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February 14, 1996

96-25

VIRGINIA--WMU, Brotherhood join effort to ease North Korean hunger.

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COLORADO--Minister works same field where he found Christ; photo.

CALIFORNIA--Saddleback baptisms surpass 1,300 in '95.

NORTH CAROLINA--Extended illness claims Southeastern's Max Rogers.

WMU, Brotherhood join effort
to ease North Korean hungerBaptist Press
2/14/96

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)--The Southern Baptist aid agency Cooperative Services International has launched an effort to collect and ship food to relieve hunger in North Korea caused by a flood-induced famine.

In cooperation with CSI, the Southern Baptist WMU and Brotherhood Commission will coordinate collection of foodstuffs provided by Southern Baptist churches. CSI has offered to arrange for overseas shipping to North Korea from the U.S. West Coast.

State Brotherhood and WMU leaders are developing specific plans to carry out the project in each of their state Baptist conventions.

General guidelines call for collecting 50,000 boxes of food during the next several months, officials said. Each box will contain dried beans, powdered milk, corn meal, flour, spaghetti and rice. In addition, donors will be asked to contribute \$20 per box to help defray the cost of shipping.

The first commitment to fill a 20-by-20-foot shipping container with food has been made by Kenneth King, director of the San Marcos (Texas) Baptist Association and a Brotherhood Commission trustee.

Financial contributions to the North Korea relief project may be sent to CSI, P.O. Box 6841, Richmond, VA 23230; to the WMU Vision Fund, 100 Missionary Ridge, Birmingham, AL 35242-4352; or to the Brotherhood Commission, 1548 Poplar Ave., Memphis, TN 38104.

Those seeking more information may call WMU toll-free at 800-295-6536, or Brotherhood at 800-280-1891.

In late January CSI announced it would spend \$500,000 in Southern Baptist hunger relief funds to send food aid into the isolated communist country. The funds include support for two projects: one to feed up to 10,000 North Korean schoolchildren for six months in one hard-hit area and another to purchase low-cost rice for immediate shipment to North Korea.

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Disastrous flooding in North Korea last summer destroyed thousands of homes and buildings and devastated the grain harvest -- already meager in recent years. The flooding and resulting severe food shortages have directly affected up to 5 million North Koreans, relief groups report. The Red Cross has warned that 120,000 North Koreans may die before the next harvest without immediate action.

International political disputes have swirled around the famine. Some nations have questioned the severity of the crisis and refused to supply food. North Korean officials reportedly told a number of foreign relief organizations Feb. 9 aid not already "in the pipeline" should be dropped. But CSI officials say they have reconfirmed Southern Baptist aid will be accepted.

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Preacher dad brings NBA son
to evangelism conference

By Sandy De Jesús

Baptist Press
2/14/96

PHOENIX (BP)--When speakers were being scheduled for Arizona Baptists' 1996 evangelism conference, Louis Tisdale was asked if his son also might be able to come and play guitar.

It was really no problem for the younger Tisdale to attend, the crowd was told when father and son were introduced at the mid-January conference, because Wayman Tisdale not only is based in Phoenix -- in Tulsa, Okla., he's Louis Tisdale's son.

Wayman Tisdale, a player for the Phoenix Suns NBA team and jazz guitarist, joined his father during the Monday night session of the two-day meeting at First Baptist Church, Chandler.

The younger Tisdale spoke briefly and played a jazz version of "Amazing Grace." He then played while his father sang.

"The Lord has blessed me with two talents and I'm able to witness to so many people through two different venues," Wayman said. "Whether I play up to anyone else's standards or not, I give all the glory to God whether it's good or bad, and he takes care of me."

Louis Tisdale, pastor of Tulsa's Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, then addressed the group, speaking from Ephesians 4.

"Paul is talking about evangelism, but he is talking to us who are inside of the church, before we go out of the church," he said. "We have problems sometimes with getting people to come to church because they see how we act in the church."

The elder Tisdale said at no time in history has the subject of unity in evangelism been more important. There is jealousy, hatred, envy and confusion about what is really essential, he said, but as Christians, we are one people.

"Differences in skin color, economy or social status do not matter in the sight of God," he said.

The phrase "together in unity," Louis Tisdale said, "simply means that God is our Father and all men are brothers with an equal inheritance, with rights according to our obedience unto the will of God."

