

February 12, 1961

Editors: DO NOT release this story before Thursday, March 2, 1961.

**Mission Gifts Top
\$80 Million Mark**

NASHVILLE--(BP)--Southern Baptists have just completed their annual statistical checkup.

The charts for 1960 show that gifts to missions and benevolences topped \$80 million for the first time. The \$81,924,906 represents a 5.4 per cent increase over the \$77 million in 1959.

Total gifts to churches for all purposes reached \$480,608,972 compared with more than \$453 million the year before--a 6 per cent gain.

The total value of property of Southern Baptist churches rose to a peak of \$2,204,351,566 compared with just over \$2 billion in 1959. This was a 9.7 per cent gain.

The figures for 1960 were compiled by J. P. Edmunds of Nashville, secretary of research and statistics for the Convention's Sunday School Board.

In studying the financial part of the 1960 report, Porter Routh, Nashville, Convention treasurer, termed the \$81 million amount for missions and benevolences "gratifying."

He added, "It is also disturbing to see the percentage of total gifts going to missions drop from 17.15 in 1959 to 16.85 in 1960."

The missions and benevolences figure includes Cooperative Program funds for both state and Southern Baptist Conventions during the year. It includes designated offerings such as the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions, the Annie Armstrong Offering for home missions, and separate state missions offerings in each state. Gifts for associational missions are part of this picture.

"The amount includes other work reported as missions expenditures by churches," according to Routh.

The increase in property valuation shows there has been a surge in church building, Routh added. "It probably also represents a surge in church building debts."

"The property figure reflects the changing pattern of American living which makes new demands on suburban churches, and urban renewal's demands on the downtown church," Routh said.

Population has increased rapidly in many residential areas. The churches have had to expand to meet the needs.

The greater percentage increase of total gifts over missions-benevolences "indicates a growing expense on our own local programs in a time when we say that Christ is the only answer for world needs," Routh observed.

The number of churches in cooperating affiliation with Southern Baptists now stands at 32,251 compared with 31,906 a year ago. This is a 1.1 per cent rise.

Vacation Bible school enrolment also highlighted the 1960 report. It reached 3 million for the first time. Long a summertime education activity of churches for ages 3 through 16, Vacation Bible school enrolment chalked up a 3.2 per cent gain over 1959.

Total church membership reached 9,731,591, up 2.6 per cent for the 12-month period. Sunday school enrolment climbed from 7,276,502 to 7,382,550. Training Union enrolment jumped from 2,608,110 to 2,664,730.

Baptisms of converts showed the one decline on the chart. This fell from 429,063

to 386,469. The drop, Baptist leaders said, was due partly to normal fluctuation and partly due to a simultaneous revival campaign in 1959 that was not repeated in 1960. Such campaigns always increase the figure.

The Convention's auxiliary, Woman's Missionary Union, gained 28,397 members. Its new enrolment total stands at 1,484,589. Brotherhood enrolment, including laymen and boys, grew from 617,263 to 619,105.

Editors: Please observe STRICT PUBLICATION RELEASE date of March 2, 1961, on above story.

-30-

New Orleans Budget
Passes \$1 Million

(2-12-61)

NEW ORLEANS--(BP)--For the first time in its history the budget for New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary has exceeded \$1 million.

Trustees, meeting at the seminary here, approved an operating budget of \$1,003,000 for the 1961-62 fiscal year beginning Aug. 1.

Revenue to meet the budget will come from an estimated allocation of over \$500,000 from the Cooperative Program of the Southern Baptist Convention; seminary endowment, gifts, and student fees and rentals.

The \$1 million-plus budget represents an increase of slightly more than \$80,000 over the 1960-61 budget.

T. Odus Winn, New Orleans oil executive, was reelected president of the board. Following a policy already adopted by the other five seminaries of the Southern Baptist Convention, the board voted to increase the matriculation fee per semester from \$35 to \$50. There are no tuition charges at seminaries of the Southern Baptist Convention.

