

August 22, 1964

16 Churches Collect
Over \$500,000 Yearly

By the Baptist Press

First Baptist Church of Dallas, with 13,142 members, received the most total offerings in the Southern Baptist Convention in 1963, but a sister church in west Texas--with half the total collections of the Dallas church--led the SBC in amount for the Cooperative Program.

First, Dallas reported receiving \$1,459,921 and supplying \$180,000 for state-wide and worldwide missions through the Cooperative Program. It is the only church in the SBC with over 10,000 members.

First Baptist Church, Amarillo, Tex., led the SBC in 1963 with its \$209,605 via the Cooperative Program. The year's receipts for this church were \$765,778. It has 7515 members.

These statistics are based on reports obtained from the research and statistics department of the SBC Sunday School Board, Nashville, keeper of vital statistics for the denomination. There are over 33,000 churches cooperating with the Southern Baptist Convention.

The Amarillo church gave about 27 per cent of its total gifts through the Cooperative Program. First, Dallas gave about 13 per cent.

With 4202 members, Park Cities Baptist Church of Dallas approached Amarillo, First Church in total offerings. Park Cities reported \$760,587. It was fourth largest in Cooperative Program amount with \$135,500 (about 18 per cent).

Also above the \$700,000 mark were Second-Ponce de Leon Baptist Church, Atlanta, leader east of the Mississippi River, and First Baptist Church, Midland, Tex.

Second-Ponce de Leon Church reported \$142,000 via the Cooperative Program, about one-fifth of its total collected of \$712,610. Membership is 4167.

Midland, First Church, with 5197 members, had a total income of \$706,573, of which at least \$100,365 went to the Cooperative Program. The Cooperative Program amount is 1962 figure for this church.

Of churches with 1963 receipts of more than \$500,000, there was one other with over \$100,000 to the Cooperative Program. It was South Main Baptist Church, Houston. This 5691-member church had total receipts of \$610,200 with \$102,838 for the Cooperative Program.

There were 16 churches with income for the year above a half-million dollars. Not already listed churches, with their membership, 1963 total income and Cooperative Program sum, in that order, are:

Southside, Birmingham, 4141, \$680,292, \$75,290; First, Shreveport, 3620, \$659,972, \$66,081; Mid City, New Orleans, 3657, \$616,998, \$2500; First, Lubbock, Tex., 8086, \$613,902, \$98,407.

First, Tulsa, Okla., 6075, \$579,362, \$85,609 (1962 Cooperative Program figure); First, Atlanta, 6193, \$572,802, \$71,000; Broadway, Fort Worth, 4848, \$567,323, \$86,594; First, Oklahoma City, 5837, \$535,424, \$68,172; Bellevue, Memphis, 8249, \$505,524, \$63,007, and First, San Antonio, 7793, \$500,697, not available.

Research and statistics department figures were gleaned from forms sent in by more than 1100 district associations of churches. (BP)

Memphis Hospital
To Add 14 Floors

MEMPHIS (BP)--Baptist Memorial Hospital here expects to launch next year a \$10.2 million construction project to add 14 floors to an existing part of the hospital.

The additional floors will make room for 400 beds for patients. Construction will be finished in 1969, according to hospital authorities. It will also let laboratory, radiology and surgery facilities expand.

Officials said the local hospital, supported by Baptists of three states, has had a waiting list for admission for several years. There are about 600 people on the list at all times now.

The 400 new beds will enable Baptist Memorial Hospital to replace older ward-type accommodations and basement rooms. More efficient and less costly care will be a result, they pointed out.

It was reported also the hospital has reached an agreement with the University of Tennessee for affiliation in medical and nursing education.

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Howard Payne Awards
2 Honorary Doctorates

(8-22-64)

BROWNWOOD, Tex. (BP)--A medical doctor and a National Guard commander received honorary doctoral degrees from Howard Payne College (Baptist) here.

The degrees went to Dr. G. V. Brindley, a surgeon from Temple, Tex. and to Lt. Gen. Carl L. Phinney of Dallas, commanding general of the Texas National Guard.

Dr. Brindley was chief surgeon of Scott and White Memorial Hospital in Temple for nearly 40 years. His son, Dr. G. V. Brindley Jr., also a surgeon at the Temple hospital, delivered the summer commencement address for the Baptist school.

