



# BAPTIST PRESS

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May 5, 1967

Georgia Baptist Students  
To Build Resort Church

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By Sue Brooks

NASHVILLE, Ind. (BP)--Southern Baptists may find it hard to believe that a city called "Nashville" is without a Baptist church, since Nashville, Tenn., is one of the denomination's strongholds.

However, there was no sign of a Baptist church within 18 miles of this town located near Brown County State Park until April 30 when groundbreaking ceremonies were held for Nashville Baptist Chapel, the first Baptist church of any kind in this area.

A pilot project in resort missions of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board in Atlanta, the church held its first service April 2 in a local Lutheran church building.

The church's first three members who joined at the April 2 service participated in the groundbreaking ceremonies. A total of 13 persons have become members, and during April the church recorded an average attendance of 34.

Construction of the church building will begin when a work team of 11 Georgia Baptist students arrive here June 14. Sponsored by Georgia Baptist Convention Student Unions in Georgia colleges and universities, the student summer missionaries will be supervised by Mr. and Mrs. Walter Porter of Valdosta, Ga.

Porter is Baptist Student Union director of Valdosta State College.

The students also will conduct a religious survey of the area and will lead services in Brown County State Park.

According to the Indiana Council of Churches, of the 10,000 Brown County residents, only about 16 per cent are members of any church.

During the summer months tourists increase ten-fold Nashville's population of an estimated 1,000.

The two-acre site on which the church will be located was purchased with a \$15,000 Home Mission Board site loan. The church also received an \$8,000 gift from the board's capital needs fund.

First Southern Baptist Church of Columbus, Ind., is the sponsoring church and Robert C. Powell, pastor, also is serving as pastor of the mission.

The student missionaries are scheduled to work 10 weeks on the new building. Dedication is set Aug. 13, at the end of their stay.

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Baptist Pastor Heads  
Anti-Alcohol Council

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WASHINGTON (BP)--Billy E. McCormack is the new executive director of the American Council of Alcohol Problems, Inc., with headquarters here, according to Clayton M. Wallace, acting executive director.

The new executive director comes from the pastorate of the Westside Baptist Church, Shreveport, La. He was chairman of the Louisiana Commission of Alcoholism, appointed by Governor John J. McKeithen.

The American Council on Alcohol Problems, Inc., has 40 state interchurch affiliates. They seek relevant solutions to the problems of alcohol by educational and legislative means.

The national organization dates back to 1895. It coordinates the work of the state affiliates and keeps them informed on governmental legislation and regulation dealing with alcoholism, alcohol education, highway safety and related problems.

McCormack is a former trustee of the Louisiana Moral and Civic Foundation, and the Louisiana Baptist Convention Executive Board.

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Nevada Baptists Take Steps  
To Start New Convention

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WINNEMUCCA, Nevada (BP)--The first formal step toward establishing a new state convention of Southern Baptists was taken here by a group of pastors and officers from Southern Baptist churches in Nevada meeting here.

The occasion was the second annual Nevada Baptist Fellowship held for pastors and other church leaders to get acquainted and share plans and problems as a prelude to the eventual formation of a state Baptist convention.

Formal steps toward creation of a new Nevada convention of Southern Baptists were unanimously approved, but no target date was set for the organization.

Southern Baptist Convention guidelines for establishment of a new convention suggest a minimum of 50 churches and 12,500 members, or 75 churches and 10,000 members.

There now are 43 churches and missions in the state of Nevada with about 5,00 members.

Within the state, Southern Baptists are affiliated with two different existing Baptist conventions. In northern Nevada, there are 18 churches and four missions affiliated with the Southern Baptist General Convention of California, and in southern Nevada there are 16 churches and five missions affiliated with the Arizona Southern Baptist Convention.

A temporary steering committee was elected to study and recommend necessary committee organizations and preparatory steps for the creation of a new convention.

M. Wendel Belew, secretary of the pioneer missions department of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board met with the group. Belew said that the growth rate of Southern Baptist of Nevada is overwhelming. He said it may be the fastest among Southern Baptist anywhere in the United States.

Robert Hughes, executive secretary of the California Convention brought the closing address at the two day meeting. Ralph Longshore assistant executive secretary and director of the missions division of the Southern Baptist General Convention of California also spoke.

Horace O. Duke Jr., pastor of Desert Hills Baptist Church of Las Vegas, Nevada, was elected president of the Nevada Baptist Fellowship.

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Faculty For Ridgecrest  
Writers' Conference Named

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NASHVILLE (BP)--Professional writers and editors will lead the annual Southern Baptist Writers' Conference set for June 8-14 at Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Assembly.

The conference is designed to help Christian writers who are willing to work to achieve professional skill.

Clifton J. Allen, editorial secretary of the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, Nashville, and conference director, has announced the following leaders.

--Miss Mary Alice Jones of Nashville, formerly director of children's work, The Methodist Church; nationally known writer and editor of books and curriculum materials; author of the "Tell Me About" books for children--workshop leader for "Writing for Children."

--John C. Merrill, professor of journalism, University of Missouri, Columbia; author of feature articles; specialist in mass communications--workshop leader for "Writing Magazine Articles."

--Mrs. Heather Ross Miller of Elizabethtown, N.C., teacher in creative writing; author of The Edge of the Woods, Tenants of the House and The Wind Southerly (verse)--workshop leader for "Writing Fiction."

--Raymond M. Rigdon, director of editorial services, Training Union department of the Sunday School Board, Nashville; experienced curriculum writer and editor--workshop leader for "Writing Curriculum Materials."

--Miss Janet Wilson, associate professor of English, Belmont College (Baptist), Nashville; author of short stories, poetry and plays--workshop leader for "Writing Poetry."

Stanley I. Stuber, director of Association Press, New York City, will deliver a daily lecture series on "Writing in Today's World." A leader in Religion in American Life, Stuber is the author of Basic Christian Writings, denominations...How We got Them and How Protestants and Roman Catholics Differ.

The program will feature daily round-table discussions when conferees may quiz authors. Afternoons will be free for interviews with faculty members.

Winners in the annual writers' competition will be announced during the week.

Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly is owned and operated by the Sunday School Board of the SBC.

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