and rebellion as the sin of idolatry. He must be a man who understands the necessity of informing the people and trusting the Lord. A Bible-believing, Christ-centered, people-loving man. When we by faith elect that leader, we will see a new day in Arkansas.—**Jim Glover, Heber Springs**

Moral Courage

I applaud the spiritual and moral courage of David Montoya for standing up and confessing his participation in the subversive political movement among Southern Baptists.

When men secretly organize themselves to advance their own ambitions at the expense of the Lord's work, they have done a terrible injustice to all who have given their lives for God's kingdom. It is sinful and divisive and should be publicly recognized as such. More confessions are what is needed to get us back on the right track.

Rev. Montoya will be bitterly attacked for his confession. Others whose hands are fouled with the same stain will protest his candor. But we all know that only darkness fears the light.

The editor of the *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine* also will be assailed for his decision to print the letter. He will be accused of allowing character assassination. But Rev. Montoya's letter impugned no one's character. What it did do, however, was admit the unsavory activities in which he had been involved. If his cohorts did not want to be exposed or criticized, they should never have given themselves over to such pastimes.

I have no sympathy for those who have been caught in misdeeds. They are big boys. They made their own decisions. Let the chips fall where they may. But I do admire those who had the courage to resist blackmail and risk being blackballed. If more men were as spiritually sensitive and courageous, we might be able to get back to the business of winning lost souls and healing broken spirits.—**Eileen Carroll, Mabelvale**

Above Attacks

I am writing out of a deep concern over the deficit of perspective concerning the issues between the conservatives and moderates in our state convention. I do not

think that arguing positions (beliefs or convictions) is in itself evil; however, it seems as though the editor of this paper has gone another step and now moved beyond the arguing and debating of positions to allowing personal assassinations to be published. This seems to be most incongruent with Christian ethics, not to mention Christian editorial wisdom; the editor often clamors for peace and harmony, and yet this type of action defies peace. It is in fact, highly inflammatory, inappropriate, and inordinately inconsistent with calls for peace, to publish personal aspersions, venomous attacks and uncorroborated and unsubstantiated accusations against persons in our state, regardless of which side they're on.

Secondly, I think it is of utmost importance that letters, especially those of a derogatory nature, if in fact are going to be published, should be signed. Traditionally, in American law, a person has a right to face his accuser. I for one don't think this is a bad tradition, especially among Christians. If a Christian cannot say something and stand behind it, then in my opinion, it is not worthy of publication in any paper, much less a Christian state paper.

In any forum where the democratic process is alive, there will always be two opposing sides, hotly debated issues, and disagreements on methodology; however, I do believe as men and women of God, we ought to be able to stay above the mire of attacks upon personalities.—**Ronnie W. Rogers, Hot Springs**

Unify Now

Here we are, on the threshold of the Twenty-First Century, possibly the last representatives of civilization before the "Apocalyptic Finale."

People are being overwhelmed by the destructive forces of Satan: drugs, violence, sexual perversion. They need Christ.

Do you convention leaders not think it more important to discard differences and solidify to tell these people about Christ? That was the Commission in Mark 16:15, wasn't it?

Isn't conveying God's love more crucial than debating who will control the SBC? Besides... God controls it. Not man.

Conservatives... moderates... liberals... What happened to just plain Christian?

Isn't the message of eternal life more vital than debating the creation? Six days or six billion years—I don't really care. The point is that it was created and we are here.

Isn't it more urgent to acquaint society with a Savior than hacking over scripture authenticity? So what if some stories are just moralistic lessons to make a spiritual

(continued on p. 6)

DON MOORE

You'll Be Glad To Know

As I write, a few days before our annual convention, I am once again reminded of the reason we work together as churches. The purpose of the Southern Baptist



Convention as stated at its formation in 1845 was (and is), "... the eliciting, combining, and directing the energies of the Baptist denomination of Christians for the propagation of the gospel."

"The purpose of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention is to assist the churches of the convention in fulfilling their mission, and to encourage cooperative support of and involvement in our worldwide mission enterprise."

Both statements indicate that missions and evangelism are the reasons for our churches voluntarily working together. It surely goes without saying that the churches which have basic agreement on the gospel are the only ones who would be willing to work together. However, it is significant that doctrinal uniformity was not the magnet that pulled us together, but rather mission needs.

We can no more find doctrinal uniformity today than we could have then, but we do find the same mission needs. Today's Baptist Press release reminds us of these needs. "West German Baptist leaders have asked the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board for personnel and funds for increased Bible distribution among the migrants" (10/20/89). These would be provided for 100,000 immigrants leaving the Soviet Union who are settling in West Germany. At least 20,000 are Baptists.

Our Brotherhood Commission is calling on us to help provide another 100,000 Bibles for Russia. In cooperation with the United Bible Society we provided 100,000 Bibles for Russia in 1987. The Secretary of Religious Affairs of the Soviet Union told our SBC Executive Secretary that they would like a million Bibles. For 50 years, no one could buy a Bible. The elderly and the young cannot afford them.

Whatever our differences within the Baptist family, they are not as great as the mission needs that have bound us together the past 144 years.

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

point? They lead to God, don't they?

If some of your leaders disbelieve God's total supremacy, maybe you should vacate the ministry and the seminaries.

Don't you realize that Satan thrives on disharmony among believers? Disharmony detracts from Christ.

God is not the author of disharmony. . . Satan is. Perhaps some of you should consider whom you really serve: Christ (unity, peace) or Satan (disharmony, contention).

If some of you would step out of your comfortable offices and work in your community with the compassion and selfless spirit like Mother Teresa, I daresay you would not have time on your hands to forage for scripture discrepancies or backstab fellow Christians because they don't adhere to the same opinions or the "yes-man" mentality.

Get your spiritual priorities back in order! Save the squabbling for some future day when you're sitting on your "heavenly patios" where people aren't languishing in sin.

Satan is oppressing humanity with a vengeance now. There's no time left to play "King of the Mountain."

Either unify now and carry out the Commission, or remain fragmented and let Satan gain the victory. . . the choice is yours.—**Deborah K. McCabe, Conway**

Deeply Grieved

In regard to David Montoya's letter in the Oct. 12, 1989, *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine*, my heart is deeply grieved for several reasons. Printing such a letter seems to me to strain, if not break, the stated policy of the *Newsmagazine* not to allow one brother to attack another by name in print. Although the two brethren attacked were not named, they were described in such detail so as to remove all doubt about who they are. You might just as well have printed their names. How unwise and unloving a decision you made in allowing a young, well-meaning preacher to hurt himself and others publicly. To print such a letter is not only unwise, but also unbiblical. Proverbs 17:9 says in the New King James version, "He who covers a transgression seeks love, but he who repeats a matter separates friends." The letter clearly attempts to drive a wedge between friends. Bro. Montoya, in an interview with the *Arkansas Gazette* the same week, tried to drive a wedge between the two brethren under attack and Don Moore. Thank God that these three men are too godly and loving to allow such a thing to happen. Bro. Don loves and serves all Arkansas Baptists, and is loved and respected by all of us, including the two

brethren. In fact he has preached in their association in the very pulpit of the pastor attacked by Bro. Montoya. Bro. Don is as conservative as the most conservative among us. That is quite appropriate, because most Arkansas Baptists are conservative. It is time to put that issue behind us and come together in unity and love. The *Newsmagazine* should help and not hinder that desire of most Baptists in Arkansas. The ultimate issues are evangelism, revival, and church growth. Don Moore, the two brethren, and all of us are solidly together on that. God forbid that anyone should try to separate us, especially another pastor and our own state paper. Ephesians 4:29-32 needs to be incorporated by all of us into what we say, what we write, and what we print.—**James W. Bryant, Fort Smith**

Foolish Divisiveness

I had hoped that Arkansas Baptists would be spared the foolish divisiveness that the fundamentalist takeover has caused in the Southern Baptist Convention and other state conventions.

I just don't believe that the majority of Arkansas Baptists want to see this bickering, secret meetings and obvious power struggle to continue.

I challenge the lay people in every church in Arkansas to be informed, take the messenger cards allotted to each church and attend this convention in a prayerful and concerned attitude. The cards have to be presented at the door. If we will do this and vote our convictions, I believe that God will heal these wounds, place his man in each position and empower us to carry out his task in Arkansas on even the greater scale than ever before because we will be united in his Spirit.

Let us rally around our convention and leave it committed to getting after this great task he has left us to do.—**W.E. "Doc" Puryear, Dumas**

Trouble Assessment

I want to congratulate David Montoya on his assessment of the troubles among Southern Baptists.

At all levels within the Southern Baptist Convention, our problems are political rather than theological. That is so evident in the people we continue to elect for the top jobs; generally they are from the biggest churches but have contributed the least to the work of our associations and states and give the least to the Cooperative Program.

I believe there are many more honest, conservative Southern Baptists who will be

encouraged by his courageous pronouncement.

My prayers are with him as he suffers the backlash for standing up for his convictions.—**Wanda McLellan, Fort Smith**

Held Hostage

I read with considerable interest the Letter to the Editor in the October 10 issue in which the "secret meeting" of the takeover strategists in northwest Arkansas was made known. It is being told that this group has had an "informer," a former employee of the Baptist Building who kept them abreast of Baptist Building activities to enhance their takeover strategy of Arkansas Baptists.

This letter mentioned a DOM in northwest Arkansas. It is commonly shared that there are four DOM's in this state that are trying to take it over, who are holding hostage pastors and others with their recommending power.

A church in northwest Arkansas expressed an interest in us. However, I was later told that a "certain DOM" would not "let me in his association" because I would not line up with his fundamentalist dissent.

I think the DOM has no right to say who a church calls. Nor do they have the right to hold pastors hostage by looming over them a negative recommendation to another church when they get ready to move if they disagree with the DOM while on their present field.

We now have a bad situation in this state. Some churches and pastors are serving the DOM's, rather than the DOM's serving the churches. I think churches need to put a stop to letting a DOM dominate what they do. Let them spend their time working for the churches and helping the pastors rather than in a political strategy that only the devil will ultimately glory in.

I'm sure this will stir a furor. We have some godly servants in this state in the DOM positions. Should a few be allowed to try to dominate everything?

By the way, if any of you DOM's want to keep me out of your association, you are way behind. One here in northeast Arkansas is holding us hostage and has for over a year.—**Winfred P. Bridges, Paragould**



IDS
An American Express company



Brian Curry

IDS Financial Services
150 Plaza West Building
Little Rock, AR 72205
684-2079 800-333-2079
Financial, Business, Retirement Planning

LOCAL & STATE

Graduate School to Close

Development Vice-President Employed

ARKADELPHIA—In a meeting Oct. 12 in Arkadelphia, trustees of Ouachita Baptist University voted to dismantle the school's Graduate School and employ a new vice-president for development.

