



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 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

April 22, 1968

Baptists, Others Seek
To Help Kentucky Poor

316

310

SHEPHERDSVILLE, Ky. (BP)--Baptist laymen and ministers in this area are cooperating with ministers of five other denominations to extend a helping hand to the poor in their community.

The interdenominational group has created an organization called "Fellowship of Concern" which provides emergency financial aid to needy persons until they can be cared for by an appropriate community or welfare agency.

At least five Southern Baptist churches in the area are participating in the group, in addition to churches from such other denominations as Methodist, Presbyterian, Catholic, Church of God, and Christian (Disciples of Christ).

The group meets once each month at a different church to review the requests for emergency financial assistance. Some needy persons are discovered by leads from concerned persons in the community rather than by direct application.

Two members of the Fellowship of Concern are assigned to each "case". They visit each needy family or individual and are empowered to give immediate aid up to a certain amount.

Any family with a continuing, long-term need for necessities such as food, clothing and fuel are referred to the appropriate welfare agencies in the Shepherdsville area.

Since the interdenominational organization was established about three years ago, it has spent about \$1,000 for emergency aid to needy families, most of it for food and fuel.

Raising funds for the Fellowship of Concern has become a community project. Money is donated by individuals and businesses, and most of the churches of Shepherdsville receive an offering for the cause at their annual Thanksgiving services.

Members of the group are now talking about expanding the organization to include a counseling service, perhaps dealing with such social problems as alcoholism, divorce and juvenile delinquency.

The first two chairmen of the group have been Baptist laymen. They are James Mann, immediate past chairman, and Norman Troutman, who was elected new chairman last fall. Troutman is a chiropractor and deacon at Bullitt Lick Baptist Church here.

-30-

Eugene Wright Named
Training Union Worker

317

115

4/22/68

NASHVILLE (BP)--Eugene Wright, formerly minister of education at Rosen Heights Baptist Church, Fort Worth, has been named adult consultant in the Training Union department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board here.

Wright, a native of Oklahoma City, was graduated from Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, and received the master of religious education degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth.

Before his employment at Rosen Heights, he held similar positions at Immanuel Baptist Church, Shawnee, Okla.; Richland Hills Baptist Church, Fort Worth; and Exchange Avenue Baptist Church, Oklahoma City.

Wright and his wife, Elizabeth, have two children, Susan Beth, seven, and Steven Hill, two.

-30-

BP PHOTO mailed to Baptist state papers.

316-317

April 22, 1968

2

Baptist Press

Texas Students To Work
Against Race Discrimination

318

460

ABILENE, Tex. (BP)--Some 1,300 Texas Baptist college students have pledged themselves to work to eliminate "every trace of racial discrimination in our Baptist Student Unions, sororities, fraternities, and clubs, as well as in matters of student housing and employment."

The pledge was made in a strongly worded statement on racial problems which was approved unanimously at the annual Leadership Training Conference of the Texas Baptist Student Union on the campus of Hardin-Simmons University here.

As part of the statement, the students from 75 Texas campuses pledged to "make personal sacrifices and engage in collective action to express our commitment to lessening racial tension and to contributing to racial harmony," and urged all Texas Baptists to join them.

As a concrete evidence of their concern, the students directed the 1968-69 state Baptist Student Union Presidents' Council to design a program of implementation, including development of a summer project involving Baptist students in racially troubled Texas situations.

An offering of more than \$600 was taken at the conference and will be used to help pay expenses of student volunteers who will assist in the project.

The complete text of the racial statement said:

"As Baptist students our biblical faith responds to God's demand for justice, righteousness, compassion, mercy, and concern for every person.

"A succession of tragic events have focused attention on the great gap between the races of this nation. While it is true that some steps forward have been taken by men of good will and noble purpose, it has become evident that most of us have failed to respond to the need for significant and clearly-defined action in the betterment of race relations. It is clear that new intensity of dedication resulting in fresh approaches and departures from existing attitudes and actions is urgently in order.

"We will make personal sacrifices and engage in collective action to express our commitment to lessening racial tension and to contributing to racial harmony. We pray that all Baptists in the state will join us.

"We will involve ourselves in an aggressive program of witnessing to bring students of all races to a knowledge of Jesus Christ and to enlist them in the fellowship and service of our churches. We will pursue this role in the Crusade of the Americas, a hemispheric evangelistic campaign in 1969.

"We will resist the sort of pseudo-sophistication that places a premium on prejudice. We will work to eliminate every trace of racial discrimination in our Baptist Student Unions, sororities, fraternities and clubs, as well as in matters of student housing and employment.

