



September 15, 1966

**Church Split Caused
Over Building Location**

By Lynn M. Davis Jr.

COLUMBUS-BEXLEY, Ohio (BP)--The Broadleigh Baptist Chapel here is split down the middle over the location of the first building constructed by the relatively new congregation.

But the division is only an imaginary line--the boundary between the city of Columbus and the city of Bexley, Ohio.

The uniqueness of the Broadleigh Chapel, built in two cities, came to light when the congregation discovered that building permits were required from both cities in order to build

In addition, both cities' building codes had to be met and both cities had to inspect and approve the property.

The chapel is located, not only on the boundary line between two cities, but also between a big apartment complex and beautiful individual dwellings.

On one side is one of the nicer sections of the greater Columbus area which makes up the city of Bexley, where the governor of Ohio lives. On the other side is a 132-unit apartment complex where more than 7,000 people live.

Within a radius of two miles from the church live 42,000 people. It is the only Southern Baptist church in the area.

The Broadleigh Chapel is also the closest Southern Baptist church to the offices of the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio at 1680 East Broad Street.

Begun in 1963 in a single apartment located in the large apartment complex, the church within a few weeks began holding regular Sunday services in a school building.

As a mission of Whitehall Baptist Church in Columbus, the chapel now has a Sunday School enrollment of 129. Bob Wiley is pastor of the chapel.

Since the chapel began, multitudes of individuals have passed through the chapel as members and visitors.

Because of its location on the edge of the apartment complex, many of the members and visitors simply "pass through" the church. The apartments are located directly across from the Defense Construction Supply Center, and many of the residents move in only temporarily, explained Pastor Wiley.

Only by a constant visitation program is growth recorded, observed the pastor. He cited a recent survey by student missionaries this summer that disclosed more than 100 prospects within 600 homes.

"The people are here and the church is here, but to get the two together takes hard work," said Wiley.

Though "split" by a boundary line separating two cities, the Broadleigh Chapel is unified in its purpose--to reach the two cities for Christ.

-30-

(Lynn Davis, editor of the Ohio Baptist Messenger, has recently been named as associate in the Office of Denominational Relations, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville.)



BAPTIST PRESS
News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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

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

September 15, 1966

California Baptist Board
Endorses Viet Nam Policy

FRESNO, Calif. (BP)--Three position statements on controversial issues, including one which endorsed United States policies in Viet Nam, were adopted by the Executive Board of the Southern Baptist General Convention of California meeting here.

All three of the statements drafted and proposed by the board's public affairs committee took a slap at recent statements issued by councils of churches on similar controversial issues.

In major business actions, the board authorized a special state-wide evangelistic crusade in 1968, approved a record \$2,184,904 budget for 1967, and put finishing touches on reorganization of the California Baptist Foundation's programs.

Most controversial of the board's actions was the adoption of the three position statements on Viet Nam, on obscenity, and on Southern Baptists and the ecumenical movement.

The brief statement on Viet Nam pledged that the board "go on record as supporting our country's policies and our fighting men in Viet Nam."

The public affairs committee said the recommendation was made "in the light of the open opposition to our U. S. government administration's policies in Viet Nam by certain religious, and political, and civic leaders." The leaders and groups were not named.

A position statement on obscenity urged full support of a California state-wide referendum on Proposition 16, and expressed shock "that some religious organizations have opposed this carefully-written proposition to enact stringent controls giving our law enforcement agents legal means of controlling the flood of filth currently found in our state."

The statement urged the people of California to vote for Proposition 16 "because of the alarming increase of the distribution of obscene literature..." and "since our state legislature has repeatedly refused to enact workable legislation."

The third statement, longest of them all, chided religious groups, apparently the National Council of Churches of Christ, for making "public statements which leave the impression that they speak for all church groups in America or at least a major segment of organized Christendom in America."

"This certainly is not the case," said the board's statement, "for there are numerous significant church groups that are not in these inter-denominational groupings."

"From a realistic point of view, there are one-fourth as many constituents in our Southern Baptist churches as there are in all the combined churches affiliated with the National Council of Churches," said the statement.

(The Southern Baptist Convention reported a total membership of 10.7 million in 1966, compared to the 41.4 million members belonging to 30 religious bodies affiliated with the National Council of Churches as reported in 1966.)

Neither the state convention in California nor the SBC is affiliated with the National Council of Churches, said the statement.

It concluded by saying: "When we make some public statement, we seek to make it clear that we speak only for ourselves....No one can speak for all Baptists. We wish that other groups would more accurately identify the group speaking when statements are issued so that the false impression would not be left on the public as to who has actually spoken."

Five Baptist Presidents
Urge Baptist Togetherness

WASHINGTON (BP)--The presidents of five national Baptist bodies representing 12 million Baptists in North America have issued a joint statement urging their members "to draw together on the basis of their common interest."

Citing the things various Baptist groups in America have in common, the statement said that differences among Baptists often are only those of emphasis, and that such differences "are challenges rather than dividers."