The decision to discontinue the university's two graduate degree programs—a master of science in education and a master of music education—was based on a recommendation from OBU President Ben Elrod, the OBU Graduate Council, and Acting Graduate School Dean Paul Root.

The action will allow the school to focus on its "primary strength," said Elrod.

"We have an undergraduate program of exceptional quality," Elrod explained. "We have consulted a broadly-based sample of our faculty, and the prevailing spirit is that we should marshal our resources around that one, primary strength of the institution. We view this move as a step forward."

Root said all students currently enrolled in the Graduate School will have "ample" opportunity to complete their programs, if they desire. A full schedule of courses will be offered until the end of the 1991 summer term, he said.

Elrod said the move would allow Ouachita to "sharpen its institutional mission," the preparation of undergraduate students in a "high quality Christian academic environment."

He noted that undergraduate enrollment has increased at OBU each of the last three years and that the average ACT score for freshmen is at an all-time high, above the state average.

Begun in 1958, the OBU Graduate School has offered a total of five degrees. Three which were dropped previously were a master of arts in American civiliza-

tion, a master of arts in religion, and a master of arts in music.

During their meeting on the Arkadelphia campus, OBU trustees also voted to employ William H. Cook of Bartlesville, Okla., as vice-president for development.

Dr. Cook, a Little Rock native, has served for the past 20 years as pastor of First Baptist Church in Bartlesville, Okla. He succeeds Roger Harrod, who resigned earlier this year to enter private business.

As vice-president for development, Cook will be responsible for fund-raising and supervision of the Former Students Association and the Ouachita Student Foundation. He will share with Elrod responsibility for the university's public relations program.

Cook is a graduate of Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, Texas, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. He has served as pastor of churches in Arkansas, Texas, and Oklahoma.

During his tenure in Arkansas, Cook was president of the Arkansas Baptist Pastors Conference, and he has been president of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma. He has served on numerous Southern Baptist Convention boards and committees, including the Foreign Mission Board.

Other faculty members employed during the Oct. 12 trustee meeting included Dr. Roy Buckelew, professor of speech, drama, and speech pathology; Dr. John B. Jolly, assistant professor of psychology and university counselor; Dr. Timothy J. Knight, instructor in biology; Dr. Jeffrey Scott Duvall, instructor in religion; Dr. Paul Root, professor of education; and Captain Joe Brannon, instructor in military science.

Interested in a Ministry of Love?

Arkansas Baptist Home is looking for dedicated Christian singles, or couples (with two or less children) to live and work with children in a home-like setting. Salary, fringe benefits, and training are provided. Call or write Royce Aston, P.O. Box 180, Monticello, AR 71655; phone 501-367-5358.

Houseparent Positions

Arkansas Baptist Family and Child Care is seeking mature Christian couples interested in working with abused, abandoned, and neglected children. Salary, benefits (medical and life insurance), and supervision. For details, call or write David W. Perry, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203; phone 501-376-4791.



CHRISTMAS

at

THE GREAT PASSION PLAY™



"CELEBRATION OF PRAISE"

NOVEMBER 24 - 25

DECEMBER 1 - 2

DECEMBER 8 - 9

NATIVITY

MUSICAL DRAMA

Curtain Time: 7:00 p.m.

Presented in the Amphitheater
Adults - \$3.00 / Children - \$1.00

CHRISTMAS GOSPEL CONCERTS

Times: 6:00 p.m. & 8:30 p.m.

THE SACRED EXHIBITS

SACRED ARTS CENTER

BIBLE MUSEUM

WOODCARVING GALLERY

Three thirty minute guided tours:

Adults - \$4.00 / Children - \$2.00

Times: 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

BETHLEHEM

Times: 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

"ENCOUNTER WITH MARY"

This half hour Mini-Drama is
presented at 9:00 a.m.

CHRISTMAS IN LIGHTS

The Great Passion Play staging area
Lighted Nightly from Dusk until 11 p.m.

Thanksgiving thru New Years

(501) 253-9200

EUREKA SPRINGS, ARKANSAS

Making Disciples

by J. Everett Sneed
Editor, Arkansas Baptist

"The church of Jesus Christ is the most plantable and growable organism on earth," declared Marvin "Bud" Fray, professor of missions at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, and former head of the religion department at Ouachita Baptist University. In Dr. Fray's message he emphasized building up the church through the making of disciples.

In his message, based on 1 Peter 1:22-3:10, he used Peter as an example of what Christ can do in an individual's life. Dr. Fray's message was delivered during the Discipleship Training Conference at Park Hill Church, North Little Rock, Oct. 23-24.

Fray also discussed the fact that Southern Baptists have what he called "the scandal of an infant church membership." We have believers who have been Christians for many years, but are still babes in Christ. In order for our churches to be effective we must get past this.

In a separate interview Fray said, "I have become increasingly impressed that discipling and making of disciples was the number one task that the Lord has for my life." Because of this he has led 10 groups through the MasterLife study series of 26 weeks.

The first group that Fray led through the MasterLife study were missionaries in South Africa. The second was a group of committed lay people at Johannesburg, South Africa, while Fray was with the SBC Foreign Mission Board. Everyone in this se-

cond group became involved in Christian service.

As the head of the Department of Religion at Ouachita Baptist University, Fray led three classes through MasterLife study as a part of the curriculum. He also had additional studies in his home at the same time.

Fray emphasized that he was involved in full-time discipling as a professor at Southwestern. Currently he has two "Spiritual Formation Classes." Much of the material used in this study comes from the MasterLife study materials. These courses go deeper than in the MasterLife study series and leans heavily in the disciplines of prayer, Bible study, the personal need of holiness, missions, Holy Spirit fullness for ministry and the need for obedience to the Lord.

Fray said that if he were pastor of a church which had no discipleship training he would begin by discipling a small group of individuals which had leadership potential. He would use the MasterLife study materials. He also would use the curriculum of the Discipleship Training program for Sunday evening. "Southern Baptists have the best materials that we have ever had in our history," he said.

The discipleship conference offered assistance for church staff members, volunteer leaders in Discipleship Training, associational directors of missions, and associational Discipleship Training leaders. Assistance was offered in virtually every area of the vast curriculum.

Dr. Fray said, "The most important need

for today is a personal walk with the Lord. There is a hunger in the lives of people everywhere that needs to be satisfied. People are tired of the dualness which is present in their lives."

Fray feels that much of the answer to the conflict that is present in our denomination today is for individuals to have a closer walk with the Lord. He said, "The devil is working to get us involved in controversy so that we will get away from the priorities of growing in Christlikeness."

Fray feels that we need a recommitment to the church as the discipling instrument of God on earth. Our priority is to make disciples and disciplers.



ABN photo / Mark Kelly

Price and Bailey

A Really Super Saturday

About 60 Mission Friends leaders—like Glynietta Price of Lavaca and Terry Bailey of Little Rock (above)—gathered at Little Rock's Calvary Church on Oct. 28 for the Mission Friends Leaders' Super Saturday training opportunity. Price and Bailey, whose hands were covered with peanut butter playdough, participated in workshops dealing with self-esteem, prayer, discipline, and activities for preschoolers. Ethel McIndoo, a consultant with Woman's Missionary Union, SBC, was the featured speaker for the program, which is sponsored by Arkansas Woman's Missionary Union.

ASC Sound Tip #7:

We are often asked about the placement of the sound booth in relation to the overall sound system design. The first point is the most important, do place the sound booth in the open. The booth should be placed in a position that is representative of a majority of the seats. The back corner under the balcony does not qualify, neither does the top of the balcony on the back row up against the ceiling. Even worse is a closed room anywhere. The sound operator must hear the same tonal balance, timbre and loudness as everyone in the room.

Arkansas Sound Corporation

7000 Remount Road • North Little Rock, AR 72118

(501) 753-5674

Call us for a free professional analysis of your sound system

'An Urgent Moment'

by Mark Kelly

Managing Editor, Arkansas Baptist

Arkansans are facing a golden opportunity in their approaching three-year partnership with Guatemala Baptists, according to Keith Parks, president of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

Parks was the keynote speaker for a World Mission Rally Oct. 27 at Little Rock's Immanuel Baptist Church. More than 200 persons gathered to kick off the partnership, which has a goal of starting 30 new congregations. Currently there are 120 Baptist churches in the Central American country of 8.6 million people.

"We face an urgent moment in Guatemala," Parks told the assembly. "Churches are waiting to be born in towns where some understand the gospel but cannot read it for themselves or explain it well enough to others who want to understand more. They are just waiting for someone like you to come and explain the gospel to them and help them start a church."

"There is a tremendous need in

Guatemala, and God is trying to fill it," Parks continued. "The way he does that is through people who are willing to go where he sends."

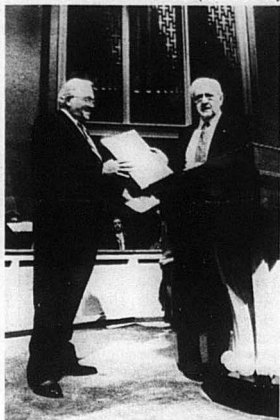
Parks said the "consistent testimony" of North American Baptists who have participated in partnership missions is that they had been blessed by God even more than those they went to serve.

Through the Arkansas-Guatemala linkup, "God is going to accomplish something remarkable, not only in Guatemala, but also in Arkansas," Parks promised.

The Friday evening rally featured performances by the Arkansas Music Men and comments from Jim Smith, president of the SBC Brotherhood Commission; Don Moore, executive director of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention; Julia Ketner, executive director of Arkansas Woman's Missionary Union; and Joe Bruce, director of Middle America and Canada for the SBC Foreign Mission Board.

Smith presented a plaque to Glendon Grober, director of the Arkansas Baptist

ABN photo / Mark Kelly



Grober and Smith

Brotherhood Department, in recognition of Arkansas assistance with relief work in the aftermath of Hurricane Hugo. Arkansas Baptist Men were one of 13 disaster relief teams in South Carolina last month.

Bruce told rally participants that the Arkansas-Guatemala partnership was "coming at the right time in God's timetable" for the Central American country.

Evangelical Christians comprise as much as 20 percent of the Guatemalan population, an almost unheard of percentage, Bruce said. He called the country a "very responsive field" and said it was "providential that God has called us together right now."

Bruce detailed Guatemala Baptist plans which call for 400 churches with 40,000 members and 100 percent participation in the Cooperative Program by the year 2000.

Arkansas Baptists interested in participating in the Guatemala-Arkansas partnership may get more information by contacting Glendon Grober at P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, AR 72203; 501-376-4791.



Here's Hope. Jesus cares for you.