On Tuesday evening, Jan. 16, Tisdale spoke about warfare with the devil.

Whether driving or trying to get to church or just minding one's own business, the devil will be there to cause problems, Tisdale said.

"Satan has got a way to try to attract your attention to keep you from getting where you can get the most out of life."

Tisdale described the apostle Paul as a man who, because of his boldness and training, was heard wherever he went.

"We ought to be heard," he said. "Somebody ought to hear us when we speak out that the Lord is God. But we are too afraid to let the world know that there is a reality in serving a true and living God."

Tisdale preached from Philipians 4:19, saying it is God who has changed those who follow him, and it is God who has supplied them with power, so the "devil ought to be afraid of us," he said.

Christians often are afraid to go out from the church and face the world's troubles and say it is wrong to do wrong, Tisdale said.

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"If we would only surrender our will to God," he said, "and walk out in the name of the Lord and let God have control, he will walk before you."

About 700 people attended the annual conference, which was sponsored by the evangelism division of the Arizona State Mission Board.

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De Jesus is a writer with Arizona's Baptist Beacon.

Resort ministers face
skepticism from peers

By David Winfrey

Baptist Press
2/14/96

GRAND MESA, Colo. (BP)--"Suffering for Jesus."

Spoken with a mixture of sarcasm and envy, this comment is endured by many resort ministers, who contend few Christians understand the unique challenges of their work.

"When you're living in an area year-round and you're involved in things that people can only do one or two weeks at a time, it sets you up for that attitude," said Charlie Ellisor, pastor of Anchor Way Baptist Church in Steamboat Springs, Colo. "People really don't realize that it is tough there."

Ellisor, who also directs Alpine Resort Ministries of Steamboat Springs, said critics focus on the fun promoted by the region and ignore residents' problems. "They overlook the fact that in the trenches there are people who are hurting."

Also overlooked, say resort-area ministers, are the high cost of living, the harsh weather conditions and the transitory nature of such settings.

"I know there are some people who think we're up here playing at church," said home missionary Steve Hoekstra, of Estes Park, Colo. "I used to laugh about it, get mad about it. Any more, I think it's ignorance of ministry that makes people say that." Hoekstra founded Alpine Resort Ministries while living in Vail, Colo., which has grown to become the banner title representing 20 Christian recreation ministries throughout the West.

Resort settings attract people looking to find themselves or escape to beautiful surroundings from their troubles, Ellisor said. "They just bring the problems with them, and they're compounded with the high cost of living and the distractions, the lack of good-paying jobs and the lack of stability."

Veryl Henderson, a former missionary to Hawaii, can empathize. "It was very difficult to sell missions in Hawaii," he says.

"The lives of people in resort (areas) are very abnormal in terms of stability," said Henderson, who is now director of missions for Colorado Baptists. "You're dealing with broken people in most resort settings, and that doesn't make the chamber of commerce brochure."

Resort-area ministers must go where the people are, be it a ski slope or other setting, said Pat O'Connell, associate minister of Fraser Valley Baptist Church, Winter Park, Colo. "These people don't seek out a church. We take the church to them," he said.

That willingness to be with non-Christians on their turf, however, is often misinterpreted, he added. "To a Christian on the outside, it looks like cowardice or compromise."

Even after someone becomes a Christian, the economic pressures of the area impact churches trying to retain members, Ellisor said. "Either they couldn't afford it or they've been transferred, so it's really hard to have any stability."

Six years ago, resort ministers founded the Association of Resort and Leisure Ministers. The group, which has grown to more than 100 members, provides education and fellowship for ministers serving in resort settings.

That group's next meeting will be in Gatlinburg, Tenn., April 18-20, before the National Resort Ministries Conference. More information about the association and the meeting are available from Brad Lartigue, a home missionary in Big Sky, Mont., at (406) 995-2451.

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He suggests pastors return
to 'ministry by service'

By David Winfrey

GRAND MESA, Colo. (BP)--If more pastors modeled ministry by service, more congregations would join their pastors in reaching out to their community, home missionary Steve Hoekstra said during the annual Rocky Mountain Resort/Ministry Institute.

"We have taken the minister out of the concept of serving," said Hoekstra, director of special ministries for the Colorado Baptist Convention. Hoekstra organizes the annual conference, held this year in Grand Mesa, Colo., in late January.

