



BAPTIST PRESS
News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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

BUREAUS

ATLANTA Walker L. Knight, Chief, 1350 Spring St., N.W., Atlanta, Ga. 30309, Telephone (404) 873-4041
DALLAS Billy Keith, Chief, 103 Baptist Building, Dallas, Texas 75201, Telephone (214) 741-1996
NASHVILLE (Baptist Sunday School Board) Lynn M. Davis, Jr., Chief, 127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn. 37203, Telephone (615) 254-1631
RICHMOND Jesse C. Fletcher, Chief, 3806 Monument Ave., Richmond, Va. 23230, Telephone (703) 353-0151
WASHINGTON W. Barry Garrett, Chief, 200 Maryland Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002, Telephone (202) 544-4226

March 19, 1971

Former Navy Chaplain Chief
Named SBC Chaplaincy Head

ATLANTA (BP)--James W. Kelly, chief of Navy chaplains from 1965 to 1970, has been elected director of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's Division of Chaplaincy, effective Jan. 1, 1972. He will succeed Geo. W. Cummins who retires at that time.

Kelly was one of three persons added to the Board's staff during its spring board of directors meeting here. Barry St. Clair of Louisville was elected associate director of the Division of Evangelism and Joel Land of Tuckerton, N. J., was named assistant secretary, department of special mission ministries.

Chaplain Kelly will begin his service with the board on Sept. 1 as director-elect, working with Cummins during the closing four months of 1971.

Kelly will become the third director of the division since its conception 10 years ago.

His responsibilities will include providing administrative direction in developing and maintaining an effective program of chaplaincy ministries in the armed services, and in hospitals, institutions and industry. He will also coordinate the work of the division with the entire board and other Southern Baptist Convention agencies.

Kelly's chaplaincy history dates from 1942 when he was commissioned Lieutenant (JG) in the Chaplain Corps of the Navy. By 1962 he had attained the rank of Rear Admiral.

He had been director of the Chaplains Division, Bureau of Naval Personnel and in 1965 was named Chief of Chaplains by the chief of Naval personnel.

A native of Carthage, Ark., Kelly is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Ark., and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville. Ouachita granted him a doctor of divinity degree in 1958. He has done post-graduate study at the University of Chicago.

He was pastor of First Baptist Church, Malvern, Ark., until he entered the Navy.

St. Clair, whose appointment is effective Aug. 1, will specialize in youth evangelism, particularly relating to high school age youth.

He will be a resource person to churches, associations and state conventions in strategy planning, material and program development and all areas related to youth evangelism, board officials said.

The 26-year-old Washington, D. C., native comes to the board from the Bethlehem Baptist Church, Louisville, Ky., where he is youth director.

A graduate of Davidson College, Davidson, N. C., he now attends Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and will receive the master of divinity degree in July, 1971.

He and his wife, Carol, were 1970 SBC summer missionaries to California. He has been a staff member of Campus Crusade, working with college and high school students, and served with Venture for Victory in the Orient.

Land's election is effective April 1. As assistant secretary of the department of special mission ministries, he will assist state and local leaders in the development of resort missions, in-service guidance programs and will secure requests for mission youth groups.

An appointee of the board since 1969, Land is a pastoral missionary in Tuckerton, N. J. The Cuthbert, Ga., native graduated from Mars Hill College, Mars Hill, N. C.; Samford University Birmingham; and Southern Seminary, Louisville. He has done additional graduate work at Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, N. J.

He has been pastor of several churches, pastor-advisor of the Purdue University Baptist Student Union and moderator of the Wabash Valley Association, Indiana.

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SBC Home Mission Board
Appoints Three Missionaries

3/19/71

ATLANTA (BP)--The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board at its spring meeting here appointed three career missionaries, and was presented a replica of the table on which the minutes were recorded when the agency was organized in Augusta, Ga., 126 years ago.