In other action trustees promoted Robert R. Soileau to associate professor of theology and Harold L. Rutledge to associate professor of psychology and counseling.

Miss Beatrice Collins, associate professor of organ and piano, was granted a sabbatical leave for the 1962-63 session. Similar leaves were granted earlier to Ray Frank Robbins, professor of New Testament, and John M. Price, Jr., dean of the school of religious education, both for the 1961-62 session.

Two new faculty residences were also approved by the board. The residences will be built on the seminary campus at a cost of \$24,500. This will bring to 30 the number of separate faculty residences on the campus.

-30-

WMU Worker Elected
For Pioneer Areas

(2-12-61)

ATLANTA--(BP)--A New Mexico WMU youth director has been employed to promote Woman's Missionary Union work in the pioneer areas of the Southern Baptist Convention.

She is Miss Bernice Elliott of Albuquerque, for 17 years youth director for Woman's Missionary Union of New Mexico.

The announcement was made jointly by Courts Redford of Atlanta, executive secretary of the denomination's Home Mission Board, and Miss Alma Hunt of Birmingham, executive secretary of the Convention-wide Woman's Missionary Union.

Miss Elliott will serve as a field worker of the Home Mission Board under the new special missions ministries department. However, her office will be in Birmingham. She will begin her work Aug. 1.

This newly-created position is a cooperative project for the two agencies. Miss Elliott will assist in organizing WMU work in the new areas across the Northern half

-more-

of the United States, and she will help to strengthen work in states where the WMU organization is young and a full staff has not been employed.

Born in Rotan, Tex., Miss Elliott graduated from Mary Hardin-Baylor College, Belton, Tex., and did graduate study at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque.

In her 17 years in New Mexico, she promoted the work of Young Woman's Auxiliary, Girls' Auxiliary, and Sunbeam Band. She also directed Inlow Youth Camp each summer.

Her father was a Baptist pastor, working for the most part as an associational missionary in Texas and New Mexico.

"The WMU executive board rejoices in the creation of this position and in Miss Elliott's acceptance of it," Miss Hunt said. "We recognize that the pioneer areas need more help than we have been able to give them. Miss Elliott's response to the challenge of the work assures us that the pioneer areas will find in her a leader of understanding and enthusiasm."

Redford added, "This is the answer to the need for additional help for the promotion and development of all phases of WMU work in these areas. We rejoice that we have found one so well-prepared for this service, and we commend her to all our sources."

-30-

Pioneer Mission Series
For 10 Northern States

(2-12-61)

MEMPHIS, Tenn.--(BP)--A series of pioneer missions crusades designed to expand Southern Baptist work will be conducted in 10 Northern and Western states this year. They will fall under auspices of the Convention's Brotherhood Commission and Home Mission Board.

More than 500 laymen and 40 pastors from 10 Southern states will take part in the 13 crusades, each to last a week.

Plans for the giant enlargement program were unfolded at a meeting here of representatives from Brotherhood Commission, state Brotherhood departments, Home Mission Board, and the pioneer states.

The mission volunteers are being enlisted by state Brotherhood leaders. They will pay their own expenses while on the crusades.

Pioneer states receiving the manpower will include Ohio, Wyoming, Colorado, Nebraska, California, Washington, South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and New York.

Providing the men will be Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia.

Varied types of work await the men as they seek to win more people to Christ and establish new churches, David Mashburn, general crusade director, said. Mashburn is an associate secretary of the Brotherhood Commission here.

The men will help make surveys, participate in layman revivals, visit unaffiliated Baptists and unsaved, promote organizational work, and help start new missions.

George W. Schroeder, Memphis, executive secretary of the Brotherhood Commission, estimated at least 1,500 men would be taking part in similar ventures in 1962 when the Baptist Jubilee Advance emphasis is church extension. All states with established Southern Baptist work will be invited to take part in the 1962 crusades, he said.

