

FROM ATLANTA OFFICE

WALKER L. KNIGHT, regional editor
161 Spring St., N.W., Atlanta 3, Georgia
Telephone: JAckson 3-2593

November 2, 1959

**First Work In Pittsburgh
Constitutes Into Church**

ATLANTA, Ga.---(BP)---The first Southern Baptist work in Pittsburgh, Pa., was constituted as the Pittsburgh Baptist Church, October 30, with 97 charter members.

Started by laymen, under the leadership of Area Missionary Paul Nevels, the mission operated months without a pastor. Services were led by laymen of the church and the visiting preachers during this period. Since 1958, the mission had grown to a membership of almost 100 with a full church program.

Joseph M. Waltz, recently elected as director of Southern Baptist work in Pittsburgh, was called as pastor of Pittsburgh Baptist Church. Plans of Waltz and the new church are to sponsor missions in the surrounding areas.

Indicative of the spread of pioneer missions, the mission in Pittsburgh, associated with the Ohio convention, was sponsored by a church in Weirton, W. Va. J. Pat Brock, pastor of the sponsoring church, attended the constitution service.

Representing Ohio, the state convention with which the church will be affiliated, were Superintendent of Missions Darty Stowe, Evangelism Secretary Leonard Stigler, and Editor Gene Puckett of the Ohio Baptist Messenger. A. B. Cash, secretary of pioneer missions, and J. C. Durham, Jr., secretary of promotion, represented the Home Mission Board.

Mission work in the industrial Northeast and in the West is supported by the Home Mission Board through church loans, missionaries, pastoral salary supplement, and guidance.

Waltz, former president of the Ohio state convention, who assumed his duties in Pittsburgh, October 1, said the new church hopes to purchase the building which it is now renting with an option to buy.

Mission Conference Set
For All Six Seminaries

ATLANTA--(BP)--All six of Southern Baptists' seminaries have scheduled home mission conferences during January, February, and March, announced Glendon McCullough, secretary of missionary personnel of the Home Mission Board.

New developments in home mission work have made the meetings necessary, McCullough says. These are the re-organization of the board, the new relationship with state boards, the acute need for personnel in several areas, and the new qualifications for home mission personnel.

The conferences, usually from two to four days in length, provide seminary students a contact with missionary personnel, information from the field, special interest conferences, as well as emphasis upon inspiration. Leaders from the Home Mission Board will take part and direct the conference.

Dates for the conferences are Golden Gate Seminary, January 19-22; Southern Seminary, January 26-29; Southwestern Seminary, February 9-12; Midwestern Seminary, February 16-19; New Orleans Seminary, February 24-26, and Southeastern Seminary, March 2-4.

These conferences will use chapel services, evening worship periods, panel discussions, and individual conferences to bring seminary students and faculty abreast with current trends and needs in home missions.

-30-

Low On Funds Churches
Give Men and Time For Missions

ATLANTA--(BP)--Churches not able to sponsor missions are sponsoring mission surveys. In Iowa, Everett Bryant, associate missions superintendent, says that in cases where there is no sponsoring church, help in sponsoring a survey is sought from the closest association or church.

If a church is sponsoring a mission, they survey the area.

"Experience has taught us it is unwise to establish a new mission without a survey of the mission field," said Bryant.

According to Bryant, Northwest Missouri Baptist Association paid the expenses of men from their association for the survey at Council Bluffs, Iowa. In Clinton, First Baptist Church of Rock Falls, Ill., furnished workers; the pastor worked with the members. Two-and-one-half-year-old Fairview Baptist Church in Iowa sponsored a survey in Cedar Rapids. Their men and women worked day and night until the job was done.

-30-

Folks and Facts

.....Metropolitan Atlanta law enforcement officers were urged by the Druid Hills Baptist Church board of deacons to crack down on the "operation of slot machines and other gambling devices." Officials of five counties were called on "to terminate these violations" and "discharge their sworn duty." The resolution also rapped "the sale of mixed drinks."

-0-

.....Cary C. Wood, assistant pastor of Second-Ponce de Leon Baptist Church, Atlanta, is reported in serious condition in Georgia Baptist Hospital following a heart attack, while preaching. The 56-year-old minister gave no indication that anything was wrong when the attack occurred. He motioned to a doctor in his congregation when the service was over who accompanied him to a room behind the sanctuary and administered medical aid.

-30-

Servicemen Overseas Providing Positive Religious Leadership

"American servicemen are providing positive lay religious leadership overseas," Alfred Carpenter of the Chaplain's Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention, said last week on his return from a seven-week tour of military installations in England, France, Germany, and Italy.

Carpenter praised the Baptist chaplains for their work in exceptional places of spiritual leadership, and for good public relations to local communities, as well as for their full-time religious programs. He also was amazed at the economic recovery of Europe. Carpenter is director of the Chaplains Division of the Home Mission Board.