The three new career missionaries are Peggie Harmon, director of weekday ministries for Friendship Baptist Center in Albuquerque, N. M.; Mr. and Mrs. Glenard Norris, previously missionary associates now promoted to career status for work in Massachusetts.

The historic table replica was created by C. L. Cox of Augusta, Ga., and commissioned and presented to the mission board by John A. Wood, pastor of First Baptist Church, Paducah, Ky.

Wood, who retires as a director after six years, said he got the idea for the table after visiting Augusta last year for the observance of the 125th anniversary of the organization of both the Home Mission Board and the Southern Baptist Convention there.

Cox, who was manager for the S. H. Kress Co. in Augusta for 41 years, had made woodworking his hobby. He took more than two months to make the table, donating his labor. He is a deacon at the First Baptist Church of Augusta.

So exact is the replica that scratches, nail holes, and other blemishes were reproduced. However, Cox made one concession: he corrected a carving error made in the original because he said everyone would "blame me with the error in the duplicate."

In major business actions, the board elected three new national staff members, and appointed three new career missionaries.

Named director-elect of the Division of Chaplaincy was James W. Kelly, former chief of Navy Chaplains; elected associate director of the division of evangelism was Barry St. Clair, youth director for Bethlehem Baptist Church, Louisville; and named assistant secretary of the department of special mission ministries was Joel Land, missionary in Tuckerton, N. J. (See separate story.)

Miss Harmon, as director of weekday ministries for Friendship Baptist Center in Albuquerque, is responsible for establishing a program to meet the needs of the residents in the center's surrounding community.

A native of Surry County, N. C., Miss Harmon assumes the position after six years in a similar post at First Baptist Church, Newport, Ky. She has been a student missionary of the SBC Home Mission Board twice, and was for six years a staff member of the Long Run Baptist Association in Louisville, Ky.

She is a graduate of Gardner Webb College, Boiling Springs, N. C., Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, N. C.; and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville. She has also completed an 11-week course in clinical pastoral education at the North Carolina Baptist Hospital, Winston-Salem, N. C.

Glenard and Bobbie Norris were appointed missionary associates to West Peabody, Mass., in 1969. Previously, Norris had been pastor of churches in Texas, Colorado, Indiana, and New Mexico.

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The Bangs, Tex., native graduated from Howard Payne College, Brownwood, Tex., and Baylor University, Waco, Tex. He has attended Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and Western State University.

Mrs. Norris is originally from San Angelo, Tex. A graduate of Western State and Texas Technological College, Lubbock, Tex., she also has attended New Mexico State University.

She has been a public school teacher in Texas and Colorado and was for three years an instructor at New Mexico Junior College, Hobbs, N.M.

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Vietnamese Baptists
Compile New Hymnal

3/19/71

SAIGON (BP)--Representatives of 12 Baptist churches and chapels in Vietnam met at the Vietnam Baptist Theological Seminary here to evaluate a proposed hymnal for Baptists in Vietnam.

The 31 persons attending the workshop divided into two groups under the leadership of Mrs. Walter A. Routh Jr., and Mrs. Rondal D. Merrell Sr., Southern Baptist missionaries. The groups evaluated 111 proposed hymns which had been translated into Vietnamese.

The first indigenous hymn to be written by a Vietnamese Baptist was introduced during the workshop.

After reading each hymn, each participant wrote an evaluation of the hymn covering these questions: Did he understand it? Was it written clearly? Was the translation true to Bible teachings? Was the translation well written?

Workshop participants were varied in their Christian experience, Mrs. Merrell said, with one having been baptized only a week earlier. None had been Baptist for more than 11 years. Older Christians were asked to pay particular attention to the translations as they related to Bible teachings, while newer Christians were asked to evaluate clarity and comprehension of words and ideas for a person meeting them for the first time.

After evaluating each hymn, the group sang it and evaluated whether or not it was singable in Vietnamese. Western Music in itself is foreign to the oriental culture and style of singing, said Mrs. Merrell. The tonal language requires that the direction of word tones must match the direction of the note being sung, or all word meaning is lost, she said.

