



BAPTIST PRESS

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September 6, 1966

SBC Missions Gifts
Total \$33.8 Million

NASHVILLE (BP)---Total contributions to world missions causes during 1966 through the Southern Baptist Convention reached the \$33.8 million mark in August, a monthly financial statement from the SBC Executive Committee here has disclosed.

Contributions thus far in 1966 have exceeded gifts to missions for the same period of 1965 by nearly \$3 million, the financial summary reported.

Substantial increases were noted in two categories of contribution channels in the denomination---the Cooperative Program unified budget which undergirds all phases of the denomination's work, and designated gifts to specific missions causes.

So far during 1966, a total of \$15,563,757 has been given through the Cooperative Program unified budget. This is an increase of \$1,030,352, or 7.09 per cent, over gifts through the Cooperative Program for the same period last year.

An additional \$18,240,522 has been contributed to designated SBC missions causes---an increase of \$1,900,829, or 11.63 per cent, over designated gifts of 1965.

During the month of August alone, a total of \$1,978,207 was given through the Cooperative budget, and an additional \$262,606 to designated missions causes.

Biggest amounts of the missions gifts, both designated and undesignated, go to the SBC Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, to support SBC foreign missions efforts around the world. So far during 1966, a total of \$21.4 million has been given to SBC foreign missions.

An additional \$6.8 million has been contributed to the SBC Home Mission Board, Atlanta, through the two SBC channels.

Nineteen agencies and institutions of the SBC receive funds through the Cooperative Program budget on a percentage basis each month. The SBC Executive Committee here handles distribution of the funds, and prepares the monthly financial statement of contributions through the Cooperative Program from Baptist churches throughout the nation.

Only funds contributed to SBC causes, not amounts given to support local community, city or state missions programs, are included in the report.

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Gardner-Webb Names
Dean of Instruction

9/6/66

BOILING SPRINGS, N. C. (BP)---J. Thurman Lewis, assistant professor of Latin and Greek at Gardner-Webb College here, has been named dean of instruction at the Baptist school here.

Lewis, who has served as interim dean since July, succeeds Robert B. Isner who is now president of Oak Hill Academy, a Baptist school at Mouth of Wilson, Va.

A native of Webster County, Miss., Lewis is a graduate of Mississippi College (Baptist), Clinton, Miss.; New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, New Orleans; and John Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md. He earned the doctor of theology degree at New Orleans Seminary.

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James Named Division
Head at Corpus Christi

CORPUS CHRISTI, Tex. (BP)--Melton B. James, member of the music faculty at the University of Corpus Christi here for the past two years, has been named chairman of the division of fine arts at the Baptist school.

James is a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, and the University of Oklahoma, Norman, Okla.

Announcement of his appointment was made by J. C. Clapp, president of the University, who also announced the appointment of several new faculty members, including a Southern Baptist foreign missionary.

J. Christopher Pool, president of the Nigerian Baptist Theological Seminary, will serve as visiting professor of religion at the Baptist school in South Texas. Pool, a graduate of Baylor University (Baptist), Waco, Tex., and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, will teach classes in Greek and religious education while on furlough from the mission field.

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Furman Installs
Carillon Bells

9/6/66

GREENVILLE, S. C. (BP)--A 60-bell carillon with the largest number of bells in the South was installed in the bell tower at Furman University (Baptist) here recently.

The carillon is a gift to the university in honor of John Edward Burnside of Charlotte, N.C., a Furman alumnus, by his associates and friends in Charlotte.

Weighing 40,000 pounds, the carillon's largest bell is five feet in diameter, and its smallest is ten inches in diameter.

It was cast in Holland under the direction of Harry T. Van Bergen, an eighth generation bell foundryman who made his home in Greenwood, S. C., during the Nazi occupation of Holland during World War II.

Located on a peninsula in the lake on the Furman campus, the bell tower is an exact replica of the original Furman bell tower on its men's campus in downtown Greenville.

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Baptist Hospital Head
Gets Award from AHA

9/6/66

CHICAGO (BP)--A distinguished service award was presented by the American Hospital Association to Frank S. Groner, administrator of Baptist Memorial Hospital in Memphis, Tenn., during the association's 68th annual meeting here.

Groner, a former president of the American Hospital Association, was honored as the first man to receive both the distinguished service award and the Justin Ford Kimball award, presented to him in 1964 for "outstanding contributions to the cause of prepayment of hospital care."

In responding to presentation of the award, Groner urged the nation's hospitals to speak "with a more unified voice" to improve communications on "issues that affect us as hospitals."

Commenting on one such issue, Groner said that "the development of a relationship with the federal government under Medicare will permit not only the survival of the voluntary hospital but produce increased vitality for it."

In making the presentation of the distinguished service award, a statement was read from the president of the board of trustees for Baptist Memorial Hospital praising Groner's personal abilities and dedication.

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"His unique success in hospital administration is due to the overshadowing spiritual strength that enables him to work long and hard, to understand the technicalities, to withstand the human pressures, and never to waver from the pinnacle of perfection to which he aspires for his profession," the statement said.

Groner served as administrator of Southern Baptist Hospital, New Orleans, before becoming administrator of the Baptist Memorial Hospital in Memphis.

The New Orleans hospital is an institution of the Southern Baptist Convention, while the Memphis hospital, the largest Baptist hospital in the nation, is owned and operated by the Tennessee Baptist Convention.