"I shall never forget the positive religious leadership of the officers and servicemen," Carpenter said. He mentioned a general in France who left his field command to attend a meeting with the Sunday school superintendents, teachers, and other religious leaders of his command. This same general was elected the next week as president of the Men of the Chapel movement for all of Europe.

"These laymen discuss spiritual matters as naturally and normally as ministers," he added. "It is part of their life; they were not just seeking to make an impression."

Carpenter explained that the chaplain overseas was called on to function more in the pastoral role than the chaplain in the states because of the presence of dependents and because there was no English speaking local church program accessible.

The overseas chaplains conduct night services, mid-week meetings, study classes, and other services. There was a high spiritual level in the services. At one meeting where Carpenter preached there were four conversions, four re-dedications, and two who surrendered to the ministry.

"The chaplains, because they are dealing primarily with the young manhood of our nation, are sharing a large part in calling out the next generation of preachers," he said.

Carpenter said that he was puzzled to know what became of the rubble he had noted on his last visit during 1946. When no one volunteered the information, he finally asked a chaplain who pointed to a mountain in the distance.

"That's a part of the rubble from this city," the chaplain replied. "They built a railroad out there, dumped the debris on top of the mountain, leveled it, and placed a cross and a monument there in memory to the bodies entangled in it."

Carpenter also made these observations:

- 1) The family unit, which is now so much a part of the military installation, has given a stability to the overseas unit, and has helped to raise the spiritual level of our military personnel.
- 2) Southern Baptist agencies are doing an exceptional job in co-operating with and making possible materials needed by the chaplains. He gave as an example the Sunday school literature and the Televangelism series of the Radio and TV Commission.
- 3) The European countries are making a rapid recovery. He noted the contrast between his 1946 trip when the people possessed a defeated attitude and were hungry. Today they have recovered and are aggressive in an extensive construction program. "They are building apartment houses, not by the blocks, but by the mile."



BAPTIST PRESS

161 - SPRING ST., N.W.
ATLANTA 3, GEORGIA



AIR MAIL

Theo Sommerkamp
Executive Committee
127 Ninth Avenue, North
Nashville, Tennessee

X

THE ATLANTA OFFICE OF THE BAPTIST PRESS
WATCH FOR THE (BP) CREDIT LINE



FROM ATLANTA OFFICE

WALKER L. KNIGHT, regional editor
161 Spring St., N.W., Atlanta 3, Georgia
Telephone: JACKson 3-2593

November 3, 1959

**Sanderson Quits Evangelism,
Accepts Louisiana Pastorate**

Leonard Sanderson, secretary of evangelism of the Home Mission Board since 1956, resigned Sunday to accept the pastorate of the 3,000-member First Baptist Church of Lake Charles, La.

In making the announcement, Courts Redford, Home Mission Board executive secretary, said, "We regret to see Doctor Sanderson go. He has done a good job. If he feels called to go back into the pastorate, we know God has someone to take his place. We shall be praying for him in his new work."

No date has been set when the resignation will become effective, since Sanderson's duties as evangelism secretary may require him to stay with the division during January and February.

The Division of Evangelism, located in Dallas, Tex., has been one of the factors which has made Southern Baptists the fastest growing denomination in the United States. The division's promotion of a plan of local church and simultaneous evangelism has led in winning a half million for baptism this year.

"I had no doubt of the Lord's leadership when I became state secretary of evangelism in Tennessee and again when I succeeded C.E. Matthews. I hope I have made some contribution in this field. I feel just as definitely now that he is leading me back into the pastorate," Sanderson said.

"I'm not going out of evangelism, and this will give someone else an opportunity to step into this place of leadership. I feel now, even more than when I came into this work, that we do not have any board or agency of the Convention that has a more strategic position in our Baptist work as has the Home Mission Board."

Sanderson followed the late C. E. Matthews as secretary of the Division of Evangelism, leaving the position of Tennessee evangelism secretary, a post he had held since 1953.

Before this, he was a pastor in Tennessee at Maryville, Lewisburg, Huntingdon and other churches during student days at Union University. He is a graduate of Southern Baptist Seminary at Louisville, Ky. He received the honorary doctorate of divinity from Union in 1954.

In 1925, when he was 11 years of age and working in the field, he stopped at the end of a row, dropped on his knees, and gave his heart to Jesus. Hard work and dedication have been a part of his life every since.

Called to preach in 1935, ordained in 1938, he has preached and led others in evangelism in crusades and conferences around the world.

In recent years he has toured the Orient and South America in the interest of missionary evangelism, is presently serving as the evangelism leader for the Baptist Jubilee Advance, and is constantly in demand to lead simultaneous crusades and local revivals.

