



**BAPTIST PRESS**  
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November 6, 1970

**SBC Mission Agency Names  
Eight Lay Missionaries**

**RICHMOND (BP)**--The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board appointed four couples to overseas posts, heard its executive secretary call for keeping the channels of giving for mission causes wide open, and added an assistant business manager to its headquarters staff during its November meeting here.

The new missionaries are Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Erwin of Concord, Tenn., appointed to Zambia; Mr. and Mrs. James C. Harless of Wake Forest, N.C., to Nigeria; Mr. and Mrs. Bob G. Magee of New Orleans, to Chile; and Mr. and Mrs. Shelley P. Richardson of Nashville, to Peru.

All are laymen. One couple is assigned to do agricultural work, another for camp and recreation ministries, a third for church music development, and a fourth for work with students.

Executive Secretary Baker J. Cauthen told the board members that "a victorious Lottie Moon Christmas Offering will be an inspiration to Baptists all across the (Southern Baptist) Convention and will serve to reaffirm the missionary convictions of Southern Baptists and call us forward in the great task which our Lord has commanded."

Financial pressures are great and many claims are being made upon monies available at the local church level, Cauthen pointed out. Therefore, suggestions are made frequently to hold back funds from convention causes and use them for local church needs, he said.

"What does that do?" Cauthen asked. "It sets off a movement that says let's not consider needs beyond our own. But I believe a spiritual response goes the other way."

"The task of worldwide ministry and service rests on each church," Cauthen continued. "Southern Baptists must keep the channels of giving open, wide and deep. The man in the pew must know that when he puts his money in the offering plate it will flow out to all the places in the world where it is needed."

He expressed appreciation to the SBC Woman's Missionary Union and all church organizations, pastors and workers for making the most of the week of prayer for foreign missions, beginning in late November, and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

Cauthen also noted that although all the men appointed to missionary service by the board are laymen, this in no way implies that the need for ordained ministers is declining.

The opposite is true, he said. "There are more calls today for ordained ministers with experience in church leadership than ever before, and we hope that this number may greatly increase in 1971."

Ward S. Hildreth Jr., who has been graphic arts director for the board since 1962, was named assistant business manager, effective Nov. 15. In the newly created position, he will assist the business manager, Elbert L. Wright and will review business office operations and conduct studies of purchasing costs.

Hildreth was graduated from Richmond Professional Institute (now Virginia Commonwealth University) here. He was staff artist and designer for a Richmond advertising company for five years before joining the board's staff.

In another action, the board voted to transfer missionary field representative A. Clark Scanlon from the Caribbean area to the Middle America area, effective Jan. 1. He will be field representative for Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Costa Rica and the Baptist Spanish Publishing House in El Paso, Tex.

Scanlon and his family currently live in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

Southern Baptist missionaries in Chile, where a Marxist has been elected president, "have been looking forward to the continuing of their efforts with full dedication," reported Winston Crawley, the board's Overseas Division director. "They have no plans for exodus," he added.

Crawley, who returned recently from a 17-day visit with missionaries in six South American countries, said that Salvador Allende's electoral plurality Sept. 4 was followed by rumors of a possible outbreak of civil strife. "Now things are settling down more," Crawley said. Allende was inaugurated as Chile's president Nov. 4.

With the appointment of Mr. and Mrs. Magee, 53 Southern Baptists are under Foreign Mission Board assignment to Chile.

Missionaries in Uruguay, where guerrillas have killed one U.S. government representative and are holding another captive, "are moving ahead with their work in spite of the situation" and are experiencing "no serious immediate pressures," Crawley reported. He also visited missionaries in Paraguay, Argentina, Brazil and Peru.

The board voted to invite L. Jack Gray, professor of missions at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, to serve as pastor of the English-language Baptist Church in Blantyre, Malawi, beginning in June 1971.

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Michigan Baptist Executive,  
Fred Hubbs, Moves to Missouri

11/6/70

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (BP)--Fred D. Hubbs of Detroit, executive secretary of the Baptist State Convention of Michigan for the past 13 years, has been named associate to the executive secretary of the Missouri Baptist Convention in charge of associational administration.

Announcement of the appointment was made by Missouri Baptist Convention Executive Secretary Earl O. Harding here, shortly after Hubbs had submitted his resignation to the Michigan convention during that group's annual meeting in Flint, Mich.

Hubbs will assume the position here effective Jan. 1. He will be the liaison officer between the Missouri Baptist Convention and its 80 district associations with 1,835 affiliated churches.

Harding said Hubbs will direct the Missouri convention's expanding program of assistance to these associations in organizational development and administration.