Men participating in the crusades this year will be featured during a session of the Second National Conference of Southern Baptist Men which will be held at Ellis Auditorium here Sept. 13-15.

Ohio will receive most of the laymen's attention this year. That states' schedule is Akron-Mansfield area, March 19-26, by Kentucky group; Dayton area, April 15-21, by Arkansas group; Columbus area, April 22-28, by North Carolina group; Cincinnati area, April 23-30, by Louisiana group, and Toledo-Sandusky area,

-more-

May 14-21, by Alabama group.

The rest of the crusade schedule follows: Winconsin-Minnesota, June 9-11, by Texas group; Colorado (Colorado Springs area), July 19-23, by Texas group.

Colorado-western Nebraska, July 25-30, by Mississippi group; California (Eureka area), Oct. 1-8, by Louisiana group; South Dakota, Oct. 29-Nov.5, by Virginia group; New York, October, by Tennessee group, and Wyoming, no date set, by Georgia group.

-30-

SBC Name Change Urged
By Northern Pastors

(2-12-61)

WAUSAU, Wis.--(BP)--The growth of Southern Baptist churches in the North could be vastly improved if the denomination would change its name, a group of Baptist pastors said here.

In the minds of many Northern residents, the term "Southern" tends to isolate the denomination geographically, when actually the term identifies distinctive theological beliefs, they said.

The suggestion to change the denomination's name came during the sixth annual pastors' retreat of the Wisconsin-Minnesota Baptist Association. The association is affiliated with the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

Pastors attending the retreat agreed **that** their work in the pioneer area of Southern Baptist missions would be easier without the "Southern" label.

"The term tends to preserve the animosity generated during the Civil War," said Charles Wood, pastor of Midvale Baptist Church of Madison, Wis.

While the pastors offered no definite name suggestion and made no plans to petition the denomination for a name change, they said they hoped Southern Baptist leaders would seriously consider the idea.

Five Texas Baptist leaders helped direct the retreat, devoted primarily to seeking additional support for their work from established Southern Baptist churches.

-30-

Church Organizes
With 590 Members

(2-12-61)

COLORADO SPRINGS--(BP)--Churches seldom organize with 590 charter members.

That's the story of Skyway Baptist Church here. With the blessing of the sponsoring First Baptist Church of Lubbock, Tex., it began separate existence with 590 in its membership.

The story of the church, born as a mission in 1955, has been one of cooperation between Texas and Colorado.

William Fleming, millionaire Baptist layman in Fort Worth, put down \$2000 deposit to hold the tract of land on which the church built. First Church, Lubbock, agreed to sponsor new work here when there was no building and no congregation.

John Baker, the present pastor, came at the direction of the Lubbock church. He started the mission soon after in his own home. The Lubbock church not only assisted in paying Baker's salary and other expenses, but it also aided in the erection of a building.

The plant, costing \$195,778, will accommodate 750 in Sunday school and 550 in the sanctuary. Members of ~~the~~ mission dedicated the building last November.

The organization of Skyway Church ended a unique arrangement by the sponsoring church. First, Lubbock, affiliated itself with the Colorado Baptist General Convention so its local mission could have full representation in work of the Colorado convention.

-more-

For several years, Lubbock, First, maintained affiliation both with the Colorado convention and the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

J. Ralph Grant, Lubbock pastor, declared, "We (the Lubbock church) have not been hurt by starting missions. We have started six in 15 years."

-30-

Indiana Launches Work
On 3 State Campuses

(2-12-61)

PLAINFIELD, Ind.--(BP)--Southern Baptists have launched student work adjacent to three campuses in Indiana.

The executive board of State Convention of Baptists in Indiana heard the report here that Baptist student unions are now located at Purdue University, Lafayette; Ball State Teachers College, Muncie, and University of Indiana, Bloomington.

A financial report showed that state Cooperative Program receipts for 1960 amounted to \$109,431. This was 20.31 per cent higher than 1959 income. Highest month of the year was November when receipts totaled \$11,153.