Sanderson recently lead Southern Baptists in accepting a goal of "a million baptisms in '64", a challenge which has received what he terms "a most enthusiastic response."

The Lake Charles church has been without a pastor since Paul Roberts left in January to become pastor of First Baptist Church of Little Rock, Arkansas. Under Roberts' ministry the church grew from 1,620 to 3,000 members and increased its budget from \$60,022 to \$324,479.

Baptismal Goal Nearly Doubled In New Brunswick Crusade

Ten churches in St. John, New Brunswick, Canada, baptized nearly twice as many people as the goal they had set for an evangelistic crusade.

The churches were led by Southern Baptist pastors and used plans prepared by the Home Mission Board's evangelism division.

According to Vernon Yearby, evangelism associate, the churches baptized 321 during the two-week crusade. Their goal was 200, which was 60 more than they baptized during all of last year. Total additions during the crusade were 394, with 778 re-dedications.

Membership of Grand Bay Baptist Church tripled during the crusade. They started with 34 members and added 64, 48 by baptism. The 118-year-old church has been 25 years without a profession of faith until last year when they had two. Evangelist Lewis Bates of Richmond, Virginia, attributed much of the success to methods and the willingness of the people to follow them.

Inquiries about similar crusades have come from major communities in Canadian provinces said Yearby. Before leaving Canada, Yearby talked with Executive Secretary Harry Renfree of the Canadian Baptist Convention about coming back. They discussed the possibility of making long range plans with Canadian evangelism leaders to go into all 400 churches in that convention in 1964, climaxing the Baptist Jubilee Advance of 6 North American Baptist bodies.

In the Norton community, 260 people attended services in a church with a seating capacity of 100. No one had ever walked the aisle of that church; the crusade saw 111 walk the aisle for profession of faith, transfer of letter, or rededication.

A Tennessee member of Southern Baptists' Home Mission Board, who was born in St. John, accepted a last-minute invitation to conduct a week's revival at the Moncton Bible School. During the second week, Ansell Baker held services in a church requesting to enter the crusade after it began. Without preparation or information, there were 18 baptisms.

Germain Street Baptist Church, organized in 1810, dismissed its pastor two weeks before the crusade began. This extremely formal and intellectual group had been arbitrarily placed in the revival by the pastor. No one could ever remember anyone walking the aisle. After 20 professions of faith and 125 rededications, the church delivered an ultimatum to the pulpit committee to find an evangelistic pastor who will give a public invitation.

Five Virginians, two Alabamians, one Tennessean, and one Georgian participated in the crusade, along with Yearby and W. Bertram King, Southern Baptist liaison worker in Canada. Virginia evangelists were Charles G. Fuller, Lawrence V. Bradley, Jr., Meredith Roberson, Letcher Reid, Richmond, and Lewis E. Bates, Vinton. Alabama evangelists were George W. Riddle, Gadsden, and Raymond Scroggins, Tallahassee; the Georgian, Bob Hite, Hapeville; the Tennessean, Ansell Baker, Chattanooga.

Two-Year Military Need Seen For Southern Baptist Chaplains

The Army, Navy, and Air Force will need a limited number of Southern Baptist chaplains for active duty during the next two years, according to George W. Cummins, associate director of the Home Mission Board's Division of Chaplains.

"This need is due to normal attrition and to an increasing number of retirements," he said. "A good number of Southern Baptist chaplains will have completed from 20 to 25 years service within the next two years and will retire."

Cummins said the Air Force has the greatest need. He also listed the requirements for all services: 90 theological hours or a Bachelor of Divinity degree from an accredited seminary and two years full-time or four years part-time pastoral experience.

Ministers interested are requested to write the Chaplains Commission, Home Mission Board, 161 Spring Street, N.W., Atlanta 3, Ga.

-30-

Fifty Members In A Month, New York Property Dedicated

Manhattan Baptist Church in New York City added more people to its membership in a month than it had members two years ago. Fifty joined the fellowship in October.

From a 37-member mission two years ago, the church has grown to a membership of 515, and sponsors five missions in Long Island, Connecticut, New Hampshire, New Jersey, and Massachusetts.

The second anniversary of Director of Southern Baptist Work In New York City Paul James was marked November 1.

Negotiations are near completion for five acres of property for the Madison New Jersey mission, and property will be dedicated this month for the Long Island mission in Farmingdale.

-30-

BAPTIST PRESS

161 - SPRING ST., N.W.
ATLANTA 3, GEORGIA



Theo Sommerkamp
Executive Committee
127 Ninth Avenue, North
Nashville, Tennessee

THE ATLANTA OFFICE OF THE BAPTIST PRESS
WATCH FOR THE (BP) CREDIT LINE