The two hymnals currently in use by Vietnamese Christians present problems for Baptists, said Mrs. Merrell. In one there are doctrinal differences, and Baptists do not use it.

The other translation was completed in the early years of Protestant beginnings here. The language is outdated and contains many classical Chinese literary terms which the average Vietnamese does not understand, she said.

Evaluation suggestions from the workshop will be used as a basis for the next steps toward production of a stopgap hymnal for Baptists in Vietnam. Missionaries have requested a \$5,000 grant from the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board to finance publishing and hope to have the hymnal available soon, said Mrs. Merrell.

As soon as it is completed, missionaries expect to start planning a more comprehensive and indigenous hymnal for permanent use by Vietnam Baptists, she said.

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Church Sponsors "Continental"
Missionaries, Book Round-Robin

TULSA, Okla. (BP)--First Baptist Church here has set out to sponsor a Southern Baptist missionary family in each of the world's continents, and has started a reading program to share books with each family in round-robin fashion.

So far, the church is sponsoring through the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board nine missionaries in Rhodesia, Jordan, Yemen, India, and Colombia. Budget provisions have been made for a tenth missionary to be announced soon.

Missionaries sponsored by the church include Mr. and Mrs. Ralph L. Rummage, Rhodesia; Dr. and Mrs. Dean T. Fitzgerald Jr., Jordan; Miss Johnnie Brasuell, Yemen; Dr. and Mrs. John H. Wikman Jr., India; and Mr. and Mrs. James C. Oliver Jr., Colombia.

The church library initiated recently a reading program for the missionaries which provides for a book to be sent to each missionary, along with a request that each autograph the book and mail it to another missionary on a round-robin schedule.

After the book has completed the cycle of travel to each of the missionaries, it will be returned to the church library for the use of the people at home.

Letters from the missionaries have expressed appreciation for the plan and for the church's support, according to Russell Noel, associate pastor of the church.

Noel said that the church has long prided herself in her interest and investment in the total mission program of Southern Baptists and in foreign missions particularly.

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Nationwide Conference Speakers Say
Bible Hope of Contemporary Man

3/19/71

By Charles Willis

DALLAS (BP)--Biblical insights on the problems of contemporary man were considered here by more than 3,500 Southern Baptists gathered for the denomination's first Nationwide Bible Conference.

Some 95 Bible scholars supported the conference theme of "Christian Hope in a Time of Crisis" through sermons, intensive Bible study and discussions of the Bible and contemporary concerns.

Most of the time during the three-day meeting was spent in 40 daily morning Bible study group sessions, and in 45 afternoon conferences dealing with application of the Bible to contemporary concerns. General sessions were held each evening.

In a conference on "Biblical Perspectives on the Drug Problem," Henlee H. Barnette, professor of Christian ethics at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville suggested that every church ought to have a "radical sharing group" to which drug users can come without fear of being rejected or reported to the police.

Another session of the conference was told that the ecological crisis is the most controversial and important issue of the day.

Harry N. Hollis, Jr., director of special moral concerns for the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission, said that "the only hope is a radical shift in attitudes, not the application of technology" to the problems of pollution. He called for a merger of biblical teaching and scientific insight.

In a session on affluence and poverty, Daniel B. McGee, Baylor University professor of religion, said that "wealth is something given by God to use for the purpose of ministering to others. We must make adjustments in our system which will open that dark, dirty basement of poverty that afflicts so many."

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Another meeting heard a seminary professor place the responsibility for carrying out God's mission in the world on the shoulders of the laity, not the clergy.

"The mission of the clergy is to equip God's people for their ministry," said Findley B. Edge, professor of religious education at Southern Seminary, Louisville. He said the problem of the church is that some laymen who have been called to this ministry don't understand the nature of their call.