The Indiana Baptist, state monthly newspaper, reached an average circulation of 7287 during the last three months of 1960. It is the highest quarterly average circulation yet attained by the paper, according to Editor E. H. Moore of Plainfield.

The board approved transfer of area missionary H. J. Conger from Fort Wayne to South Bend, Ind. Galen Irby will serve the Fort Wayne area as pastoral missionary.

-30-

Evangelism Program
Planned By Hawaii

(2-12-61)

HONOLULU, Hawaii--(BP)--Hawaii Baptists launched a full-scale evangelism program in their first statewide evangelistic conference, according to C. Y. Dossey of Dallas, Tex.

Dossey, associate in the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's evangelism division, was in Honolulu for the conference.

Hawaii Baptists have established a department of evangelism and have adopted the program of evangelism carried out in state conventions on the mainland. This will include annual statewide evangelistic conferences and associational clinics, according to Dossey.

Meeting in Honolulu's Olivet Baptist Church, the group of pastors and state leaders set dates for Baptist jubilee revivals for the next four years. They decided to follow the "program of spiritual growth" suggested by the division of evangelism.

This establishment of an evangelism program is part of Hawaii Baptists' transition to the status of a cooperating state convention in the Southern Baptist Convention.

The Foreign Mission Board ended its 20-year tenure in Hawaii at the close of 1960, transferring all responsibility for Baptist work to the Hawaii Baptist Convention.

-30-

Editors: These figures are not to be published prior to March 2, 1961

Summary of 1960 Statistics for Southern Baptist Convention

	<u>1960</u>	<u>1959</u>	Increase	<u>Per cent Increase</u>
Churches	32,251	31,906	345	1.1
Baptisms	386,469	429,063	-42,594	-9.9
Membership	9,731,591	9,485,276	246,315	2.6
Sunday School enrolment	7,382,550	7,276,502	106,048	1.5
Vacation Bible School Enrolment	3,004,730	2,910,258	94,472	3.2
Training Union Enrolment	2,664,730	2,608,110	56,620	2.2
WMU Enrolment	1,484,589	1,456,192	28,397	2.0
Total Brotherhood Enrolment	619,105	617,263	1,842	0.3
Total Gifts	\$480,608,972	\$453,338,720	\$27,270,252	6.0
Missions and Benevolences	\$ 81,924,906	\$ 77,753,190	\$ 4,171,716	5.4
Total value of Church property	\$2,204,351,566	\$2,009,254,164	\$195,097,402	9.7

Research and Statistics Department, Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Editors: Please Remember, these may not be published before March 2, 1961

SUGGESTED ORDER OF BUSINESS
SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION
May 23-26, 1961
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

W. Ramsey Pollard, Tennessee, President
W. O. Vaught, Jr., Arkansas, First Vice-President
John Lawrence Slaughter, South Carolina, Second Vice-President
James W. Merritt, Georgia, Senior Secretary
Joe W. Burton, Tennessee, Secretary
Porter W. Routh, Tennessee, Treasurer
W. H. Souther, Louisiana, Music Director
Tommy Lane, Tennessee, Ass't. Music Director

GENERAL THEME: "My Church . . . Reaching Out."
Scripture: Mark 1:38- "Let us go elsewhere . . . preach there also."
Hymn: "To God Be the Glory."

TUESDAY NIGHT

"In the Beauty of Holiness"

7:00 Song Service
7:10 Scripture-(1 Chronicles 16:7-36)- Andrew M. Hall, Arkansas
Prayer - E. Hermond Westmoreland, Texas
7:15 Welcome - Earl O. Harding, Missouri
7:20 Response - James P. Wesberry, Georgia
7:25 Report on Registration - Joe W. Burton, Secretary, Tennessee
7:30 Committee on Order of Business - James E. Boyd, Chairman, Florida
7:35 Appointment of Committee on Committees, Committee on Resolutions, and Tellers
7:40 Southern Baptist Foundation - J. W. Storer, Secretary, Tennessee
7:55 Song
8:00 Stewardship Commission - Merrill D. Moore, Executive Director, Tennessee
8:30 Song
8:35 Annual Sermon - A. B. Van Arsdale, Alabama
Title: "The Unfinished Gospel"
Text: Acts 1:1.