1990 Simultaneous Revival Emphasis

The Home Mission Board and the Sunday School Board invite your church to join thousands of other Southern Baptist churches in a people search and Scripture distribution program leading to the 1990 simultaneous revival emphasis. **Here's Hope** Scriptures with special soul-winning notations are available as follows:

NEW TESTAMENTS

English (KJV, NIV), Spanish \$22.00 per carton of 48
Korean, French/Haitian, Chinese,

Polish \$43.00 per carton of 48

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

Arabic, Cambodian, Japanese, Vietnamese, Laotian, Tagalog,
Romanian, German \$40.00 per carton of 100

Order **Here's Hope** New Testaments and Scripture portions for your church now!

Call TOLL FREE 1 (800) 346-1990

Order by mail from:

Here's Hope

P.O. Box 7519 • Atlanta, GA 30357

Here's Hope Scriptures are published by Holman Bible Publishers, a division of the Sunday School Board.

NEXT WEEK

Home, Sweet Home

*A photographic reflection
on life at the Arkansas
Baptist Home for Children
in Monticello.*

Arkansas All Over

MILLIE GILL

Briefly

Joiner Church, to begin a new Sunday School year, has increased the number of classes from four to 12 and has voted to increase training for workers and has launched a new enrollment plan. Curtis Styles is pastor.

Paragould First Church ordained Willis Maxwell and Jackie Thomason to the deacon ministry Oct. 29.

Collins Church ordained Floyd Humphries to the deacon ministry Oct. 8. Participating were Pastor Jack Ferguson, Luther Chester, Eldridge Brown, Jimmy Fletcher, Cleveland Smith, and Bob Kizer.

Ebenezer Church in El Dorado ordained Gary Hill, Ronnie McMahan, and Joe Willett to the deacon ministry Oct. 15. Participating were Pastor C. Phelan Boone, Tom Floyd, Frankie McCurry, F.E. Swilley Jr., W.F. Miller, Tommy Robertson, director of missions for Liberty Association, W.A. McMahan, T.F. Williams, J.C. Parks, James Parks, Truett Longing, and Haskell Schorbar.

Zion Hill Church in North Pulaski Association celebrated 130 years of service Oct. 8 with homecoming activities and dinner on the grounds. Members gathered for morning worship underneath a brush arbor built for the occasion by men of the church from trees on the church property. Pastor Dick Avey preached the sermon. Special music was presented by Free Spirit and the church choir. Afternoon services featured two former pastors, Marvin

Faulkner and W.T. Holland. Toney Abbott, chairman of the church history committee, served as moderator.

Olivet Church in Little Rock recently recognized Norma Ausbrooks for 32 years of service in the area of instrumental music, and Crickett Walker for 17 years of service in the areas of preschool and Mother's Day Out.

Community Chapel at Crossett dedicated its fellowship hall Oct. 29. Billy Kite, director of missions for Ashley County Association, was speaker. Music was provided by the Holly Ridge Boys.

White River Church at Oil Trough celebrated 50 years of service Oct. 22. The church, with a current membership of 194, was organized with 14 charter members. Lonnie Busby was anniversary speaker. Thurlio Lee is pastor.

Park Hill Church in North Little Rock held a recognition service Oct. 29 for Clay and Debbie Porter, members that have been appointed by the Foreign Mission Board to serve as career missionaries to Hong Kong.

Hot Springs First Church observed its third annual John and Jewel Abernathy Weekend Nov. 4 by presenting awards to Boyd and Bonnie Margason, Tom Logue, Irene Branam, and Beatrice Prince.

South Highland Church in Little Rock has been conducting a six-week seminar on creation versus evolution. Paul Barnard was lecturer.

Pine Bluff Central Church celebrated its 42nd anniversary Nov. 5 with Sunday School, morning worship, a noon meal, and an afternoon music program featuring the Kinsmen. Former Pastor Andy O'Kelly was speaker. The church recently held an Impact Weekend with Michael Haynes as leader.

Little Rock Calvary Church broke ground for a family life center Oct. 29. Participating in the service were Dwayne Fischer, Pastor Randall O'Brien, Phil Cox, and Jimmie Sheffield, ABCS associate executive director.

DeQueen First Church recently recognized Mary Sue Lewis for eight years of service as church secretary.

ABN photo / J. Everett Sneed



West Church, Batesville, held a dedication of the remodeling of its auditorium and sanctuary Oct. 22. Pictured (left to right) is David Toblen, assistant pastor; Dale Mast, remodeling coordinator; Mrs. Dewey Brightwell, a member of the original building committee in 1954; and Larry Clark, chairman of deacons. The remodeling was completed at a cost of \$125,000 with much of the work being done with volunteer labor. The auditorium remodeling included repainting and replacement of the window sills and the installation of a new sound system. The entire plant received new heating and air conditioning systems. The speaker for the rededication was ABN Editor J. Everett Sneed. Randy Maxwell is pastor.

PEW UPHOLSTERING
REVERSIBLE CUSHIONS
PEW REFINISHING
STAINED GLASS
LIGHTING
CARPET • PEWS

We have upholstered pews in over 1500 churches totaling over 600,000 linear ft. We can reupholster and repair any pews on site for less cost than the original manufacturer.

Call Toll Free: 1-800-BUY-PEWS
 (1-800-289-7397)



Church Interiors Inc.

Leading the Nation in Church Renovations
 100 West Pine • Gurdon, AR 71743

Whiteville Church in Baxter County recently baptized six in an old-fashion baptismal service in Bull Shoals Lake at Lakeview. The church experienced a total of eight additions in October with three more awaiting baptism. The church also is constructing a fellowship hall that will almost double the size of the previous one and can be divided into four new classrooms.

People

Charles W. Kent, a former associate in the ABSC Evangelism Department, who has been living in Arlington, Texas, has relocated. He may be contacted at 4954 Meadowbrook Way, Birmingham, AL 35242; telephone 205-991-8416.

Scott Duvall is serving as interim pastor of First Church, Sheridan. He is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Duvall is a staff member of the religion department of OBU.

Allan Huddleston has joined the staff of First Church of Springdale as minister to

children. He has served as intern at both Springdale and at First Church of Ferguson, Mo. Huddleston is a graduate of Southwest Baptist University and will attend Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary extension in Springfield, Mo.

Charles Atkinson observed 20 years of service Oct. 13 as pastor of Green Memorial Church in Little Rock. The church honored him and his wife, Virginia, with a reception Oct. 15.

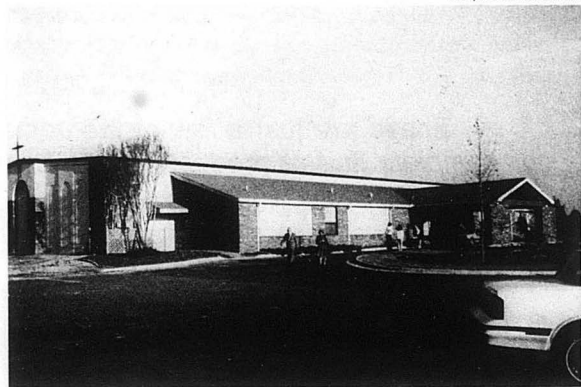
Phillip Drennan is serving as pastor of First Church in Wooster, coming there from Portland where he had served six years.

Cline D. Ellis has completed a five-month interim pastorate with First Church of Fordyce. He may be contacted at 702 Park Street, Fordyce, AR 71742; telephone 501-352-5541.

Brad Rogge resigned as pastor of Forrest Towers Church in Little Rock Oct. 29 to serve as pastor of First Church, Riverton, Kan.

Della Henry was honored Oct. 15 when Collins Church recognized her for 43 years of general secretary of the Sunday School department. She was presented a corsage by Bob Kizer, Sunday School director, and also received a plaque of appreciation.

ABN photo / J. Everett Sneed



Woodland Heights Church, Conway, held a dedication service for its new 16,000 square foot facilities Oct. 29. The new building was erected at a total cost of \$500,000, including 28 acres of land; actual building cost was \$350,000. The worship facilities will care for 330 people with an overflow capacity of 500. It is carpeted throughout, has a baptistry and choir facilities. The educational space consists of 23 Sunday School classrooms and two adult restrooms. The congregation currently averages 260 in Sunday School and 300 in worship. Founding Pastor David McGowan brought greetings, and the dedicatory message was presented by Jimmie Sheffield, associate executive director of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. David Hatfield is pastor.

Charles Chesser of Carlisle is serving as interim director of missions of Caroline Association.

Charlie Lee Brown II began serving Nov. 1 as pastor of First Church in Fordyce, coming there from Immanuel Church of El Dorado.

B.R. Johnson has resigned as youth minister at Grand Avenue Church in Fort Smith to join the staff of Sheridan Hills Church in Hollywood, Fla.

Classifieds

For Sale—Solid oak pews. Padded, with hymnal racks. We have 22 15-ft. pews and 4 4-ft. pews. Call 417-358-3991. 11/9

For Sale—1986 Champion Bus. 29 passenger, excellent condition, loaded. First Baptist Church, Brinkley, Ark., 734-2571 or 734-4641. 11/23

For Sale—Conn Delux Caprice organ. Excellent condition. Ideal for home or small church. 362-6291, 362-8131. 11/9

Partner Sought—Christian couple is looking for a financial partner to join in completing a Christian camp and conference center located in the Ouachita Mountains. 95% complete at present time. Phone 501-394-3146. 11/23

Insurance—Hospitalization plan pays outpatient and prescription drug benefits. Coverage is available for pre-existing conditions. Coverage also available for Medicare Supplement insurance. Phone Mr. Stewart collect at 501-664-0511 between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. — Reserve National Insurance Company (closed Wednesdays). 11/9

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.

A SMILE OR TWO

Experience is the ability to recognize a mistake when you make it again.

Hindsight is what let's you see how a mistake looks from the rear.

—Willis Johnson



J&H Custom Furniture, Inc.

Pews • Cushions • Chancel Furniture

Call for
more information:
501-439-2224

P.O. Box 196, Pindall, AR 72669

Building on a history
of excellence
and continuing to
grow in meeting your
electrical needs.
Call Larry or Donna Crenshaw



Harvill-Byrd Electric Co., Inc.

1619 Rebsamen Park Road
Little Rock, AR 72202
(501) 663-8345

ASC

Arkansas Sound Corporation

See our advertisement
in this issue!

P.O. Box 5986
North Little Rock, AR 72119
501-753-5674



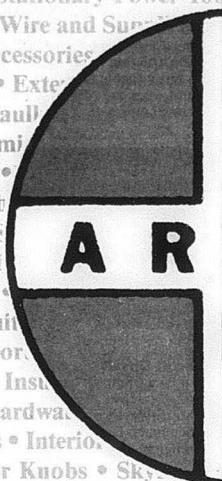
ETRO
BUILDERS, INC.

