



# BAPTIST PRESS

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460 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, Tennessee 37219  
Telephone (615) 244-2355  
W. C. Fields, Director  
Jim Newton, Assistant Director

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### REGIONAL OFFICES

**ATLANTA** Walker L. Knight, Editor/161 Spring Street, N.W./Atlanta, Georgia 30303/Telephone (404) 523-2593  
**DALLAS** R. T. McCartney, Editor/103 Baptist Building/Dallas, Texas 75201/Telephone (214) RI 1-1996  
**WASHINGTON** W. Barry Garrett, Editor/200 Maryland Ave., N.E./Washington, D.C. 20002/Telephone (202) 544-4226

## Seminary Prof Says Pastors Are Promoters

NEW ORLEANS (BP)--Today's pastors have become promoters who keep organizational machinery in action and are too busy for study and prayer to make preaching primary in their ministries.

So said V. L. Stanfield in a faculty address at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary here.

Stanfield, in his major academic presentation as a professor at New Orleans Seminary, said that the "primacy of preaching has become a common cliché in Southern Baptist ministerial circles.

"While pastors generally believe in the centrality of preaching, they cannot or do not have sufficient time for study and prayer to make it primary in their ministries," he said.

Stanfield contended that preaching has become only the religious term for "public speaking with a religious flavor" in the minds of many men.

"In reality," he said, "preaching is not a specialized public speech; it is not talk about God. Preaching is God talking; and the preacher's only justification for speaking is that he speaks for God," he said.

Defining preaching as an act of worship, the seminary professor said that worship is a two-way street. "God's initiative moves man. Man responds in adoration, confession, and dedication.

"Today's minister needs to remember that the Gospel was proclaimed before it was written," added Stanfield. "A preacher does not invent or create his message. It has been revealed to him. He must interpret, apply and illustrate the message with the Scripture as his core."

"The strength of the church in Christian history is directly related to the strength of the pulpit. A proclamation of the good news of the Christian gospel brought the church into being. Only the same proclamation can keep life in the church," Stanfield concluded.

A faculty address is delivered twice annually at New Orleans Seminary. It is the equivalent to a professor's inaugural address, delivered only once in his career.

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## Davis Named Brotherhood Mens Department Secretary

1-25-66

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP)--Clyde L. Davis, a North Carolina Baptist Brotherhood leader, has been named secretary of the men's department of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission here.

Davis, secretary of the Brotherhood Department of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina at Raleigh, succeeds Victor L. Varner, who resigned after two years to teach religious education at a Baptist Seminary in Recife, Brazil.

Davis will assume his new duties here March 15, said George W. Schroeder, Brotherhood Commission executive secretary who announced the appointment.

In his new assignment Davis will supervise the development of a missions curriculum for almost 400,000 Baptist men, and direct an extensive field service program to states and Baptist associations.

A former pastor, Davis has assisted Baptist associations and churches in North Carolina for six years in providing missionary education for Baptist men and boys.

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Before the North Carolina Brotherhood assignment, Davis served as pastor at West Side Baptist Church, Red Springs, N. C., and as associational missionary for the New South River Baptist Association in North Carolina.

Born in Kentwood, La., he is a graduate of Mississippi College (Baptist), Clinton, Miss., and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C.

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**Burglers Visit D.C.  
Baptist Building Again**

WASHINGTON (BP)--For the second time in a month, the District of Columbia Baptist Building here has been ransacked by unknown nocturnal visitors.

The burgler or burglars broke into the Baptist Building at 1628 Sixteenth St., N. W. apparently by scaling the wall to windows and fire escapes on the second floor.

Thefts were confined mainly to postage stamps on the second visit. Baptist leaders believe the visitor was after cash, since typewriters and other valuable office equipment was left untouched.

The person or persons who broke into the Baptist Building are believed to be the same ones who stole several typewriters, radios, projectors, and other office equipment about a month earlier.

On the first visit, theft was confined to offices on the second floor. Offices on the lower floor, including the office of Executive Secretary M. Chandler Stith, were ransacked in the second visit.

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**D. C. Baptists Employ  
New Student Associate**

1-25-66

WASHINGTON (BP)--The District of Columbia Baptist Convention here has employed John Jamison of Louisville, Ky., as a new associate in the convention's department of Baptist Student Union work.

Jamison, 27, is a native of North Carolina, and is pastor of Hillsdale Baptist Church in Louisville, Ky. He is a graduate of Vanderbilt University, Nashville, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

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North Carolina Board  
Adopts Education Study

RALEIGH, N. C. (BP)--The General Board of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina adopted here a study by seven Baptist colleges in North Carolina, outlining in detail the basis for the convention's higher education programs.

Ben C. Fisher, executive secretary of the convention's Council on Christian Education, said in presenting the study: "We do not believe that God is dead and we must take serious issue with those who do."

"Among other things, the study reaffirms the belief in a personal, living, loving God who has created and who sustains this universe," said Fisher.

Fisher said the study was significant in view of its theological presuppositions which contrast with the highly-publicized statements of a few protestant theologians who claim that God is dead.

The study discusses five different areas: the theological basis for Christian higher education, the educational program, faculty salaries and fringe benefits, the trustee, and support of students studying for church-related vocations.

Written by faculty members at the seven North Carolina Baptist colleges, the study reaffirms the principles of a Christian college but points to increasing financial difficulties encountered by church-related institutions.

In other action, the General Board meeting here heard reports of growth among North Carolina Baptist churches, approved an enlarged child care program at Cherokee, N. C., and re-elected the board's president to a third term.

In a report to the board, Troy Hamrick of Winston-Salem, N. C., said the average salary for North Carolina Baptist pastors is \$3,710, with an additional \$1,800 average housing allowance.

Approved was a program to care for pre-school Indian children of working mothers at Cherokee, N. C., in cooperation with the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

E. W. Price, pastor of Green Street Baptist Church in High Point, N. C., was re-elected as president of the board.

Most of the two-day meeting was devoted to committee sessions and organizational meetings.