Alternates - W. Fred Swank - Scripture - Texas
W. H. Heard, Prayer - Arkansas
Benediction - G. Allen West, Tennessee

WEDNESDAY MORNING

"Like A Mighty Army"

9:00 Song Service
9:10 Scripture (Matt. 16:13-20) W. G. Stracener, Florida
Prayer - Harold D. Tallant, Kentucky
9:15 Recognition of Fraternal Messengers
Response - Fred Bullen, Secretary, Canadian Baptist Federation,
Ontario, Canada
9:35 Executive Committee - Administrative, Porter W. Routh, Tennessee
10:45 Song
10:50 Election of Officers
11:15 Miscellaneous Business
11:30 Annuity Board - R. Alton Reed, Executive Secretary, Texas
11:50 Song
12:00 President's Address - "My Church--A Militant Body"- Ramsey Pollard, Tennessee
Benediction - Charles A. Osborn, Jr., Texas

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

"Unto the Uttermost Parts of the Earth"

6:30 Song Service
6:45 Scripture (Matt: 28:16-20) John Parrott, New Mexico

_more)

- Prayer - Henry L. Lyon, III, Alabama
 6:45 American Bible Society - Thomas T. Holloway, Secretary, Texas
 6:50 Radio and Television Commission - Paul M. Stevens, Secretary, Texas
 7:15 Woman's Missionary Union - Mrs. R. L. Mathis, Texas, President; Miss Alma Hunt, Alabama, Executive Secretary
 7:35 Election of Officers
 7:45 Baptist World Alliance - John Soren, Brazil, President; Josef Nordenhaug, General Secretary, Washington, D. C.
 8:10 Song Service
 8:15 Foreign Mission Board - Baker James Cauthen, Executive Secretary, Virginia
 Benediction - Homer A. Morris, Georgia

THURSDAY MORNING

"That the World May Know Him"

- 9:00 Song Service
 9:10 Scripture - (Philippians 3: 1-15) Joseph B. Flowers, Virginia
 Prayer - R. Hugh Hawkins, Florida
 9:15 Brotherhood Commission - George W. Schroeder, Executive Secretary, Tennessee
 9:35 Sunday School Board - James L. Sullivan, Executive Secretary, Tennessee
 10:35 Song
 10:40 Election of Officers
 10:50 Miscellaneous Business
 11:05 Seminaries and Seminary Extension
 Golden Gate Theological Seminary - Harold K. Graves, California, President
 New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary - H. Leo Eddleman, Louisiana, President
 Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary - Sydnor L. Stealey, North Carolina, President
 Southern Baptist Theological Seminary - Duke K. McCall, Kentucky, President
 Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary - Robert E. Naylor, Texas, President
 Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary - Millard J. Berquist, Missouri, President
 Seminary Extension Department -
 Theological Education Address - H. Leo Eddleman, Louisiana
 11:55 Song
 12:00 Sermon - Carl E. Bates, North Carolina
 Benediction - E. C. Brown, South Carolina

THURSDAY AFTERNOON

"With Compassion For the Multitudes"

- 2:30 Song Service
 2:40 Scripture - (Matt. 19: 35-38) - Edward G. Ayers, Virginia
 Prayer - Robert F. Shipe, Tennessee
 2:45 Committee on Boards - James A. Howard, Chairman, South Carolina
 3:05 Committee on Committees
 3:10 Election of Officers
 3:25 Miscellaneous Business
 3:45 Christian Life Commission - Foy D. Valentine, Executive Secretary, Tennessee
 4:05 Song Service
 4:15 Sermon - W. Herchel Ford, Texas
 Benediction - W. D. (Jack) Turner, Alaska