3405 Bay Oaks Drive
P.O. Box 959
North Little Rock, AR 72115
Phone 758-2845

Don Collie

Tom Cooper

Lumber • Plywood • Siding • Roofing • Windows • Tr
Sheetrock • Paneling • Wood Trim • Vinyl Trim • Door
Fir Doors • Vanity Cabinets • Marble Tops • Kitchen F
Varnish • Portable Power Tools • Stationary Power To
Sheathing • Insulation • Electrical Wire and Sur
Cabinet Hardware • Power Tool Accessories
Shutters • Interior Wood Shutters • Ext
Fans • Door Knobs • Skylights • Caulk
Spindles • Wood Columns • Alumi
Adhesives • Aluminum Thresholds •
Deck Material • Fireplaces • Fire
Nailers and Staplers • Nails • Oak S
Tools • Lumber • Plywood • Sid
Wallpaper • Sheetrock • Paneling •
Doors • Hemlock Fir Doors • Vanit
Wire • Paint • Stain • Varnish • Por
Hand Tools • Exterior Sheathing • Ins
Hardware • Decorative Cabinet Hardwa
Windows • Exterior Plastic Shutters • Interio
Wood Louvers • Attic Fans • Door Knobs • Sky
Patio Doors • Flashings • Spindles • Wood Columns •
Transom Windows • Adhesives • Aluminum Threshold
Fencing • Storm Doors • Deck Material • Fireplaces •
Cabinets • Air-Powered Nailers and Staplers • Nails • C



These are just a *few* of the items v
our *complete* line of products, come by ou

Supplying *all* your building

ARKMO Lumber & Supply Co. • 400 E. 1

PEST CONTROL



Little Rock 455-1065
N. Little Rock 945-0843
Searcy 268-8624

Serving Arkansas for more than 30 years

- ★ Steeples
- ★ Baptiseries & Heaters
- ★ Church Pews
- ★ Cushions
- ★ Pulpit Furniture
- ★ Refinishing



CENTRAL

Manufacturing Co.
P.O. Box 695 - Fifth and Vine
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72115
(501) 374-6008

Lumber • Carpet • Vinyl Floor Covering • Wallpaper
 • Metal Insulated Doors • White Pine Doors • Hemlock
 • Lavatory Faucets • Rebar • Tie Wire • Paint • Stain
 Carpenter Hand Tools • Mason Hand Tools • Exterior
 Supplies • Decorative Bath Hardware • Decorative
 • Aluminum Windows • Exterior Plastic
 • Wood Louvers • Attic
 • Screens • Patio Doors • Flashings
 • Sidelights • Transom Windows
 Plexiglass • Fencing • Storm Doors
 Medicine Cabinets • Air-Powered
 • Mail Boxes • Lawn and Garden
 • Carpet • Vinyl Floor Covering
 Metal Insulated Doors • White Pine
 • Lavatory Faucets • Rebar • Tie
 • Carpenter Hand Tools • Mason
 Plumbing Supplies • Decorative Bath
 • Wood Windows • Aluminum
 • Wood Shutters • Aluminum Vents and Louvers
 • Rubber Sealants • Storm Windows • Screens
 • Colonial Entrance Fronts • Sidelights
 • Weatherstripping • Glass • Plexiglass
 • Flue Liners • Masonry • Hardware • Medicine
 • Fir Stairways • Work Gloves • Chain • Mail

ell every day. To learn more about
 ore at 400 E. 11th St. in North Little Rock.
 ds for more than 60 years.
 St. • North Little Rock, Ark. • 375-1246

Arkansas Baptist

*Serving the
information needs
of Arkansas Baptists
for 87 years.*

For advertising information,
call Nick Nichols at 376-4791

Specializing in Church Construction

BESCO

Construction Management Co.

640 Prospect Building
1501 North University
Little Rock, AR 72207

501-664-2259

Bruce E. Schlesier

ALBERT GEORGE MFG. CO.

721 Poplar St., North Little Rock, Ark.
Phone 501-375-2921

Custom Manufacturers of

- Pew Cushions
- Kneeler Cushions
- Upholstered Seats and Backs
- Pulpit Chair Cushions
- Draperies • Fabrics
- Pulpit Furniture • Pews
- Steeples
- Baptistries

For Prices And Information, Write:
P.O. Box 5700, NLR, AR 72119

DYSON INSURANCE

*An Independent Agency
Specializing
In Church Insurance*

5307 JFK Blvd./P.O. Box 6251
North Little Rock, AR 72116
501-758-8340

LARRY BONE & ASSOCIATES

Professional Fund-Raising Consultants

1601 N. Shackleford
Suite 178-5
Little Rock, AR 72211
501-227-7720



ARKMO Lumber and Supply Co.

400 East 11th Street
North Little Rock, Arkansas

375-1246

Robert D. Little
President

ABN photo / J. Everett Sneed



Pictured are: (front row, left to right) M.F. Burge, R.A. Bone, and Don Moore; (back row, left to right) Lyle Koone, Harrison Johns, and William Passmore.

Floral Centennial

by J. Everett Sneed
Editor, Arkansas Baptist

The Floral Church celebrated its Centennial Oct. 22. The major speakers for the occasion were Harrison Johns, former associational director of missions for Independence Association and currently the pastor of the Cherry Valley Church, and S.D. Hacker, also a former director of missions for Independence Association and presently the pastor of the Northvale Church, Harrison. The speaker for the 11 o'clock hour was Don Moore, executive director of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

Three of the former pastors were present and spoke during the afternoon meeting. These pastors were William R. Passmore who served the church from 1977-1979 and is currently the pastor of the Claud Road Church, Pine Bluff; R.A. Bone who was pastor from 1949-1953 and presently

retired; and M.F. Burge who was pastor in 1963-1964 and is presently retired.

The Floral Church was organized under the name of the Pleasant Hill Missionary Baptist Church on Oct. 22, 1889. The organizational council was composed of individuals from Mount Zion, Good Hope and Old Union Churches. The organizational council elected H.C. Sanders as moderator and W.H. Womack as clerk. Initially the church was composed of 11 charter members.

In 1890 the church erected a building on a hill near the Gay School house. H.C. Sanders was called as the first pastor and C.W. Betts served as the second pastor.

In 1909, the church was moved from its

first location to where it presently stands in Floral.

A pastor's home was erected in 1919 and remodeled in 1943. A new parsonage was built in 1967 and remains to the present.

In 1944, under the leadership of Pastor Glenn Womack, the congregation developed plans for a new building. In 1946 a building committee made financial arrangements for the new facility and in 1947 the old building was raised and in 1948 the new one was erected in 1948. During the months the congregation was without a building, services were held under the trees.

In 1982, under the leadership of Pastor Jack Porter, a new education building was erected. In 1987, the church sanctuary was remodeled, new pews were installed and the newly decorated facilities were dedicated in 1988.

The name of the church was changed from Pleasant Hill to the Floral Church Sept. 6, 1952. The church has ordained two men to the gospel ministry. These men were J.C. James in 1906 and O.D. Yount in 1939.

The church has a total membership of 317. The Sunday School enrollment is 123 with an average attendance of 68. The total receipts of the congregation in 1988-89 were \$46,238. The church gave \$9,664 to mission causes, including the association, the Cooperative Program, Lottie Moon, Annie Armstrong, Dixie Jackson, and the Arkansas Baptist Home for Children. This represents a 20.9 percent expenditure to mission causes.

Lyle Koone, who has been pastor of the congregation since 1987, feels that the congregation has excellent growth potential. He said, "We need a great revival in our church. There are many who are lost in our community. We need people who are really interested in winning these lost individuals to the Lord. I look forward to our church growing numerically and spiritually."

Festival of Sharing

"Festival of Sharing," the 1989 Ingathering for World Hunger, will take place on Nov. 18 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Second Presbyterian Church, Little Rock.

The event, sponsored by the Arkansas Interfaith Task Force, unites Arkansians in the fight against hunger. For more information, call Jeanie Leffingwell at 376-1366 or 771-4567; or Diane Hanley at 455-1412.

How Many Messengers?

Churches planning to send messengers to the annual meeting of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention Nov. 14-15 at Little Rock's First Baptist Church will find assistance in calculating their qualified number of messengers by referring to a chart on back of their messenger cards.

Article III, Section 2 of the ABSC Constitution reads: "Each co-operating church shall be entitled to three messengers, with one additional messenger for each additional one hundred members, or major fraction thereof

above one hundred, provided, however, that no church shall be entitled to a total of more than ten messengers."

The chart on the reverse side of the messenger card indicates that congregations with a total membership below 150 are entitled to three messengers; 150-249, four messengers; 250-349, five messengers; 350-449, six messengers; 450-549, seven messengers; 550-649, eight messengers; 650-749, nine messengers; and 750 or more, 10 messengers.

'Solemn Assembly' Called for ABSC

A call has been issued for a "solemn assembly" of Arkansas Baptists burdened for spiritual awakening.

Don Moore, executive director of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, and Cary Heard, ABSC president and pastor of Park Hill Church in North Little Rock, have asked Arkansas Baptists concerned about the spiritual condition of the nation and churches to assemble for prayer after the Tuesday evening session of the ABSC annual meeting Nov. 14.

Their call to prayer and repentance is similar to one issued recently by five Southern Baptist prayer leaders during the live National Prayer Teleconference.

"The solemn assembly was the typical way leaders in the Old Testament were led by God to deal with the nation of Israel when they were in decline and under the judgment of God," observed Moore.

"God wants to bless his people," Moore continued. "Many of his people feel the desperation of the hour. They sense the judgment of God on America and on our churches. We want to bring our desires and God's desires together in one holy moment

of seeking his face."

Messengers to the annual meeting and other concerned Arkansas Baptists will convene in the sanctuary of Little Rock First Church for a time of prayer and repentance immediately following the Tuesday evening session of the convention.

KARK to Air Graham Crusade

The Billy Graham Little Rock Crusade will air on Channel 4, KARK-TV Dec. 5, 6 and 8. Exact times are yet to be determined; however, each of the three one-hour telecasts will air in prime time (7-10 p.m.).

Stagg Named to OBU Position

ARCADELPHIA—Dr. Robert W. Stagg, professor of religion at Ouchita Baptist University, has been named as the J.C. an Mae E. Fuller Professor of Bible at OBU. The appointment was made by the OBU Board of Trustees in a recent meeting.

A native of Alexandria, La., Stagg, 57, has

been a member of the department of religion at OBU since 1968. At Ouachita, he teaches Bible, Greek, and related ministerial courses.

Stagg is a graduate of Louisiana College and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; he has also studied at Cornell University, St. Mary's College and University of St. Andrews in Scotland.