Drawing from the book, "Church Without Walls" by Jim Petersen, Hoekstra urged pastors to think of ministry as serving, incarnational (giving physical presence to the body of Christ) and commanded of every believer.

By modeling, then the laity catches the vision and discovers community needs they can meet as an opportunity of sharing Christ's love. "Ministry is every believer using what he has to serve one another and the lost," he said. "Let's get in the middle of our community and not hide in the fort."

Hoekstra noted American culture does not encourage a service mentality, but the apostle Paul said through his freedom in Christ he had chosen to be a slave to all mankind.

Through ministry, non-Christians see God's love and relevance to their lives, he said. Hoekstra recalled his first pastorate when he fixed cars, fished, hunted and cut wood as an opportunity to witness to people about Christ.

Backpacks, fishing poles and chain saws are all potential tools for ministry, if a Christian is willing to let them be used of God, Hoekstra said. "God didn't give you that to sit in your garage and collect dust," he said. "The things that we have are God's and we need to use them to minister to other people."

Hoekstra, 47, is well-versed in unique styles of ministry. Last year, he received the Ken Prickett Award for innovative ministry, given by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's special ministries department.

While at Vail in 1989, he started Alpine Resort Ministries for the Alpine Ski Championships, skiing's biggest event aside from the Olympics. Afterward, Alpine Resort Ministries became the umbrella name for local ministries in resort and recreational settings. Today, ARM ministries are in 20 locations throughout the West.

Hoekstra admitted he doesn't think of himself as innovative. "I steal from other people," he said jokingly. "I think of myself as a ministerial entrepreneur in that I'm willing to try new things. Some of the things work, and some of them don't."

Burnout is a danger to pastors who adopt an attitude of service-based ministry, he noted, but it is even greater in resort settings, where the high cost of living causes constant turnover in the community. Pastors must continually train new Christians to minister so that pastors are not overwhelmed, he said.

The theme for this year's institute was "Starting and Growing Churches Through Ministry."

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(BP) photo of Hoekstra (horizontal) mailed to state Baptist newspapers by the Atlanta bureau of Baptist Press. A color slide of Hoekstra is available from the bureau at (770) 410-6535.

Small church pastor contends
size doesn't prohibit ministry

By David Winfrey

Baptist Press
2/14/96

GRAND MESA, Colo. (BP)--The same God who turned five loaves and two fish into a meal for 5,000 can use small churches with few resources to minister in their communities, the pastor of a small Colorado church maintains.

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MountainView Baptist Mission had only six members when Walker Horne arrived in Walden, Colo., in 1992. "Sometimes we look at what we have and say, just like Phillip, 'What are these among so many people?'" he says. "But if you give that to God, he can work miracles with it."

Following a world missions conference, members began talking about offering ministries in their communities, Horne recounts. MountainView, which was constituted as a church last year, is supported through the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board and the local Baptist association.

Six months after Horne arrived, the congregation began a food ministry in the laundry room of the house they were renting for worship services. "Before long, six people were feeding about 20 families."

A saw mill closed and many residents of Jackson County were left without work. Horne bought a 3-by-5-foot bulletin board and posted job opportunities on the door of the food pantry. "We just started that last summer, and we've gotten six people jobs."

Horne acknowledges all those who were helped have not joined the church or become Christians. Still, the gospel is presented and residents know the church cares, he says. "When you feed somebody and you give them a job, who are they going to look to when they have trouble?"

The church has grown to 17 members, and the average attendance is 20. Its reputation also has grown throughout the community as a caring group of people willing to help. Other assistance projects have included a fund drive for a family with medical bills and support for a student in financial need.

Even residents who don't come to the church are being ministered to when they bring food to the pantry, Horne adds.

He recommends churches wanting to get involved in ministries begin with prayer and observation of needs in their community. MountainView developed a purpose statement, and members listed more than 30 projects they wanted to tackle throughout the county, Horne says.

Afterward, pastors should encourage members to become involved and model participation, he says. Too often, members of small churches think they don't have enough time, money or people and decide to wait until they grow, he adds.

"It doesn't work that way. Take those resources that you have and say, 'Lord, this is what I have. Take it and use it,'" he advises. "It's been really amazing to see what God can do."

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EDITORS' NOTE: The church name, MountainView, is one word with a capital V.