A former vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention, Hubbs has been involved in Baptist work in Michigan since 1952, first as an area missionary, then as state superintendent of missions, and for the last 13 years as executive secretary.

For the first six years he was executive secretary of the Michigan convention, he doubled as the state convention's evangelism secretary; and for the past 10 years he has also been editor of the Michigan Baptist Advocate, the state paper in Michigan.

Before going to Michigan, Hubbs was pastor of Baptist churches in Mayflower and North Little Rock, Ark., and in Aquilla, Tex.

In Little Rock, he was president of the Baptist Pastors' Conference there. As executive secretary of the Michigan convention, he has served as recording secretary for the Executive Secretaries Conference of the Southern Baptist Convention, an organization composed of top executives for the 33 Baptist state conventions in the SBC.

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A native of Harrisburg, Ill., he attended Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind.; Central College in Little Rock; Hendricks College, Conway, Ark.; Baylor University, Waco, Tex.; Great Lakes College in Detroit; and Michigan Eastern College in Ypsilanti. He also attended Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

Hubbs' offices will be located at the Baptist Building here.

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Illinois Baptists Authorize  
Study of Church Salary Scales

11/6/70

ROCKFORD, Ill. (BP)--The Illinois Baptist State Association, in what is believed to be the first such action in the Southern Baptist Convention, authorized a committee to study church vocation salaries, and to report back with a suggested pay scale for ministers and other church workers in the state.

Proponents of the study were quick to point out, however, that each church, in keeping with Baptist emphasis on local autonomy, would decide what to do with the study results, which would not be binding.

The committee was asked to base their suggested salary scale on such factors as longevity, education, experience, size of church, extent of responsibility, etc. The results would be distributed to all churches as information.

For the past year, an existing committee has been studying church salaries, but the convention voted to expand their assignment to include drafting a suggested salary scale.

In other actions, the convention adopted a 1971 budget of \$1,246,017, authorized a year's study of the association's Baptist Student Union program, and adopted resolutions on federal aid to church-owned schools, pornography, and reaffirming the Baptist Faith and Message Statement concerning the inspiration of the scriptures as adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention in 1925 and 1963.

The latter resolution was presented from the floor by James O. Mathenia of Peoria, Ill., rather than from the resolutions committee, and was adopted without discussion.

The resolution decried "social activists in the National Council of Churches and other denominations" in addition to reaffirming the Baptist Faith and Message Statement that the Bible "has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth without any mixture of error for its matter."

Another resolution commended President Richard M. Nixon for rejecting the findings of the President's Commission on Obscenity and Pornography, and opposed the publication and distribution of pornographic literature.

Convention messengers also commended state legislators who "took any stand against government aid to private and parochial schools" in Illinois.

Earlier this year, Southern Baptists in Illinois sponsored two "pilgrimages" to the state capitol to attend legislative hearings and voice opposition to bills that later were buried in committee by the General Assembly. Some state observers credited the Baptist opposition with killing the bills for this session of the legislature.

The association encouraged churches and individuals to join PEARL, which stands for Public Education and Religious Liberty, a national organization with an Illinois chapter which is fighting public tax fund allocation to religious educational institutions.

Another resolution called attention to a survey conducted earlier this year by the Illinois Baptist and its editor, Robert J. Hastings, on the extent of press freedom and access to information in state and Southern Baptist organizations. The resolution called for widespread distribution of information and encouraged "openness" in all SBC and state Baptist conventions.

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Elected president of the convention was Dale Clemens, pastor of Meadow Heights Baptist Church in Collinsville, Ill. He succeeds Charles L. Chaney of First Baptist Church, Palatine, who declined re-nomination for a second term.

In another action, the convention voted to study the total program of its ministry to college students, including the question of whether to seel the Baptist student center at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Ill. Last year, the convention voted to sell the student center at the University of Illinois, Champaign, and in September, the director of the student center at Carbondale recommended that his center be sold.

Next year, the convention will meet at Springfield, Ill., and will feature the dedication of the association's new office building. Last year, the association voted to move its headquarters from Carbonale to Springfield, Ill.

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Oregon-Washington Convention  
Changes Name To "Northwest"

11/6/70

PORTLAND, Ore. (BP)--Meeting here for its 23rd annual convention, the Baptist General Convention of Oregon-Washington approved a constitutional change giving the organization a new name--the Northwest Baptist Convention.

The name change is effective immediately.

In other actions, the convention requested Bennett Cook, director of the Church Services Division for the convention, to serve as interim executive secretary, beginning Jan. 1, 1971.