National Premiere

The Chapel Choir of Little Rock's Immanuel Baptist Church will present the national premiere of a new musical, "People Need the Lord."

Arranged and produced by Steve Taylor, "People Need the Lord" is a contemporary Christian youth musical. The program, under the direction of Lynn Madden, associate pastor for music and media at Immanuel, will be presented at 6:30 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 12, in the church's auditorium at 1000 Bishop St. in Little Rock.

Complimentary tickets are available from the church music office at 374-SING.

Arkansans Receive Scholarships

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—Four students with Arkansas ties recently received academic scholarships from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary for 1989-90.

Kenneth Coggins was awarded the \$500 "Homer and Augusta Jones Memorial Scholarship." He is a graduate of Arkansas State University, Jonesboro, and considers Pine Bluff his hometown.

Steve Matthews received a \$2,000 scholarship as a master of divinity-correlated student. He is a graduate of Southern Baptist College, Walnut Ridge, and considers Van Buren his hometown.

Kenneth A. Poague also received a \$2,000 scholarship as a master of divinity-correlated student. He is a graduate of Southern Baptist College, Walnut Ridge, and considers Van Buren his hometown.

Steve Sullivan was awarded \$1,000 from the "J. Morris Ashcraft Scholarship." He was born in Little Rock and is a graduate of Baylor University, Waco, Texas.

Highland Court Revival

Mercy Seat National Baptist Church held a revival Oct. 23-27 in the Highland Courts area, Little Rock. The government housing area has 1,500 to 2,000 residents. The revival was conducted in a tent owned by the Arkansas Baptist State Convention Evangelism Department. The revival averaged more than 300 in attendance each night and netted 42 professions of faith, 40 additions by letter or statement, making a total response for the Mercy Seat Church of 82.

Pastor James Thrower says that the congregation gained 160 additional prospects from the families of those who have already made commitments. The Mercy Seat Church is using the Southern Baptist Survival kits for all who made decisions. The children who made professions of faith will not be baptized until they have completed the six weeks study of the Survival kit, to make certain that each decision is genuine.

Thrower said, "The drug dealers, prostitutes and ravaged youth stopped their activities of evil during the revival. It is



our hope that those who have made commitments for the Lord will have a dramatic impact on the Highland Courts area."

Jack Kwok, director of ABSC Cooperative Ministries, cited the revival as a good example of cooperation between National and Southern Baptists.

Pictured (left to right) are Evangelist Charles Williams, pastor of Union Faith National Baptist Church in Chicago, Ill., and James Thrower, a former student of Boyce Bible School.

Oak Hall Choir Robe Co.

Choir and Pulpit Robes
by Oak Hall and Bentley & Simon
Marty Sewald, Representative
6500 Mulberry St., Pine Bluff, AR 71603
536-4764 (h) 543-4313 (w)

BROTHERHOOD COMMISSION

First Co-ed Missions

by Jim Burton

SBC Brotherhood Commission

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP)—Southern Baptists' first coeducational missions education/action program for youth was approved at the October meeting of the denomination's Brotherhood Commission.

Targeted for youth from age 15 through high school seniors, the new program is called World Changers—Southern Baptist youth making a difference. It consists of 10 training sessions, typically led by a local church's youth leadership, and culminates in a nine-day missions project.

"If we are going to function in today's culture, we have to function in a coeducational environment," said Brotherhood Commission President James H. Smith.

"Involving Baptist teen-agers in a project of the magnitude of World Changers can help shape a world view out of which comes a heightened receptivity to ongoing missions education and participation," said Dellanna O'Brien, Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union president, from her office in Birmingham, Ala.

"World Changers has the potential of providing for young people many of the positive dimensions that volunteer missions projects have given our adults in recent years. We are pleased to find ways of cooperating with Brotherhood in the area of missions projects while continuing our primary focus on women and girls."

"The future of our missions endeavors is the involvement of our young people," said Billy Summerlin, Brotherhood trustee chairman from Gadsden, Ala. "If we miss them, we've missed a great opportunity for our future missions movement."

World Changers "has a broad impact on our whole convention. I'm glad we're on the cutting edge of something like this."

Trustees approved a new staff position, special projects coordinator for the children and youth division. Mike Day, former editor of High School Baptist Young Men's curriculum, will fill that position and develop the World Changers program.

World Changers will be piloted next summer with churches in Tennessee's Shelby Baptist Association, where the Brotherhood Commission is located, Day said. Two hundred youth are expected to participate in a summer project tentatively slated for Appalachia.

Long-range plans call for three national projects each summer and one international project. Each would require up to 400 youth, said Day.

Brotherhood officials said World

Changers is designed to enhance existing High School Baptist Young Men, Pioneer Royal Ambassador and Acteen programs by providing an option for cooperative missions involvement. In churches that currently have youth missions education programs, the different groups would meet once monthly 10 times for missions study prior to the summer project.

World Changers also is designed for churches without a youth missions education program that wish to provide missions involvement experience. The desire behind World Changers is for these churches to develop High School Baptist Young Men and Acteen programs after participation in World Changers, Day said.

A third target group cited by Day is "non-traditional" Brotherhood audiences. Black and ethnic leaders reportedly have endorsed World Changers as the "kind of combination" needed for their youth, he said.

In other business, trustees heard reports on a year-long financial turnaround and disaster response.

Smith reported to the trustees that the Brotherhood Commission's "year of austerity" left the agency in the black Sept. 30, the last day of the fiscal year. A year ago, the commission had an estimated \$110,000 deficit following the introduction of two new programs and the production of more than 30 new publications.

The commission's income statement shows a net gain of \$287,477.12 for the year. The commission currently is operating on a budget of \$3,132,788.

"Not only have we paid ourselves out of debt entirely, but we have generated a very sufficient cash flow," said Smith.

In 1988-89, the Brotherhood Commission faced the challenge of two hurricanes—Gilbert and Hugo—in its disaster relief program. Working with the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, 570 Brotherhood-recruited volunteers went to Jamaica to rebuild churches following Hurricane Gilbert. Brotherhood trustee John Baxley of St. Augustine, Fla., was the on-site coordinator.

More recently, volunteers from 11 states fed 350,312 meals in South Carolina following Hurricane Hugo. According to Douglas Beggs, the commission's adult division director, the South Carolina response was the largest effort in the history of the commission.

Summerlin and Smith noted the spirit of the trustee meeting as indicative of the cooperation needed in missions.

"The spirit of unanimity continues to amaze me," said Smith.

Trustees elected to serve on the commission's executive committee this year are Summerlin, chairman; Don Varnado, Alexandria, La.; Walter Barnes, Birmingham, Ala.; C.L. Bove, San Jon, N.M.; Joe Lenamon, Fort Worth, Texas; Joe Lennon, Wake Forest, N.C.; Ellis Norris, Washington; Wendell Reed, Salem, Va.; and Spud Willett, Warren, Mich.



8702 West 12th Street • Little Rock, Arkansas 72204

First Baptist Church

P.O. Box 1023 • Cabot, AR 72023 • 501-843-5472

Ken Newberry
Boyd Pro Sound
5702 W. 12th St.
Little Rock, AR 72204

October 20, 1989

Dear Mr. Newberry,

We want to thank you and your company for the installation of the sound system in our church, and for the efficient manner in which you did the job. You met with us at our convenience. You then gave us an estimated cost of the system.

The installation of the sound system was very well done. The quality of the system is great. We have had many compliments from our people about the quality of the new system.

Fredia Hollingshead
Fredia Hollingshead
Chairman

Audio, Visual & Sound Committee

Pressler Declines Post

by Marv Knox
Baptist Press

WASHINGTON (BP)—Paul Pressler, a Houston judge and vice chairman of the Southern Baptist Executive Committee, has turned down President Bush's nomination to direct the U.S. Office of Government Ethics.

But Pressler has accepted a part-time administration appointment, which is to be announced later this fall.

Pressler met in the Oval Office with President Bush, Vice President Dan Quayle and White House Chief of Staff John Sununu Oct. 11. At that time, Pressler declined to accept the top federal ethics post but indicated he would be willing to serve in another capacity, he said.

In a statement released by the White House press secretary's office to Baptist Press Oct. 18, President Bush said:

"Judge Paul Pressler is a man whom I have known and admired for many years. His integrity, outstanding qualifications and exhibition of the highest ethical standards prompted me to again urge him today

White House photo / Susan Biddle



Sununu, Pressler, Bush and Quayle in the Oval Office.

(referring to the Oct. 11 meeting) to accept the nomination as director of the Office of Government Ethics.

"Unfortunately, Judge Pressler informs me that due to professional, religious and family obligations, he is unable to accept a full-time government position at this time. He, therefore, withdrew his candidacy for director of the Office of Government Ethics. I am disappointed by that decision.

"However, Judge Pressler assured me that he would be willing to accept another position that would not conflict with his personal obligations. We will explore the

available options. I am grateful to Judge Pressler for his enthusiastic support and agreement to serve our country."

Contacted in Houston Oct. 18, Pressler told Baptist Press: "The president and I have reached an agreement, and an announcement will be forthcoming within the next month.

"The new position will allow me to stay on the bench, maintain my residence in Houston and to stay on the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention. If I had taken the other (Office of Government Ethics) position, I realized from the very beginning, I would have had to resign the position on the Executive Committee. I have an obligation to serve out the term to which I have been elected by Southern Baptists."

Family considerations also prompted his decision, Pressler added: "My wife's father is quite ill, and my parents have expressed a strong desire that I not leave Houston. They have wanted me to take greater responsibility in family business matters. Our son only recently has had additional grand mal seizures. He is pretty well stabilized now, but my wife and I are worried about the destabilization of his situation which could result from a move. All those are prominent factors."

News of Pressler's possible nomination to the top government ethics post first circulated in July. That was followed by rumors and counter-rumors concerning whether his nomination had been dropped by the Bush administration because of his controversial role as an architect of conservatives' rise to power in the Southern Baptist Convention.

But Pressler told Baptist Press Sept. 29, "The status (of the nomination) is that I have not been offered the job, and I have not decided to accept it if it is offered."

During a mid-October interview with Baptist Press, Pressler said that while the full-time ethics job would have required Senate confirmation and the new part-time post will not, both positions require FBI clearance, and that has been granted.

"I feel very excited about the new position, but it will not be announced for another month or so," he said.

Union Prof Faces Charges

JACKSON, Tenn. (BP)—John Meadows, 52, associate professor of religion and philosophy at Union University in Jackson, Tenn., has resigned after being arrested for alleged misdemeanor possession of marijuana and rape of a female student.

Charges were filed in Madison County, Tenn., Oct. 16.

Professional Sound for Churches . . . helps to ensure that your message is being clearly communicated.