The statement, released by V. Carney Hargroves of Philadelphia, Pa., chairman of the North American Baptist Fellowship (a committee of the Baptist World Alliance), was signed by H. Franklin Paschall, president of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Other signers include Edgar J. Bailey, president of the Baptist Federation of Canada; Gardner C. Taylor, president of the Progressive National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc.; Marion C. Van Horn, president of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference; and Carl W. Tiller, president of the American Baptist Convention.

"Baptists in North America have a great deal in common and can work together for a common good," the joint statement began. "Wherever they are located they have similar forms of belief, of polity, of practice. Such differences as occur, which often are those of emphasis, are challenges rather than dividers."

The denominational leaders called attention to aims of the continental Baptist fellowship "to draw together the Baptists of this continent on the basis of their common interest and to inspire them to walk together in keeping with the directives of our Lord."

Four suggestions were made "in order that Baptists of various conventions, conferences, federations might do this (achieve these aims) and know each other better." They proposed that pastors and lay leaders in areas where churches belonging to two or more groups exist:

"First, arrange discussions between various groups at the local level so that both ministers and lay people of the churches may study the Biblical phases of Baptist distinctives and discuss in brotherly love the things they have in common and even the points wherein they differ.

"Second, prepare rallies on Baptist World Alliance Sunday, February 6, 1967, or on some other special occasion. All Baptists of a community or area may thus meet for worship, praise, thanksgiving and petition for the ongoing of the Lord's work.

"Third, be concerned for other members of our Baptist family of Christians. In one of our church covenants there are these words - "We engage . . . to watch over one another in brotherly love, to remember each other in prayer, to aid each other in sickness and distress."

"Fourth, prepare for joint evangelistic efforts wherever practical. Baptists are historically people who are concerned with evangelism. It is fitting that this should be one of our major emphases."

The North American Baptist Fellowship is an outgrowth of a five-year cooperative effort 1959-64 observing the 150th anniversary of the first national Baptist body on the continent. There are a total of 24 million Baptists on the continent.

-30-

Baptists Now Produce Six
State Religious Newscasts

9/15/66

FORT WORTH (BP)--More than 140 radio stations in six states are now broadcasting five-minute weekly religious news programs produced by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission here, the commission reported.

News of all faiths is included in the broadcasts, with particular emphasis on religious news within the state where the newscasts are used.

The programs are being carried in Oklahoma, Arkansas, Tennessee, North Carolina, Georgia, and Kentucky.

The tape recorded newscasts are duplicated in mass at the commission's International Communications Center here and distributed to the radio stations. Special state-wide religious news is written by newsmen from the state Baptist conventions involved.

There is no cost to the radio stations for the programs, provided as a service to both the radio stations and to the Baptist state conventions and associations.

-30-

North Carolina Paper
 Names Texan Associate

RALEIGH, N.C. (BP)--The director of the news bureau at Baylor University, Waco, Tex., has been named associate editor of the Biblical Recorder, official publication of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina.

Toby A. Druin, 31, assumes the post effective Oct. 10, succeeding Roger Branch who is returning to the University of Georgia for graduate study in sociology. He plans to teach.

Announcement of his appointment was made by Biblical Recorder Editor J. Marse Grant, who cited Druin's newspaper background and commitment to the field of religious journalism.

Druin served for nine years on the reporting and editing staffs of Texas daily newspapers before joining the Baylor public relations staff.

He was city editor of the Borger (Tex.) News-Herald.

He has been both sports editor and city editor of the Borger (Tex.) News-Herald, assistant city editor of the Wichita Falls (Tex.) Record-News; assistant news editor on the Waco (Tex.) Tribune-Herald, and telegraph and news editor for the Amarillo (Tex.) Daily News.

He also has served as music director of Baptist churches in Borger, Amarillo, South Plains, Plainview, and Waco, Tex.

Druin, recipient of the E. S. James scholarship for religious journalism sponsored by the Baptist Standard weekly paper in Dallas, is a graduate of Baylor, the nation's largest Baptist school, with a degree in journalism and religion.

He and his wife have three daughters.

-30-

Baptist's Child Uninjured;
 Falls from Car at 65 MPH

9/15/66

VISALIA, Calif. (BP)--Mr. and Mrs. Jim Johnson, members of the Woodland Drive Baptist Church here, are firm believers in miracles, especially after a recent experience.

After delaying their vacation to welcome a new pastor to their church, the Johnson family headed for Kentucky on vacation.

Cruising at about 65 miles per hour in rather thick traffic between Albuquerque and Santa Rosa, N.M., the left rear door of their car came open.

Three-year-old Terry fell to the pavement, bumping and rolling on the pavement.

Fortunately, there were no cars coming from either direction when Terry fell out.

The Johnsons were terrified as they turned the car around to see if their little boy could possibly be alive.

To their amazement and joy, Terry took the tumble, picked himself up from the middle of the road, walked to the edge of the pavement, and asked as his parents approached: "Why did you go off and leave me?"

He somehow was only cut and bruised from the fall. Only a few stitches in his head and back were necessary. A 2½ day stay in a Santa Rosa hospital revealed no permanent injury, not even a broken bone.

The Johnson's called it a miracle.

-30-