Hotel ministries offer
one-shot witnessing ops

By David Winfrey

Baptist Press
2/14/96

GRAND MESA, Colo. (BP)--Non-Christians who might never darken a church doorstep could be less intimidated by a hotel worship service while vacationing, said a veteran of Hawaii hotel ministries.

"They're not searching for God and they're not searching to avoid God," said Veryl Henderson, director of missions for the Colorado Baptist Convention. While Henderson was director of resort missions for the Hawaii Baptist Convention, there were 32 hotel ministries in that state reaching about 12,000 guests and employees each week.

People on vacation are looking for experiences to enhance their lives, and that's an excellent time to share God's love, Henderson said. While the majority of those attending a hotel service will be committed Christians, non-Christians also will attend, he said.

"They're there out of courtesy to a relative or a friend, and God has a moment to speak," he said. "You get one shot. What are you going to do with it?"

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Henderson recommended a style of worship and message that will let non-Christians see God in a new way. A seed planted at a hotel service might later be pursued when the guest is at home, he said. "The goal is that people will experience God in some way."

Hotels may be receptive to allowing a worship service if it is seen as a benefit to their guests, Henderson said. "Remember, their business is open to make money. Anything we do that will enhance their purpose will be well received," he said. In Hawaii, "hotels were receptive to our ministry once they discovered we were not going to embarrass them."

Hotel ministries may involve more than just worship services, he added. Ministries may include workshops for employees and special assistance for guests in crisis, he said. "Sell the services that will benefit the hotel."

Hotel worship services often are a new experience, even for dedicated Christians. Henderson recommended introducing unique styles of worship that impact how they view ministry and worship. "This is one time when anything goes," he said, suggesting meeting outdoors or using illustrations from the local setting. "Take advantage of the openness."

Henderson, who is now director of missions for the Colorado Baptist Convention, spoke on hotel ministries during the annual Rocky Mountain Resort/Ministries Conference, Jan. 23-27 in Grand Mesa, Colo.

A brochure titled "Developing Hotel Ministries" has been written by Joel Land of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's special ministries department. To order, call HMB customer services toll free at 1-800-634-2462. Ask for product 631-116F.

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Pastor combines innovation
with traditional ministry

By David Winfrey

Baptist Press
2/14/96

ESTES PARK, Colo. (BP)--In Estes Park, Colo., unchurched residents rarely come to a worship service and they won't let you on their home turf, said pastor Tim Wilbanks. His solution: meet them through a ministry on common ground.

Wilbanks and other members of Estes Park Baptist Church have cleaned up after horses at a rodeo, parked cars and handed out thousands of cups of coffee and hot chocolate. All this, he said, brings his church in contact with local residents and presents a positive example of Christianity.

"In many cases, traditional visitation practices are not as fruitful as they are in the South," said Wilbanks, a native of Canton, Ga.

"They're not going to come to where we are and they don't want to be bothered with us until we prove that there's something worth having," he said. "That's what makes ministry such a great approach to church growth and evangelism in the West."

Every year the church recruits student summer missionaries and Innovators to lead ministries in the community. Both summer missionaries and Innovators -- students who work to pay for their own support while on missions projects -- are missions programs organized through the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

"We've used everywhere from four up to 18 (summer workers), but housing's the key issue every year that determines that," Wilbanks said. The church is currently building housing for summer workers.

Wilbanks said the church was filled with many longtime Southern Baptists when he arrived. Recent converts, however, have added a nontraditional flavor to the congregation.

Longtime Southern Baptists celebrate the church's use of agency summer workers and support for the Cooperative Program. The church is among the state's top five for percent of budget going to the Cooperative Program. Newer members, meanwhile, are attracted to the innovative ministry style, Wilbanks said.

Summer workers minister in a variety of settings, including retirement homes and campgrounds. "Some of our summer missionaries and Innovators will preach as many as five times (per week) at different campgrounds."

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One campground worship service helped save a life as well as a soul, he said. Student ministry teams circulate through campgrounds on Saturday evenings to invite campers to the Sunday worship services.

At one service, a woman came and became a Christian. As she talked with the worship leaders, she admitted she had come to the mountains to kill herself because of a failed marriage, Wilbanks said. The visit by the worship team convinced her to see if they had any thing to offer, he said. "What would have happened if we had not had missionaries in that campground?"

More information about summer missionaries and Innovators is available from state Baptist volunteer coordinators and from the Home Mission Board at 1-800-HMB-VOLS.