Ensuring that your message is reliably communicated is a job that can't be trusted to just anyone. Communicating your message requires a system that starts with a professional sound contractor. We, as a professional sound contractor, can design a system that will improve your church's communication process.

First, we listen — to you. Then we evaluate, scientifically. With your input, we develop a personalized design. Then we add the proper components and install your customized sound system.

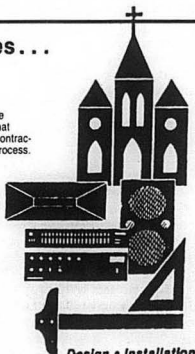
For complete confidence in your communication system, put your trust in a proven professional — someone who cares about your message. Call us today!

Recent BOYD PRO SOUND installations include: Kao Baptist Church; First Baptist, Yellville; First Baptist, Cabot; First Baptist, Marion; Bible Church, Mountain Home; Cherokee Village United Methodist Church; First Assembly of God, Conway.

**BOYD
PRO SOUND**

5702 West 12th Street • Little Rock, Arkansas 72204
501-664-3624

Professional reinforced sound systems for churches.



Design • Installation
Service • Sales • Rentals

For a free survey of your facility, call 501-664-3624 and ask for Ken!

CP Closes at \$137 Million

NASHVILLE (BP)—The Southern Baptist Cooperative Program ministry budget closed its fiscal year with receipts of \$137,332,523, announced Harold C. Bennett, president and treasurer of the convention's Executive Committee.

"This is \$2,544,980 more than was received last fiscal year, and we are grateful for the increase," he said.

The budget's fiscal year runs from Oct. 1 through Sept. 30.

The 1988-89 Cooperative Program received \$2,544,981 more than the previous year's budget, for a 1.89 percent increase, Bennett reported.

The Cooperative Program's basic operating budget goal was \$137,610,000. Receipts were \$227,477 below that goal, marking the first time since 1984-85 that

the Cooperative Program has not reached its basic operating budget.

Bennett noted that the 1988-89 receipts were the highest in the Cooperative Program's 64-year history. But he expressed disappointment with two aspects of the budget total.

"First, our mission budget could not be met, and second, we failed to achieve one of our basic goals," he said.

Because the basic operating budget was not met, funds were not allocated to the other two portions of the Cooperative Program, he said. The capital needs budget was targeted for \$6,899,000. A second-phase operating budget was to receive \$1,091,000; it would have allocated receipts to 19 convention entities that receive Cooperative Program funds in the

same proportion as they receive first-phase basic operating budget funds.

The Cooperative Program's gain over the previous year was 1.89 percent, less than half the U.S. inflation rate, which has been hovering around 5 percent.

The \$137,332,523 total will be the maximum 1990-91 Cooperative Program goal. The current goal was set by receipts for the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30, 1988.

Double Your Blessings!

DOUBLE YOUR BLESSINGS!



Fired Professor Files Suit

by Dan Martin
Baptist Press

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)—A former professor at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, fired in 1985, has filed suit against the seminary and its president, Russell Dilday.

T. Farrar Patterson, the only tenured professor to be fired in the history of the Fort Worth, Texas-based seminary, filed suit in 352nd District Court in Fort Worth Oct. 19, alleging he had been deprived of his livelihood and suffered severe mental anguish.

Patterson also sued a Fort Worth law firm, Gandy, Michener, Swindle, Whitaker and Pratt, alleging they failed to give him prudent legal advice.

Also named is attorney J. Shelby Sharpe, a member of the law firm when the firing occurred. The suit alleges Sharpe cared more about Christianity than his client.

The suit seeks unspecified compensatory and exemplary damages.

Patterson was fired on a 27-2 vote of seminary trustees Oct. 22, 1985. In the March 1985 meeting of trustees, Dilday brought a six-point charge against Patterson, then associate professor of preaching and communication. Patterson had been on the seminary faculty since 1969.

Dilday's charges alleged political implications by Patterson and alleged the professor was a "profane man," a poor teacher, insubordinate and a poor churchman and that he had made an "intentional distortion of the truth."

The political controversy in the

Southern Baptist Convention was featured in the discussion of Dilday's charges.

Trustees voted in the March 1985 meeting 19-12 to fire Patterson, two short of the required two-thirds majority needed.

After the meeting, three members of the seminary administration devised a "re-engagement" process designed to return Patterson to the classroom. He had been suspended prior to the board meeting.

The matter came before the trustees again in their October 1985 meeting. Trustee Chairman J. Drew Gunnells, a pastor from Mobile, Ala., reported Patterson, would not follow the plan and would not meet with the administration.

Trustees voted to fire Patterson for his failure to respond to the "re-engagement" process, and they did not act on Dilday's original charges.

In the lawsuit, filed by Fort Worth attorney Steven M. Carsey, Patterson says Dilday conducted "a campaign of harassment . . . which consisted of false written and oral accusations about plaintiff's lifestyle, morals, attitude, professional and religious competence and religious loyalty . . ."

It says he was wrongfully terminated, and "since that time . . . has been unable to find reasonably comparable employment and remains unemployed."

Patterson made a copy of the petition available to Baptist Press, writing across the top of the first page, "No comment at this time."

THANKSGIVING OFFERING



Arkansas
Baptist
Family and
Child Care
Services

Arkansas Baptist Home for Children

Little Rock • Monicello • Fayetteville
Jonesboro • Harrison • Hope

Trustees Question Role

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—The appointment of William R. O'Brien as a top special assistant to the president of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board drew protest in a letter from 28 of the board's 89 trustees in October.

FMB President R. Keith Parks disagreed strongly with contents of the letter in a point-by-point written response to all 89 trustees Oct. 24.

News of the confidential letter broke after the Richmond (Va.) *Times-Dispatch* heard rumors about the letter, confirmed its existence from two trustees and published a story Oct. 21.

"I feel I must respond to all trustees point by point because the letter signed by 28 of you is now public and because I am personally offended by what it implies about me and my character," Parks wrote to the trustees.

The letter to Parks, sent to him by trustee Bob Clayton of Rome, Ga., on behalf of the signers, listed five areas of disagreement with Parks' decision regarding O'Brien. Parks named O'Brien to the post after

O'Brien requested to step down from the board's executive vice presidency when his wife, Dellanna O'Brien, accepted the executive directorship of Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union. The O'Briens, former missionaries to Indonesia, now live in Birmingham, Ala.

The letter, received by Parks Oct. 16, said the signers disagreed with O'Brien's selection on grounds it (1) has the "appearance of cronyism" and makes an exception not available to other employees; (2) has "the appearance of linkage of two separate national organizations, the FMB and the WMU," which should operate independently; (3) is not cost effective in light of board emphasis on budgetary cuts; (4) makes it difficult for O'Brien to supervise employees from out of town; and (5) puts a person (O'Brien) with "open identification with the moderate faction in the Southern Baptist Convention" in a role the 28 trustees find objectionable.

"His role as liaison to other denominations and our agencies would not be our choice," the letter said.

FMB Requests Up 11 Percent

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Southern Baptist missionaries are asking the convention's Foreign Mission Board to fill 370 new missionary jobs in 1990, an increase of about 11 percent over personnel requests for 1989.

The 3,800-plus missionaries also are asking for 285 workers who are not career missionaries, a 30 percent jump over last year. That increase shows a growing emphasis on broadening the pool of Southern Baptists participating in overseas mission work.

The rise in missionary requests represents a sign of hope to the denomination's foreign mission enterprise, board strategists said.

Welcome

ARKANSAS BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION!

We hope you enjoy your stay in Little Rock.

You'll discover that our city offers a wide selection of excellent restaurants, interesting shops, and quality entertainment.

And be sure to call TELEFUN, 372-3399, for a recorded calendar of special events going on while you're in town.

Have a wonderful time, and come back soon!



Convention & Visitors Bureau
Statehouse Plaza • P. O. Box 222 • Little Rock, AR 72203 • (501) 378-4781

Copeland Bus Sales and Service

Quality pre-owned school buses
Many sizes, makes, models,
and price ranges

St. James, Mo. 314-265-7408

When life seems hopeless, call RAPHA

Rapha is a Christ-centered hospital and counseling center that's dedicated to restoring hope to people of all ages suffering from:

- Drug & Alcohol Dependency
- Depression
- Divorce
- Bitterness
- Broken Relationships
- Guilt & Anger
- Stress
- Abortion
- Suicidal Tendencies
- Loneliness & Fear



Dr. Morris Chapman,
Pastor
First Baptist Church
Wichita Falls, Texas

Dr. Morris Chapman says, "My dream for a Christ-centered treatment center for people struggling with emotional problems and/or chemical dependency has become a reality through Rapha. If you know of someone who is hurting and needs help, you can trust their professional staff with your loved one."

For more information about the Rapha center nearest you, call toll-free today:

1-800-782-2550
Confidentiality guaranteed

Rapha

Christ-centered Hospital and Counseling Care
P.O. BOX 580355, HOUSTON, TX 77258

(FMB) photo / Craig Bird



Missionary Kathy Johnson and son Clifford visit with a friend in Zimbabwe.

Ordinary People

by Craig Bird

SBC Foreign Mission Board

GWERU, Zimbabwe—Kathy Johnson and Webster's Dictionary have an "ordinary" disagreement.

Johnson often describes herself as "prof of an ordinary person can be a missionary." Webster's defines her self-applied adjective as "routinized, usual, of a common quality, rank or ability."

Routine? Would you raise two children where "how to react to when you see a cobra" is a standard lecture?

Usual? How many Southern Baptist missionaries were raised in a Buddhist home? Common ability? Anyone could teach Sunday School to 20 children, ages 2-16, in both English and Shona and provide

marriage counseling to African college students, right?

That's Kathy Johnson, ordinary missionary.

"When we get our self-evaluation form, and I come to the part asking how many people we've led to the Lord, I get discouraged because I don't have big numbers. But I know I'm planting and

watering, and I'm content with that," she said.

"She has a lot more impact than she realizes," husband Leon interjects. "When we were doing student work at the University of Zimbabwe, kids would come by the house when they knew I was gone so they would have an excuse to talk to Kathy, instead, because she is so good at answering their questions, spiritual and otherwise."

Instead of numbers, Johnson talks about the people to whom God has allowed her to minister.

"When we first came to Zimbabwe in December 1982 and started at the university, I was a little lost. Leon was leading Bible studies and discipleship groups, and I hadn't been to seminary or anything" she says. "But I realized God was giving me my ministry when students began to ask me about my Christian perspective on marriage and raising children and things like that."

A major breakthrough came, unplanned, when she agreed to let Oliver, a student who had been unable to locate housing, live in their extra bedroom.

"We only had (daughter) Miliaka then and had the space, so we thought we were helping Oliver," she said. "But because he was there, we were able to meet so many other students. He'd bring them home to meet us, and people who would never just walk up and talk to a foreigner were suddenly in our home on a regular basis."