"We will endeavor to provide avenues for understanding and communication, to conduct inter-racial projects of ministry, worship, and study.

"We direct the 1968-69 State BSU Presidents' Council to design a program of implementation including, as an immediate step, the development of a summer project involving Baptist students in racially troubled Texas situations."

-30-

Baptist School Gives
Award To Joe Ann Shelton

319

115

4/22/68

SHAWNEE, Okla. (BP)- Miss Joe Ann Shelton, director of program music for the Southern Baptists' Radio and Television Commission, recently received Oklahoma Baptist University's "Outstanding Service Award" here.

The presentation was made during the Baptist school's "Woman's Day" observance, sponsored by Zeta Chi, a leadership fraternity.

Miss Shelton has been featured soloist on the Radio-TV Commission's Baptist Hour broadcast and director of the Baptist Hour Choir since 1955.

Miss Shelton received a Distinguished Alumni Award at Oklahoma Baptist University in 1963 and in 1965 was named one of the Outstanding Young Women of America. She is a graduate of the Baptist school here.

-30-

918-719

National Conference World
Missions Will Meet December, 1969

320

250

ATLANTA (BP)--A national conference on world missions for students and young adults called MISSION 70 will be held Dec. 28-31, 1969 here.

The conference will seek to confront college students, seminary students and young adults with the world mission task and career opportunities in church vocations.

The conference program will be structured around drama, music, small group work, counseling and information sessions.

Sponsors for MISSION 70 include the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Home Mission Board, the Sunday School Board's program of vocational guidance, with cooperation of the Woman's Missionary Union, Brotherhood Commission, and the Sunday School Board's program of student work.

Lloyd T. Householder, manager of the Training Union department of the Sunday School Board, is chairman of the coordinating committee. Glendon McCullough of the Home Mission Board and Jesse C. Fletcher of the Foreign Mission Board serve with him on the committee.

Heads of other committees include Gomer R. Lesch, public relations committee, and Lee Garner, materials and continuance committee, both of the Sunday School Board staff; Louis R. Cobbs, plenary committee, and Claude Rhea, music sub-committee, both of the Foreign Mission Board staff; Mrs. R. L. Mathis of the Woman's Missionary Union, drama sub-committee; and Home Mission Board staffers Nathan J. Porter, logistics committee; E. Warren Wolf, exhibits committee; Cecil D. Etheredge, group work committee; and Edward Rickenbacker Jr., post-plenary committee.

General sessions will be held in the Civic Center Auditorium, Atlanta. Eight downtown churches will host the group meetings.

-30-

Baptist Student Work
Shows Statistical Gains

321

195

4/22/68

NASHVILLE (BP)--Results of a survey conducted among local and state directors of Baptist student work show gains in numbers of students, Baptist Student Unions and Baptist student centers.

Baptist students enrolled in Baptist schools numbered 41,291 in 1966-67, an increase of 641 over the previous year's enrollment; reported the student department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

An increase of 26,984 Baptist students was shown in non-Baptist schools, for a total of 321,191. Total number of Baptist students in both groups was 362,482.

New converts among Baptist students numbered 1,782, an increase of 277 over the previous year's total.

The number of Baptist Student Unions for 1966-67 was 602, as compared to 569 for the previous year. Directors of these unions and other student work programs numbered 405, an increase of three.

Four new Baptist student centers were added in 1966-67, for a total of 184. Capital investment in these centers was \$15,037,788, as compared to \$12,795,432 for the previous year.

Baptist students participated in the operation of 675 mission projects.

Over 9000 students participated in 1,094 regularly scheduled discussion groups. The number of such groups was increased by 58 over 1965-66.

-30-

ABC-TV To Show Baptist
Film on Revelation Book

322

155

4/22/68

FORT WORTH (BP)--A biblical documentary examining the historical significance of the New Testament book of Revelation will be shown for the second time by the American Broadcasting Co., at 1:00 p.m., on May 5.

Entitled "I, John," the documentary film was produced by ABC News in cooperation with the Southern Baptists' Radio and Television Commission, and was photographed on the Island of Patmos in the eastern Mediterranean.

The apostle John was exiled on the island near the end of the first century A.D. While there he was inspired to write Revelation, a message of comfort and ultimate victory to fellow Christians in Asia Minor, who were under severe persecution by the Emperor Domitian.

"I, John," first shown by ABC last October, delves into legend and controversy associated with the book. Narration and scripture passages are combined with camera and sound effects to enhance the imagery in which Revelation abounds.

John C. Stevens of the Southern Baptists' Radio-TV Commission here wrote the script, and Wiley Hance, manager of ABC's Public Affairs Department, was producer.

10.