The convention paid tribute to the work of Eugene Grubbs, executive secretary for the past two years, who has been named consultant on laymen overseas by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

In resolutions, the convention expressed appreciation to President Richard M. Nixon for rejecting the report of the President's Commission on Obscenity and Pornography.

Another resolution reaffirmed commitment to the Constitution of the U.S. and its guarantee for religious liberty and church-state separation in the First Amendment.

Elected president of the convention was Jack Stuart, pastor of Trinity Baptist Church, Springfield, Ore., and former director of the church training department for the convention.

For the first time in the state's history, and possibly in the Southern Baptist Convention, a Negro woman presided over sessions of the convention here. Miss Irene James, vice president elected last year, shared the gavel with outgoing convention president, C. E. Bolin.

The convention adopted a \$674,451 budget for 1971, a slight increase over the 1970 budget, that includes a goal of \$334,929 to be raised in the Northwest convention, and 19 per cent going to Southern Baptist Convention world mission causes.

Next year the convention will meet in Yakima, Wash., Nov. 16-18.

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Michigan Convention Elects  
Wilson Executive Secretary

11/6/70

FLINT, Mich. (BP)--The Baptist State Convention of Michigan accepted the resignation of Executive Secretary Fred D. Hubbs, who led in organizing the convention in 1957, and then elected Robert Wilson, the convention's mission director, as the new executive.

Both Hubbs' resignation and Wilson's election become effective Jan. 1, the date that Hubbs assumes a position as associate executive secretary in charge of associational

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administration for the Missouri Baptist Convention, with offices in Jefferson City, Mo.

In other actions, the convention adopted a record budget of \$823,398 and passed resolutions expressing appreciation for Hubbs' 13 years as executive secretary, and expressing opposition to government funds to parochial schools and support of open housing and employment practices for people of all races.

Hubbs came to Michigan in 1952 as the first pioneer missionary of the Southern Baptist Convention assigned to work with six churches in Michigan. He was instrumental in organizing the convention in 1957, and became the first executive secretary then.

Wilson, his successor, has been director of the missions division for the convention for the past eight years. He is a native of Flint, where the convention was meeting for its 13th annual session.

Wilson returned to his home state as pastor of First Baptist Church, Clio, Mich., after graduation from Bob Jones University and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and later became an area superintendent of missions in the northern part of Michigan.

Perhaps the strongest resolution adopted by the convention dealt with unemployment, open housing, and racial discrimination. It urged Baptists to "aggressively seek in Christian love to secure for all people of our state open access to housing, employment, education and church affiliation."

The resolution stated that "there are still many in our nation who are jobless and hungry, uneducated and homeless because of racial and ethnic discrimination, and have not realized as we have the fullness of American citizenship."

Two other related resolutions pledged support for law enforcement agencies in the increase of "crime, anarchy, and lawlessness;" and expressed grave alarm over the increase in use of alcohol, drugs, narcotics and pornography. The convention pledged "to do our part to help those who have become victims of these ills."

A resolution on church-state separation cited a recent referendum in Michigan which opposed aid to parochial schools, and expressed appreciation to Americans United for providing leadership in the fight against such proposals.

Another resolution expressed appreciation to Hubbs and his wife, and pledged to them "our continued and constant prayerful support in their new field of service and responsibility." The messengers recognized their own "inability to verbally or otherwise adequately express our gratitude, appreciation, and love to Brother and Mrs. Hubbs...."

In other actions, the convention adopted a budget of \$823,398 for 1971, which includes a goal of \$354,306 from churches within the state, plus income from Southern Baptist Convention agencies and other sources. Twenty per cent, or \$70,861, will go to SBC causes.

The goal to be raised from the churches is an increase of \$70,861. For the past few months, the convention has been running behind in receipts from churches, and has received about \$35,000 less than the budget so far. Wilson said the automobile industry strike has affected church contributions, but there was a spirit of optimism at the convention.

Next year, the convention will meet at First Baptist Church, St. Clair Shores, Nov. 9-11.

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Northern Plains Convention  
Adopts \$293,605 '71 Budget

11/6/70

BISMARCK, N.D. (BP)--The Northern Plains Baptist Convention meeting here adopted a 1971 budget of \$293,605, voting to increase its allocations to world missions through the Southern Baptist Cooperative Program by one per cent.

The budget will allocate \$13,727 to Southern Baptist world mission causes, and will include a goal of \$105,591 to be raised from the 81 churches in the four-state area--North and South Dakota, Wyoming and Montana.

W. J. Hughes was re-elected president of the convention, which will meet next year Capitol Heights Baptist Church, Pierre, S. D., Nov. 9-11.

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