The discussions weren't always based on the Bible.

"We didn't own but two chairs when we

— FOR SALE —

Big Gospel Tent

110' x 80'—Vinyl—Blue & White
Chairs, Lights, Other Equipment
AND

Stage-Equipment Trailer

Custom Designed
Opens to 24' x 16'
Fully Automated

Contact Larry Carson 501-268-4490
Quality Van Sales
1500 E. Race, Searcy, AR 72143

ELMER'S

1802 Jacksonville Highway, North Little Rock

Open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Mon. - Sat., 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., Sun.

Visa MasterCard American Express Discover
Free Layaway

Levi Dockers Starting at \$24.95

Levi Basic Blue 501s \$19.95

Wide Selection of Fall Suits Starting at \$69.95

Nocona, Justin, and Tony Lama First Quality Boots

Snake and Lizard Boots \$199.95

Exotic Belts \$19.95

Wide Selection of Ladies' Dress and Casual Wear

Ladies' Levi 900 Series Jeans \$19.95

945-1444

Prothro Junction Exit off I-40 in North Little Rock

first got on the field, so when student groups came we all just sat on the floor," she remembers. "Finally, several students convinced Oliver to ask if there was a religious reason we wouldn't use chairs."

As the visitors—and the questions—continued, the spotlight sometimes got uncomfortable. "When I realized how closely they were watching us, I got a little scared," Kathy admits. "I was afraid I'd shatter their faith if they heard me yell at my children or be ugly with Leon."

Oliver allayed that fear, however, when he told them that the Bible studies had been helpful, but watching them as a Christian family had really taught him how to put his faith into practice.

And when a recent change in job assignments took them from university work in the capital city of Harare to the campus of the Baptist seminary of Zimbabwe in Gweru, the rewards—viewed from that distance—seemed more reassuring.

"The payoff is in seeing how the ones we've nurtured have turned out," she said. Oliver, now a financial officer with the national reserve bank, asks them to pray he will be effective in sharing his faith in his work. Another former student is a lawyer, and another is a teacher—but they all are active Christian witnesses, well-grounded in the faith they share with those around them.

The church they started in the carport of their home near the university is another reassuring memory. As often happens, a number of children, unaccompanied by

adults, began coming. "I'm a nurse by training, not a teacher, but it was soon obvious we needed something for the kids on their level while Leon worked with adults on their level," she said.

"Many of the parents of the children who came had to work on Sundays and couldn't come. Some days we'd have four and some days 20. The older kids wanted to be taught only in English, and the younger ones couldn't understand anything but Shona.

"I struggled and said, 'Lord, you know I don't know how to teach, but they're coming, and we have to give them something,'" she remembers.

"So I got out the paints and the crayons, had the older children read Bible stories in Shona to the younger ones and said, 'Lord, this is what I can do, use it.'"

Born in a "nominal" Buddhist home in Hawaii, she became interested in Christianity as a high school student "searching for the meaning of life," but quickly noted she was as good morally as the Christians she knew.

"Also," she admits, "the thought did cross my mind that if I became a Christian, God might send me to Africa as a missionary." In college she encountered "a strange group of students" who managed to be happy without doing drugs and "had a faith that made them think about things other than what they were going to wear to church on Sunday."

During a prayer session after a youth outing on the beach, she accepted Christ "with the understanding that if I was go-

ing to be a Christian, it was going to change the way I lived my life."

Her baptism was delayed for a year in deference to her parents. She prayed for a Christian husband and met Leon, an Arkansan who came to Hawaii to teach at Hawaii Baptist Academy. Stints in Louisville, Ky., while Leon finished seminary and in Hilo, Hawaii, where they resurrected the campus Baptist Student Union, preceded the move to Zimbabwe, where she taught her children to shut their eyes tight if they encounter a cobra—to keep it from spitting in their eyes.

Her parents, though still not Christians, have been impressed "by the way Southern Baptists take care of their missionaries, both financially through the Cooperative Program and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering and spiritually by praying for us."

The couple has developed several close friendships with people they've never met but who started writing them to say they were praying for Leon and Kathy Johnson.

"Prayer support is so vital and so special," she said. "It helps you get through those times when you feel like you should give it up and go home."

In other words, it helps ordinary people do their ordinary jobs on ordinary mission fields.

HMB

HOME MISSION BOARD, SBC

**\$7,500,000
Series E Church Loan
Collateralized Bonds**

Proceeds from the sale of the Bonds, along with other available funds of Home Mission Board, will be used to make direct loans to Baptist churches affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention for the financing of sites and the construction of buildings in keeping with the Bold Mission Thrust emphasis of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Interest on the Bonds will be payable semi-annually. The Bonds will be offered with maturity dates varying from twelve months to fifteen years and the interest rate will vary from 8.5% to 11% depending upon the maturity date as set forth in the Prospectus. Minimum purchase is \$500.

Copies of the Prospectus may be obtained by calling or writing the Home Mission Board, Home Mission Board, SBC; Attn: Church Loans Division; 1350 Spring St., NW; Atlanta, GA 30367; 1-800-HMB-BOND

This announcement is neither an offer to sell nor a solicitation of offers to buy any of these securities. The offer is made only by Prospectus.

Please send a copy of the Prospectus for the Series E issue of Home Mission Board Church Loan Collateralized Bonds.

Name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____



Quality
VAN Sales

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

FIBERGLASS BAPTISTRIES
STEEPLES—CROSSES
WATER HEATERS
Pews-Pulpit Furniture
CARPET-LIGHTING FIXTURES
FREE COLORED BROCHURE

LITTLE GIANT MANUFACTURING CO.
Box 518 / Orange, Texas 77630
DIAL TOLL FREE 1-800-231-8035

**Vacation or
Business Travel**

Complete arrangements
at no extra charge

Peters Travel

9107 Rodney Parham
Little Rock, Ark.
501-224-8442
1-800-441-8687

Convention Uniform

During the Tribulation

by Reed Bethel, Otter Creek First Church, Little Rock

Basic passage: Revelation 7

Focal passage: Revelation 7

Central truth: God will provide salvation for two groups during the Tribulation.

Revelation 5 introduced the seven-sealed scroll of the Lamb. The seals represented judgments which will take place during the Tribulation. Six judgments were revealed in Revelation 6; the seventh in Revelation 8. Chapter 7 is an interlude between the opening of the sixth and seventh seals where God reveals two groups to be saved during the Tribulation. Even in judgment, God remembers mercy! Who are these two groups?

(1) The Jews who were sealed (vv. 1-8). Today, most Jews reject Christ. During the Tribulation, however, a remnant will embrace Jesus as Savior. These 144,000 servants will be saved and sealed. In Scripture, a seal indicates ownership and protection. The Holy Spirit is the Christian's seal (Ep. 1:13-14). God will supernaturally seal these Jews (v. 3, 14:1) so that they may him. Many scholars believe that they will be missionaries who will preach Jesus during the Tribulation (see Mt. 10:16-23, 24:14), converting multitudes of Gentiles.

(2) The Gentiles who were saved (vv. 9-17). During the Tribulation, a revival of incomprehensible proportions will take place! These saints who are saved during the Tribulation (v. 14) are innumerable and from every nation on earth (v. 9). They are righteous (vv. 9-10), symbolized by their white robes washed in the blood of Jesus. The only way any person in any age can be saved is through Jesus. They are rejoicing (vv. 11-12), at home in the presence of God. They are removed (vv. 13-14) from the Tribulation, apparently by martyrdom (see Re. 6:9-11). They are relieved (vv. 15-17), enjoying the blessings of the saints in heaven.

Will anyone be saved during the Tribulation? Yes! Why then should a person be saved now? Here are three reasons: (1) 2 Thessalonians 2:11-12 suggests that a person who had the chance to receive Christ before the Tribulation and rejected him will be unable to receive him at all. (2) Those saved during the Tribulation will endure great suffering and loss of life (see Re. 13:5-10, 15-17). (3) The blessings of knowing Jesus and his love now will be forfeited.

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

Life and Work

Start Where You Are

by Bert Thomas, Valley Church, Searcy
Basic passage: 2 Kings 5:1-15

Focal passage: 2 Kings 5:1-5, 7-8, 10-14

Central truth: We should begin where we are in our missions tasks.

Proper attitudes and actions are essential to the success of any endeavor. The next seven lessons can change us dramatically if we will focus on proper attitudes we should have and actions we should take to accomplish our missions task. As we study these lessons each person should consider a specific attitude he should possess or a specific action he should do for our Lord. This lesson will help us identify some opportunities to be involved in our missions task in our own situation.

Naaman was crushed! He had just discovered that he had leprosy. He was commander of the Syrian army and had proven himself a man of valor, but this was now secondary. His dreams had turned to ashes. He needed a miracle in his life! An Israelite slave girl serving in his home learned about his disease and became involved. Her attitude toward her master is a worthy example for us to follow.

The nameless slave girl was sensitive to the needs of Naaman. He was more than her master. He was a man who needed to be touched by God. She knew from experience the pain of separation from her family. Her heart went out to Naaman and his family because she knew they would also experience the pain of separation because of his leprosy. In spite of her circumstances she was sensitive to the needs of others and shared her faith with them. We should also be sensitive to the needs of others and share our faith regardless of circumstances.

The maid's action set things in motion for Naaman's recovery. The King of Syria sent a letter to the King of Israel asking him to cure Naaman. The King of Israel tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to kill and make alive, that this man sends a man to me to heal him of his leprosy?" (2 K. 5:15). How did this happen? One nameless slave girl had the proper attitude and shared her faith in God in spite of her circumstances.

Someone is waiting for you to tell them about Jesus. The time is right. The circumstances will never be any better. Rise above your adversities and seize this opportunity.

This lesson is based on the Life and Work Curriculum for Southern Baptist Churches, copyright by the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Bible Book

Working While Waiting

by W.L. Bruce Jr., Forty-Seventh Street Church, North Little Rock.

Basic passage: 2 Thessalonians 3:1-16

Focal passage: 2 Thessalonians 3:4-15

Central truth: In light of the coming again of Christ, the believer should demonstrate a proper attitude toward work.

In this passage Paul addressed a practical issue related to the matter of waiting for the Lord's return. Word had come to Paul that some believers in the church at Thessalonica were living in a disorderly manner. In verse 11, Paul stated that their disorderly behavior manifested itself in two ways. First, they refused to work for their livelihood. Second, they were busybodies.

Paul and his fellow missionaries had earned their own way while ministering at Thessalonica in order to set an example for the believers there. They went a step further and commanded that if a believer was not willing to work then he should not eat.