In a group dealing with what the Bible says to youth, Peter Rhea Jones, professor of New Testament at Southern Seminary, said that the church must remember she is one step from extinction.

"If we give them (youth) shallow concern and lose the dynamics of commitment to Christ, we lose a whole generation," Jones said. "If we care for them, we will lead them throughout life. To youth workers, pastors and others I would say that you must get on the wave length of youth rather than insisting on their getting on your wave length."

Duke K. McCall, president of Southern Seminary, said "we each may not have the same understanding of the Bible, but we must each study it with the light God has given us and ask the Holy Spirit to help us understand it.

" 'My' Bible is not as large as 'the' Bible; I have not appropriated into my life and thoughts and expectations enough of its teachings and its meanings," said McCall.

"The Nationwide Bible Conference has been a success to me because I have a larger, more comprehensive internal Bible than I did before I came," he noted. "I have taken more of 'the' Bible into 'my' Bible."

In the first evening session of the week-long Bible emphasis, Culbert Rutenber, professor of philosophy of religion at the American Baptist Seminary of the West, Covina, Calif., told conference participants that "the Bible shaped modern man.

"The Bible understands modern man more than he understands himself. It revolutionizes modern man," he said. "The last word the Bible gives is resurrection. History will not be in vain. The world will not end in history. God is able to bring order out of chaos.

"The end of the world's picture is a city, the city of the Lord Jesus Christ, the city of the New Jerusalem," he continued.

"Between doom and resurrection is God's love. So we are summoned to proclaim hope made available by our Lord Christ," Rutenber said.

Dale Moody, professor of Christian Theology at Southern Seminary, spoke out against authoritarianism in the interpretation of scriptures as he addressed himself to "The Bible and the Holy Spirit.

"Some Baptists believe that we could solve all our problems by putting everyone in a theological strait jacket," he said.

"If all you have is a 'wooden authoritarianism' and if you don't have the Holy Spirit to help you understand this book, then your religion will be a masquerade.

"I want an open Bible, with no strait jackets and superimposed limits on interpretations. I want freedom in the Holy Spirit," Moody declared.

Former Southern Baptist Convention President W. A. Criswell, pastor of First Baptist Church, Dallas, called on pastors to preach the Bible with conviction and faith in its message and infallibility.

"Whenever preachers and theologians attempt to rethink the gospel message in order to make it relevant to the non-Christian, secular philosophies, they lose the power of their ministry by refusing to challenge and correct that which would destroy them," said Criswell.

He pointed out that failure to proclaim the inerrant message of the Bible in the past has led to decline in the church and "the spirit of God will confront the churches again with the holy scriptures from which they have drifted."

Criswell noted that fundamental belief in the Bible is reaching the young people of today.

Evangelist Billy Graham, scheduled speaker for the closing night session, spoke to the audience by telephone, saying that there is a famine for the word of God.

"We need to take advantage of memorizing and learning the scriptures. We must rededicate ourselves to a serious study of the Bible," Graham said.

Replacing Graham, who had to cancel his appearance after throat surgery, was John Bisagno, pastor of First Baptist Church, Houston.

"The root of faith has been deeply planted in the word of God," Bisagno said. "The Bible has power. Because of the book, hope replaces despair. This nation needs a good dose of the old-time religion.

"The Bible is a book that tells the story of the ultimate victory of God's kingdom. Anybody can write history," he said. "Only God can write prophecy."

"Churches are out of business unless they believe in the Bible," Bisagno declared. "If you take the faith out of the scripture they have nothing to believe in.

"People are buying Jesus Christ today when people are taking the word of God to the people," he said.

"When it takes 31 Southern Baptists to reach one person for Jesus Christ, the old-time religion has not failed, my friend, it has never been tried."

George R. Beasley-Murray, principal of Spurgeon's College, London, England, was the main Bible expositor during the morning sessions.