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(BP) photo (mug shot) of Tim Wilbanks is available upon request from the Atlanta bureau of Baptist Press. This story is one of three testimonies from the Rocky Mountain Resort/Ministries conference in Grand Mesa, Colo. They can be linked under the banner "Southern Baptist stories of how the West is won."

Northern lights kindled
his Alaskan commitment

By David Winfrey

Baptist Press
2/14/96

GIRDWOOD, Alaska (BP)--From his home state of Mississippi, Mac Burrell caught a glimpse of Alaska that changed his life.

While jogging seven years ago in Meridan, Ala., Burrell saw the sky turn blood red and wondered if he was about to hear Gabriel's trumpet. "I sat there for 10 minutes waiting for Jesus to split the skies," he said. "Moses had the burning bush, and I got the aurora borealis."

Burrell had mailed his resume to First Baptist Church of Soldatna, Alaska, months earlier. He said he considered the northern lights to be God's personal message after the weather forecaster said the lights hadn't extended that far south in 30 years.

Months later, when he preached at the Alaskan church in view of a call, the congregation wouldn't vote for a week. Nevertheless, he was so confident he would live in Alaska he left most of his clothes in storage there.

Amid rugged terrain and climate, Alaskans live up to their reputation for being self-reliant, said Burrell, 31. That influences their spiritual outlook. "We have a saying in Alaska that everybody's either running from the law or God or both," he said. "Most of them know that they're lost and a lot of them are proud of it."

Such spiritual bluntness is refreshing, he said. "You've just got to figure out that day if they're interested in being saved or not."

He left Alaska for 18 months to attend New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He returned last year to start Grace Chapel in Girdwood, and he receives financial support from the state convention and the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

In a state where people write "deceased" on their mail from the government, door-to-door visitation is rarely successful, he said. Ministry-based relationships, however, help break down walls residents have built toward Christianity. "I've cut wood for ladies in 40 below zero," he said. "Anything to get out with lost people."

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This is one of three testimonies from the Rocky Mountain Resort/Ministries conference in Grand Mesa, Colo., that can be linked under the banner "Southern Baptist stories of how the West is won."

Minister works same field
where he found Christ

By David Winfrey

Baptist Press
2/14/96

WINTER PARK, Colo. (BP)--Pat O'Connell understands the resort mentality well. He lived it as a non-Christian most of his life.

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With summer jobs in Alaska and winter work at a ski resort, O'Connell saw the attraction of adventure and new experiences in vacation communities. "People don't talk about what they do as work. They talk about how they play," explained O'Connell, who is now associate pastor of Fraser Valley Baptist Church in Colorado.

He said he became a Christian after riding horses several times with Christians who had something he didn't have. "Their lives were different, and they befriended me. Eventually I just said, 'Hey, can I go to one of your Bible studies?'"

Today, O'Connell befriends resort-area workers in a similar way, hoping for similar results. He works in construction to support his ministry, but he spends about four days each week building relationships with ski resort and hotel staff at Winter Park, Colo. "I've been able to say, 'Listen to what's happened in my life.'"

Most residents come to these settings looking for jobs to support their interest in skiing, rafting, hiking or other activities, he said. "A lot of it is adventure -- physical, pharmaceutical and spiritual," he said. "There is a desire to live life to its fullest in a worldly sense. Not to have life and have it more abundantly. That's where I try to bridge the gap."

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(BP) photo of O'Connell (horizontal) mailed to state Baptist newspapers by the Atlanta bureau of Baptist Press. A color slide of O'Connell is available from the bureau at (770) 410-6535. This is one of three testimonies from the Rocky Mountain Resort/Ministries conference in Grand Mesa, Colo., that can be linked under the banner "Southern Baptist stories of how the West is won."

Saddleback baptisms
surpass 1,300 in '95

By Don Nicholas

Baptist Press
2/14/96

LAKE FOREST, Calif. (BP)--Saddleback Valley Community Church baptized 1,365 new converts in 1995, including a 91-year-old woman and 79 others on the last day of the year.

First Baptist Church in Dallas and its missions recorded 1,313 baptisms in 1995.

Among other churches which have recorded 1,300-plus baptisms in past years are First Southern Baptist Church, Del City, Okla., 2,028 in 1980, and First Baptist Church in Houston, 1,669 in 1971.

