



**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

**BUREAU**

**BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD** Lynn M. Davis Jr., Chief, 127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn. 37203,  
Telephone (615) 254-1631

March 15, 1967

209

434

New Orleans Seminary  
Announces New Degree

**NEW ORLEANS (BP)**--New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary here has announced the change in the name of its basic degree from the "bachelor of divinity" degree to the "master of theology" degree.

The announcement came in the February issue of Vision magazine, monthly alumni publication of the seminary. It was the first official announcement of earlier action by the seminary's board of trustees and faculty.

Each of the other five seminaries owned by the Southern Baptist Convention this year changed the name of the bachelor of divinity degree, but unlike New Orleans Seminary, they named the degree "master of divinity."

The article in Vision magazine made no mention of the difference in the name of the basic degree for New Orleans Seminary and the other five SBC seminaries.

The five other SBC seminaries will also continue to offer the master of theology degree, not as a basic degree plan, but as a graduate degree requiring one year study beyond the new master of divinity degree.

The master of divinity degree, and the master of theology degree at New Orleans Seminary, each require three years of study.

New Orleans will offer, in addition to the basic master of theology degree, a master of theology "honors program" for "those who desire more intensive studies in preparation for the pastorate or associated areas of study," according to the Vision article.

The honors program is also designed with a curriculum and methodology to provide "foundations for the advance graduate work of those who contemplate teaching in a college or university."

The Vision article gave this additional background on the change in the basic degree name to "master of theology":

"The decision of the faculty to institute changes in programs and nomenclature resulted from discussions which began approximately five years ago and culminated in very deliberate study by a special committee and by the faculty as a whole during the past 24 months.

"The modifications in curriculum and degree terminology represent a serious effort to assess responsibly the realities of challenge and transition which currently mark the educational processes of theological seminaries and divinity schools.

"The master of theology degree has a long and distinguished history as the standard three-year program and was for some years the standard program in our institution and in others.

"This degree as newly projected with a dual program is designed to meet the varying interests and needs of students through an increased flexibility of course offerings and to promote the fulfillment of the highest academic ideals through improved methodology and procedures for work in the classroom and in the library.

"The master of theology is a three-year professional graduate degree which is designed to equip pastors, as well as persons in related ministries, with the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for their calling," said the Vision article.

March 15, 1967

2

Baptist Press

Superintendents of Missions  
To Hear Speeches on Changes

210

224

MIAMI, Fla. (BP)--The Southern Baptist Conference for Associational Superintendents of Missions meeting here May 30 will hear addresses on changes affecting the church in the cities, and the changing role of the superintendent of missions.

About 125 superintendents of missions for Baptist associations are expected to attend the fourth annual meeting here, held just prior to the Southern Baptist Convention which meets in Miami Beach, May 30-June 2.

The one-day program will open with an address by W. M. Osborne, superintendent of missions for the Metropolitan Peoria Baptist Association, Peoria, Ill., on "The Changing Role of the Superintendent of Missions."

Closing address will be delivered by Willis Bennett, professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., who recently completed a study for the SBC Home Mission Board on the effect of sociological changes in 20 metropolitan areas have had upon Baptist churches.

The superintendents of missions will also hear an address on how to more effectively use radio and television, by Ted Lott of the Southern Baptist Convention's Radio-Television Commission, Fort Worth.

D. E. Strahan, superintendent of missions for the Kay Baptist Association in Ponca City, Okla., is president of the SBC Associational Superintendents of Missions.

Vice president and host for the meeting is J. Ray Dobbins, superintendent of missions for the Miami Baptist Association here.

Sessions will be held at the First Baptist Church, Miami, May 30, 9:30 a.m. to 3:10 p.m.

-30-

SBC Ministers Wives  
To Take Boat Trip

211

3/15/67

238

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. (BP)--Using a different approach from all former meetings, the annual Conference of Ministers' Wives of the Southern Baptist Convention meeting here May 31 will feature a boat trip and a luncheon.

Program plans for the annual meeting of Southern Baptist ministers' wives were announced by Mrs. John Maguire, wife of the executive secretary of the Florida Baptist Convention, Jacksonville, Fla.

The program will feature a boat trip on the Biscayne Belle, a large air-conditioned boat, and a luncheon at Tony Sweet's Restaurant, said Mrs. Maguire, president of the conference.

Bus transportation will also be provided from the Miami Beach Convention Hall where the Southern Baptist Convention will meet to the boat docks, Mrs. Maguire said.

Buses will leave the Convention Hall at 12:10 on Wednesday, May 31, for the boat docks. After the luncheon, the buses will return the group to the auditorium.

In addition to the boat trip and luncheon on May 31, the Executive Board of the Ministers' Wives Conference will meet for a lunch luncheon at Riverside Baptist Church here, Tuesday, May 30. Bus transportation will also be provided for the Executive Board luncheon.

Total cost for the boat trip, luncheon and program will be \$4.50, said Mrs. Maguire. Tickets will be sold at the Convention Hall until Tuesday night, May 30.

Other 1967 officers for the Ministers' Wives Conference are Mrs. James L. Monroe, Miami, vice president; Mrs. Elmer West, Mars Hill, N.C., corresponding secretary; and Mrs. Robert L. Smith, Houston, secretary-treasurer.

-30-

210-211