Beasley-Murray, speaking on the general theme "Christian Hope," based his Bible exposition on the Book of Revelation. He considered conflict in the church, judgement, and the second coming of Christ as they are related to churchmen and the church today.

He said that often the message of the Book of Revelation concerning these topics is related only to events which will happen in the future. He called on the conference participants to apply the concepts in a more effective witness and ministry now.

The conference, the first of its kind, was jointly sponsored by the Sunday School department of Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, the Baptist General Convention of Texas, and the Dallas Baptist Association. Sessions were held at the 13,500-seat Memorial Auditorium here.

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Texas Baptists Help Rebuild
Two Bombed Black Churches

3/19/71

TEXARKANA, Tex. (BP)--Southern Baptists here have joined with other Christians and the city of Texarkana to rebuild two National (Negro) Baptist churches that were fire bombed during recent racial strife here.

Destroyed by arsonists were the St. Paul Baptist Church and the Mt. Orange Baptist Church. A fire was extinguished in another Negro church before it could do much damage, and a Molotov-cocktail that failed to ignite was found in yet another church.

Estimates of the losses total \$200,000.

Texarkana Baptists also participated in an inter-racial worship service that involved various faiths at the Texarkana College Auditorium.

(MORE)

"This is one way we could demonstrate to the community that there is unity in Christ," said Lory Hildreth, pastor of First Baptist Church, Texarkana.

Hildreth said he was "thrilled at the response" of the white churches in the community.

"We will rebuild the churches," he said. "The white leadership is really lowering the boom on anyone who would stoop to such a thing."

Hildreth said churches of Texarkana will take a special offering to help the Negro churches the last Sunday of March and the first Sunday of April.

Members of the Highland Park Baptist Church here voted to give \$1,000 to each of the destroyed churches.

A resolution adopted by the Texas Baptist Executive Board in Dallas denounced "the unthinkable acts of violence" and applauded the local efforts to aid the burned churches. The resolution encouraged other Texas Baptists to do likewise.

One of the first gifts from outside the city was \$553 from First Baptist Church, San Antonio, where the pastor is Jimmy R. Allen, president of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

Preliminary building sketches and technical assistance is being provided by the Texas Baptist church building and direct missions departments, said Darwin Farmer, secretary of the direct missions department.

Farmer, who coordinates the convention's work with Negro Baptists, urged Christians everywhere to demonstrate true Christian love and to help create better understanding and brotherhood between the races.

A fund has been established at the Texarkana National Bank for contributions.

In commending the "fine spirit" with which the black pastors had reacted, Hildreth said the atrocities had done more than anything else to help bring the races together in Texarkana.

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Church Music Conference
To Meet Following S.B.C.

3/19/71

ST. LOUIS, Mo. (BP)--The Southern Baptist Church Music Conference will meet here for sessions following the Southern Baptist Convention, with a jammed-packed program beginning Friday morning and ending at noon Saturday, June 4-5.

During the 1 1/2 day meeting, church musicians from throughout the Southern Baptist Convention will hear a half-dozen addresses, almost as many concerts by Baptist choirs, the premier of three commissioned works for the meeting, three music worship periods, a composer's symposium, a lecture-demonstration, banquet entertainment, and attend four division conferences for special interest groups.

The program outline for the conference, slated at First Baptist Church of St. Johns, a suburb of St. Louis, was released by Bob Burroughs, president of the conference and minister of music at First Baptist Church, Abilene, Tex.

Principal speakers for the meeting will be Cecil Sherman, pastor of First Baptist Church, Asheville, N.C.; Donald Orr, music missionary and professor at the International Baptist Seminary, Cali, Colombia; Donald Allured, minister of music for First United Methodist Church, Lake Charles, La.; Burroughs, who will deliver the annual president's address; Sara Walton Miller, church drama worker from Houston; and Loren Williams, music specialist for Broadman Press, Nashville.

Sidney Fox, program specialist for the Follett Education Corp., in Thousand Oaks, Calif., will present a lecture-demonstration in the closing session on "The Musical Liturgy for Today in Pop Music."