Founding pastor Rick Warren listed several reasons for the Lake Forest, Calif., congregation's 1,300-plus baptisms. "First, we are reaping the results of our purpose-driven strategy, which focuses on church health, rather than church growth," he said. Warren's philosophy of ministry is detailed in a new book, "The Purpose-Driven Church," published by Zondervan.

"When God wants to deliver a bunch of baby Christians, I believe he looks for the warmest incubator he can find! At Saddleback, conversion is just the first step in our strategy of turning seekers into members, then into ministers, then into missionaries," Warren stated.

Saddleback's increased attendance indicates the church is assimilating and keeping those it reaches. Worship attendance at the California church increased by over 2,000 in 1995 to average nearly 12,000 each weekend. The church was named "Key Church of Year" for 1995 by the Home Mission Board.

Commenting on Saddleback's move into its first building in 1995, Warren added, "There were outside observers who predicted we'd lose our evangelistic focus once we built our own building -- but we baptized 560 converts during the first five weeks in our new worship center," Warren said. "Our emphasis will always be on changed lives, not buildings, as long as I am pastor," he insisted.

Saddleback, which has started 27 missions, does not include its mission baptisms in its count. If Saddleback's missions were included, the baptism total would top 2,000 for 1995.

Those interested in receiving information about Saddleback's strategy, pastoral resources and conferences can call (714) 587-9534 or, on the Internet, access its home page at <http://www.saddleback.com>.

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Nicholas is a writer in Orange County, Calif.

Extended illness claims
Southeastern's Max Rogers

By Dwayne Hastings

WAKE FOREST, N.C. (BP)--Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary lost a longtime standard-bearer Feb. 12 when Max Rogers, professor of Old Testament at the Wake Forest, N.C., seminary since 1961, died after an extended illness. He was 63.

A native of Richmond, Va., Rogers came to the seminary after serving on the faculty at Columbia University, New York City, and Brooklyn Friends School, Brooklyn, N.Y.

"In the 42 months that I have known Max Rogers, he became a precious friend and always an ardent supporter of the seminary," said Paige Patterson, noting it was not until he was named president of Southeastern in 1992 that he met Rogers.

Steve Andrews knew Rogers both as a professor and colleague, noting he rarely saw him without a smile. Andrews, assistant professor of Old Testament and Hebrew at Southeastern, earned his Th.M. from Southeastern where he studied under Rogers.

"Wherever we chanced to meet -- on the steps of Binkley Chapel or the hallways of Adams between classes -- he always had a hearty greeting and then a broad grin would unfold across his face. It was an encouraging smile.

"He was a respected scholar, a brilliant thinker and an excellent teacher," continued Andrews, noting Rogers was both a Woodrow Wilson Fellow and a Danforth Graduate Fellow, having earned his Ph.D. at Columbia.

Graduating summa cum laude from Duke University in Durham, N.C., with a B.A., Rogers earned his B.D. at Union Theological Seminary in New York City. He did postdoctoral work at the University of Munster in West Germany.

Fred Sandusky, who was registrar at Southeastern from 1955-85, said when students enrolled for Rogers' classes they found a professor who not only had studied in depth the Old Testament but one who also read widely in other disciplines.

"Those who took the introductory courses in Old Testament usually wanted to enroll for his advanced classes," Sandusky recalled.

Rogers spent his last sabbatical examining the latest research on the Dead Sea Scrolls, said L. Russ Bush, dean of the faculty at Southeastern.

"He once told me he considered Southeastern to be one of the top 10 theological schools in the country academically," Bush said. "If that is true, Max Rogers had no small part in making it so."

Acknowledging Rogers might have differed with the more conservative turn Southeastern has taken in recent years, Patterson said, "Max Rogers was nonetheless notable for his kindness and generosity toward those who held different views than his own."

Andrews called him a "compassionate gentleman," saying, "He was really concerned about the welfare and success of his students. He was always willing to be a friend." Bush noted he knew of several occasions when Rogers "dug into his own pocket to assist students financially."

Students always knew when Rogers was on campus -- his black Studebaker notable in the sea of more contemporary autos in the faculty parking area in front of Southeastern's Stealey Hall.

"I'll miss that Studebaker," Patterson mused. "I'll deeply miss Max on this campus."

At his death, Rogers was a member of Watts Street Baptist Church in Durham, where his funeral is scheduled Feb. 15.

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