When Paul used the adverb "disorderly," he used a military term (2 Th. 3:6,11). It signifies slackness (like soldiers not keeping rank). The same word appears in adjective form in 1 Thessalonians 5:14 ("unruly" in King James Version), describing certain church members who manifested an insubordinate spirit. They were meddlesome or simply idle.

The term "busybodies" refers to those who are not busy in their own business, but are overbusy in that of others. It signifies to meddle in other people's matters, offering unnecessary or unwanted advice. Paul also warns about busybodies in 1 Timothy 5:13.

Paul exhorted the Thessalonians not to be weary in well doing (v. 13). The term "well doing" means to do well, excellent, to act honorably. Paul was saying that the believer should not only work, but strive for excellence in his work. Sometimes it is easy to become discouraged when those around us seem not to care about their work, or the Lord's work for that matter. We tend to be slack in our own efforts as well. We must not grow weary in well doing (Ga. 6:9).

Paul instructed the Thessalonians to avoid the believer who refused to work. At the same time, he counseled them to try to win him to a responsible behavior and attitude regarding productive work.

This lesson treatment is based on the Bible Book Study for Southern Baptist churches, copyright by the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. All rights reserved. Used by permission.



SIXTH ANNIVERSARY

BUY ONE-GET ONE FREE!

WITH CHOICE OF 6 DINNERS LISTED BELOW

GET 2 FOR 1 DINNERS WITH THIS VALUABLE COUPON

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| (1) SMALL CATCH CATFISH DINNERS | 2 TO 4
PIECES EACH | 2 FOR \$4.49 |
| (2) MEDIUM CATCH CATFISH DINNERS | 4 TO 6
PIECES EACH | 2 FOR \$5.99 |
| (3) LARGE CATCH CATFISH DINNERS | 7 TO 9
PIECES EACH | 2 FOR \$7.79 |
| (4) SHRIMP DINNERS WITH 6 SHRIMP | THEY'RE DELICIOUS | 2 FOR \$5.19 |
| (5) SHRIMP DINNERS WITH 12 SHRIMP | BE HUNGRY FOR THESE | 2 FOR \$7.15 |
| (12) CATFISH AND SHRIMP DINNERS | GREAT COMBO | 2 FOR \$7.15 |

Please present this advertisement and coupon at the time of purchase. This coupon is valid on buy one-get one-free purchase and not valid with any other offer.
 © COUPON EXPIRES NOV. 30, 1989

GET 2 FOR 1 DINNERS WITH THIS VALUABLE COUPON

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| (1) SMALL CATCH CATFISH DINNERS | 2 TO 4
PIECES EACH | 2 FOR \$4.49 |
| (2) MEDIUM CATCH CATFISH DINNERS | 4 TO 6
PIECES EACH | 2 FOR \$5.99 |
| (3) LARGE CATCH CATFISH DINNERS | 7 TO 9
PIECES EACH | 2 FOR \$7.79 |
| (4) SHRIMP DINNERS WITH 6 SHRIMP | THEY'RE DELICIOUS | 2 FOR \$5.19 |
| (5) SHRIMP DINNERS WITH 12 SHRIMP | BE HUNGRY FOR THESE | 2 FOR \$7.15 |
| (12) CATFISH AND SHRIMP DINNERS | GREAT COMBO | 2 FOR \$7.15 |

Please present this advertisement and coupon at the time of purchase. This coupon is valid on buy one-get one-free purchase and not valid with any other offer.
 © COUPON EXPIRES NOV. 30, 1989

GET 2 FOR 1 DINNERS WITH THIS VALUABLE COUPON

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| (1) SMALL CATCH CATFISH DINNERS | 2 TO 4
PIECES EACH | 2 FOR \$4.49 |
| (2) MEDIUM CATCH CATFISH DINNERS | 4 TO 6
PIECES EACH | 2 FOR \$5.99 |
| (3) LARGE CATCH CATFISH DINNERS | 7 TO 9
PIECES EACH | 2 FOR \$7.79 |
| (4) SHRIMP DINNERS WITH 6 SHRIMP | THEY'RE DELICIOUS | 2 FOR \$5.19 |
| (5) SHRIMP DINNERS WITH 12 SHRIMP | BE HUNGRY FOR THESE | 2 FOR \$7.15 |
| (12) CATFISH AND SHRIMP DINNERS | GREAT COMBO | 2 FOR \$7.15 |

Please present this advertisement and coupon at the time of purchase. This coupon is valid on buy one-get one-free purchase and not valid with any other offer.
 © COUPON EXPIRES NOV. 30, 1989

GET 2 FOR 1 DINNERS WITH THIS VALUABLE COUPON

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| (1) SMALL CATCH CATFISH DINNERS | 2 TO 4
PIECES EACH | 2 FOR \$4.49 |
| (2) MEDIUM CATCH CATFISH DINNERS | 4 TO 6
PIECES EACH | 2 FOR \$5.99 |
| (3) LARGE CATCH CATFISH DINNERS | 7 TO 9
PIECES EACH | 2 FOR \$7.79 |
| (4) SHRIMP DINNERS WITH 6 SHRIMP | THEY'RE DELICIOUS | 2 FOR \$5.19 |
| (5) SHRIMP DINNERS WITH 12 SHRIMP | BE HUNGRY FOR THESE | 2 FOR \$7.15 |
| (12) CATFISH AND SHRIMP DINNERS | GREAT COMBO | 2 FOR \$7.15 |

Please present this advertisement and coupon at the time of purchase. This coupon is valid on buy one-get one-free purchase and not valid with any other offer.
 © COUPON EXPIRES NOV. 30, 1989

WELCOME Arkansas Baptist State Convention

WE CATER ALL ITEMS ON OUR MENU
NO GROUP TOO LARGE - HIGH QUALITY CATERING

ALL DINNERS SERVED WITH TOMATO RELISH, COLE SLAW, ONION, FRIES AND HUSH PUPPIES.
SAVE ON DINE-IN, DRIVE-THRU AND CALL IN ORDERS!

663-7224

Because of the enormous overall operating costs, such as food, labor, utilities, etc. we no longer offer senior citizen discounts.

663-8538



ALL FISH ARE BONELESS FILETS AND SERVED ACCORDING TO WEIGHT
HOURS: SUNDAY - THURSDAY 11-9, FRIDAY & SATURDAY 11-10
USE OUR CONVENIENT DRIVE-THRU - PHONE ORDERS WELCOME

CAPEFISH CITY 1817 S. University Ave.
Little Rock • 663-7224

Subscriber Services

The *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine* offers subscription plans at three rates:

Every Resident Family Plan gives churches a premium rate when they send the *Newsmagazine* to all their resident households. Resident families are calculated to be at least one-fourth of the church's Sunday School enrollment. Churches who send only to members who request a subscription do not qualify for this lower rate of \$5.52 per year for each subscription.

A Group Plan (formerly called the Club Plan) allows church members to get a better than individual rate when 10 or more of them send their subscriptions together through their church.

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, Inc.
P.O. Box 552
Little Rock, AR 72203
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

017557 CUMP 2230
HISTORICAL COMMISSION
901 CORNERCE ST #400
NASHVILLE TN 37203

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Little Rock, AR
Permit No. 2006

Subscribers through the group plan pay \$6.12 per year.

Individual subscriptions may be purchased by anyone at the rate of \$6.99 per year. These subscriptions are more costly because they require individual attention for address changes and renewal notices.

Changes of address by individuals may be made with the above form.

When inquiring about your subscription by mail, please include the address label. Or call us at (501) 376-4791, ext. 5156. Be prepared to give us your code line information.

WORLD

More Bibles for Russia

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP)—While its people still guard their optimism, religious reforms taking place in the Soviet Union are providing unprecedented opportunities for the gospel of Jesus Christ to be preached to all people, observers there report.

And Southern Baptists are seeing their efforts to provide Bibles for Soviet people realized through continued participation in the "Bibles for Russia" campaign, said James Smith, president of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission, who recently returned from a week-long trip to the country.

Smith accompanied a group of Baptist World Alliance executive staff members who were invited to the Soviet Union by the country's All-Union Council of Evangelical Christians-Baptists. Smith was invited because of the Brotherhood Commission's participation in Bibles for Russia. In addition to Smith, the group included Denton Lotz, BWA executive director and W.J. (Doc) Isbell, executive director of the BWA men's department.

While in the Soviet Union, Smith visited the Soviet Latvian capital of Riga, where 20,000 Latvian-language Bibles have been delivered for distribution. Another 80,000 Bibles printed in four other languages have or soon will be delivered for distribution in Armenia, Georgia, Estonia and the Ukrain, Smith said. Other cities Smith visited while in the country included Moscow, Minsk and Leningrad.

The response of Soviets who have received Bibles has been that of joy and appreciation, Smith said.

Smith preached at several churches while in the Soviet Union. Following one service, a Ukrainian minister to asked if Smith would send to him English-language Bible from the United States. Smith gave the minister his own Bible.

"He grasped the Bible, embraced it and kissed it. Tears came to his eyes," Smith said. "He had learned English and speaks English well . . . He had had a desire for an English Bible for years."

The current Bibles for Russia campaign follows a successful campaign in 1987 by

the United Bible Societies and Baptist World Alliance, when 100,000 Russian-language Bibles were sent to the country prior to the celebration of the 1,000-year anniversary of Christianity in the Soviet Union. Bibles for Russia was adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention Baptist Men organization as an international project.

Religious reforms brought about by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev are providing unprecedented opportunities for the church in the Soviet Union, Smith said.

The current attitude among Soviet officials seems to be that of casting aside much of the Stalin ideology and replacing it with Leninism. Smith said, noting the secretary of religious affairs in Minsk said that Stalin is blamed for closing up Soviet churches and decreeing that only one church of any given denomination could exist in a city.

Now that barriers are being lifted, 20 adult members of a church are allowed to make an application for a building permit for the construction of a new church, Smith said.

Smith and others visited the site of a project underway by the Baptist church in Leningrad to open a new building. A number of young people are living and working in the building.

"Those young people are living in that building and are refurbishing it themselves without any modern equipment," said Smith. "They are some of the most excited bunch of young people that I have ever seen. They are working on what looks like an impossible task, but one of these days there is going to be another Baptist church there."

As Bibles are being provided to people, many have felt an obligation to return something to the church. Money received by the churches is in turn being placed into a building fund that will result in the construction of new churches, Smith said. While a donation is not a requirement to receive a Bible, Smith said, most people give 25 rubles, which represents about 40 American dollars and a month's tithe for a Soviet worker.

MK Birthday Prayer Calendar: November

Missionary Kids Attending College in Arkansas

- 21 Nelwyn Jordan
(Japan)
- 26 Suzy Spann
(Brazil)

OBU Box 3585
Arkadelphia, AR 71923

ASU Box 347
State University, AR 72467