Gen. Phinney, an attorney in Dallas, has been a member of the Texas National Guard since enlisting as a private in 1925, and has been commanding general of all Texas National Guard units since 1961. He is a close advisor of President Lyndon B. Johnson.

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Midwestern Announces
New Education Degree

(8-22-64)

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP)--Trustees of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary here have authorized the Southern Baptist Convention institution to offer the master of religious education degree.

After the administration was asked to proceed with plans for offering it, Seminary President Millard J. Berquist said:

"For a number of years we have been receiving more inquiries concerning M.R.E. work and prospective educational directors than on almost any other subject. We believe the time has now come for us to offer a degree in Religious Education, as do all of our other seminaries. . . .

"This is being done under the present seminary program structure as adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention at Atlantic City this year."

Berquist stressed "no new Division or School of Religious Education is being set up or contemplated. All the work to be offered is well within the scope of a School of Theology." When the 1957 SBC voted to create Midwestern, it stipulated "that the seminary limit its scope of work to a School of Theology."

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The proposed master of religious education degree will climax a two-year program for students at Midwestern, the newest of the six SBC theological seminaries. The 66 hours of study include 36 of Biblical theology and historical subjects, 22 of religious education courses--these 58 hours required--and eight hours of free electives, according to Berquist.

Berquist claimed "this is undoubtedly more strongly based in biblical, historical and theological subjects than any other M.R.E. degree presently being offered."

He said, since "many courses toward this degree are already being taught here, individuals can start in at the present fall or winter session, and commence work looking toward this degree. . . women as well as men."

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Pastor Awarded Doctorate

(8-22-64)

CORPUS CHRISTI, Tex. (BP)--An honorary doctor of divinity degree has been awarded to Riley Eubank, pastor of Seventh and James Baptist Church in Waco, Tex., by the University of Corpus Christi (Baptist) here. Eubank, a native of Corpus Christi, delivered the main address at summer commencement exercises here.

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New Director Named
For Girls' Auxiliary

(8-22-64)

BIRMINGHAM (BP)--Miss Marjorie Jones is the new director of Girls' Auxiliary department for Woman's Missionary Union.

The department, on a nationwide basis, serves the missionary interests of 330,000 girls 9 through 15 years of age in Southern Baptist Convention churches. The parent Woman's Missionary Union is an auxiliary to the SBC.

Appointed in 1955, Miss Jones served for nine years in Nigeria and Ghana as a missionary of the Southern Baptist Convention. She served as such till last June.

In Nigeria, she taught in Reagan Memorial Girls' School. In Ghana, Miss Jones directed Woman's Missionary Union work--including Girls' Auxiliary--for Baptists in that nation.

A native of Alexandria, La., Miss Jones is a graduate of Louisiana College (Baptist), Pineville. She attended Woman's Missionary Union Training School (later known as Carver School) in Louisville. Before her foreign missionary appointment, she served as Woman's Missionary Union youth secretary in Kentucky and Louisiana.

She will be no stranger to members of Girls' Auxiliary who attended the triple-header 50th anniversary convention of the group in Memphis last year. There, Miss Jones' work among Baptist girls in Ghana was featured on the opening night pageant.

Miss Jones, who has taken office already, succeeds Miss Betty Brewer who resigned early this summer to be married.

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New Orleans Completes
First Renovation Step

NEW ORLEANS (BP)--A renovated woman's dormitory on the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary campus will be the first completed project from a \$1.6 million allocation made to the school at the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Atlantic City.

Work on the 100-student capacity William Carey Hall was started immediately after the allocation was made in May. The completely replumbed and remodeled dormitory was considered an emergency repair job and was to be ready for occupancy at the beginning of the fall semester in September, seminary officials said.

The entire seminary renovation allocation will be made over a three-year period. Cooperative Program funds were granted the seminary after a two-year study by engineers in consultation with the SBC Executive Committee and seminary officials. Extensive water and other unexpected damages to the 10-year-old, 75-acre campus made the repairs a necessary Cooperative Program budget item.

Because of extensive damages, seminary trustees considered relocating the campus on another New Orleans site. However, in June, Seminary President H. Leo Eddleman said the school would remain in its present location.

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