THURSDAY NIGHT

"In the Homeland"

- 7:00 Song Service
 7:10 Scripture (Mark 5: 1-20) - Clarence G. Cole, Georgia
 Prayer - Hughlan P. Richey, Indiana
 7:15 Memorial Service - Earl B. Edington, Florida
 7:35 Baptist Jubilee Advance - C. C. Warren, Chairman, North Carolina
 8:15 Song
 8:20 Home Mission Board - Courts Redford, Executive Secretary, Georgia
 Benediction - Thomas W. Nelson, Missouri

FRIDAY MORNING

"Through Our Institutions"

- 9:00 Song Service
 9:10 Scripture - (John 14: 1-14) - Aubrey L. Meacham, Kentucky
 Prayer - Austin Lovin, Oregon
 9:15 Committee on Denominational Papers - Louie D. Newton, Chairman, Georgia
 9:30 Education Commission - Rabun L. Brantley, Executive Secretary, Tennessee
 9:45 Song Service
 9:50 Panel - "Role of the Christian College in Today's World."
 College President - John W. Raley, Oklahoma
 Pastor - Monroe F. Swilley, Jr., Georgia
 Layman - Owen Cooper, Mississippi
 10:20 Committee on Resolutions
 10:35 Miscellaneous Business
 10:55 American Baptist Theological Seminary Commission , L. S. Sedberry, Executive
 Secretary, Tennessee
 11:05 Carver School of Missions and Social Work - Nathan C. Brooks, Jr.,
 President, Kentucky
 11:15 Committee on Canadian Baptist Co-Operation - Courts Redford, Chairman, Georgia
 11:30 Southern Baptist Hospitals - T. Sloane Guy, Jr., Supt., Louisiana
 11:50 Song Service
 12:00 Sermon on the Mount - Paul Brooks Leath, California
 Benediction - Carl W. Hunter, Ohio

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

"Rendering unto Caesar"

- 2:30 Song Service
 2:40 Scripture - (Matthew 22: 15-21) - Gerald Martin, Tennessee
 Prayer - Frank B. Haynes, South Carolina
 2:50 Report of Committee on Denominational Calendar - Baker James Cauthen,
 Chairman, Virginia
 3:00 Report Committee on Public Affairs - C. Emmanuel Carlson, Chairman,
 Washington, D. C.
 3:15 Address on Church and State - E. S. James, Texas
 3:40 Song Service
 3:50 Sermon - Robert Greene Lee, Tennessee
 Benediction - Ira D. Hudgins, Virginia

FRIDAY NIGHT

"With the Gospel, the Power of God Unto Salvation"

- 7:00 Song Service
 7:15 Scripture - (Romans 1: 1-17) - C. Z. Holland, Arkansas
 Prayer - Lloyd N. Whyte, Florida
 7:20 Presentation of New Officers
 7:25 The Historical Commission - Davis C. Woolley, Executive Secretary, Tennessee.
 7:40 The Chaplain's Commission - George W. Cummins Director, Georgia;
 Address: Chaplain (Maj. Gen.) Frank A. Tobey, US Army, Chief of Army
 Chaplains, Washington, D. C.
 7:55 Song Service
 8:05 Sermon - W. A. Criswell, Texas
 Benediction - Rex H. Henderson, Missouri

George Boston, Kansas
 Herschel E. Cole, Georgia
 Perry F. Webb, Sr., Texas
 Franklin P. Owen, Secretary, Kentucky
 Bruce H. Price, Vice-Chairman, Virginia
 James E. Boyd, Chairman, Florida

BAPTIST PRESS®

127 NINTH AVE., N.
NASHVILLE 3, TENN.

NEWS SERVICE OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION
WATCH FOR THE (BP) CREDIT LINE