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Guest Composer Samuel Adler, professor of composition at Eastman School of Music, Rochester, N. Y., will lead the composer's symposium during the opening session. Selected choir for the symposium will be from the Maplewood Baptist Church, St. Louis, Mo., directed by Carl Moman.

A cantata and an anthem commissioned especially for presentation at the conference, and the world premier of a musical drama will be unveiled during the meeting.

The anthem, "How Great," written by William J. Reynolds of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's church music department, will be performed by the William Jewell College Choir, Liberty, Mo., directed by Wesley Forbis.

The cantata will be presented by the combined junior choirs of First Baptist Church, Ferguson, Mo., and First Baptist Church of St. Johns, St. Louis.

A musical drama entitled "Immanuel" by Phillip Landgrave, professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, will also be premiered. Music for the drama will be performed by the combined choirs of Walnut Street Baptist Church, Louisville, Hurstbourne Baptist Church, Louisville, and the orchestra of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

Four other concerts are scheduled throughout the conference. They will be presented by the William Jewell College Choir; the Missouri Singing Churchmen directed by Bob Woolley; the Bisonettes of Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, directed by Mrs. Mary Kay Parrish; and the Sixteens of First Baptist Church, Abilene, Tex., directed by Bob Burroughs.

Three music worship periods are slated, to be led by the Church Choir of First Baptist Church, Tulsa, Okla., directed by Jim Davis; the Chapel Choir and Orchestra of Eastwood Baptist Church, Tulsa, directed by Bill Littleton; and a special congregational worship experience written by Milburn Price of Furman University, Greenville, S.C., and performed by the choir of First Baptist Church, Raytown, Mo.

The annual banquet for the conference will be held Friday evening at the Holiday Inn, North, with entertainment by The Naturals of Mississippi College, Clinton, Miss., directed by Jack Lyall. Later in the evening, a general session will meet at the St. Johns Church.

Departmental conferences will be held for the conference's local church division, education division, denominational division, and wives' conference on Friday afternoon.

Headquarters hotel for the conference will be the Holiday Inn, North, located about 20 minutes from downtown St. Louis by expressway, and about five miles from the host church, Burroughs said. Reservations must be made at the hotel by April 15, Burroughs added.

Proposed Program
Southern Baptist Church Music Conference
First Baptist Church of St. Johns
St. Louis, Mo.
June 4-5, 1971

FRIDAY MORNING, June 4

- 8:15 Call to order--Presentation of program
8:20 Welcome to St. Louis--Dale Brubaker, Missouri Baptist Convention
--Jerry Webb, First Baptist Church of St. Johns, Mo.
8:25 Concert--William Jewell College Choir, William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo.,
Wesley Forbis, conductor
8:45 Premier of 1971 commissioned anthem--Composer: William J. Reynolds, Nashville,
Tenn.--Performer: William Jewell College Choir
8:55 "The Nashville Sound"--Loren Williams, Broadman Press, Nashville, Tenn.
9:10 Composer's Symposium--Guest composer, Samuel Adler, professor of composition,
Eastman School of Music, Rochester, N. Y.
--Selected choir: Carl Moman, director, Maplewood Baptist Church, St. Louis, Mo.
10:10 Honorary membership presentations
10:15 Conference break
10:25 Instant Drama--Mrs. Sarah Walton Miller, Houston, Tex.
11:15 Concert--The Missouri Singing Churchmen, Bob Woolley, conductor
11:45 Dismiss for lunch

FRIDAY AFTERNOON, June 4

- 12:45 Choral prelude--Church Choir, First Baptist Church, Tulsa, Okla., Jim Davis,
minister of music
1:00 Congregational worship experience--Church Choir, First Baptist Church, Tulsa, Okla.
1:20 "Music and Outreach"--Cecil Sherman, pastor, First Baptist Church, Asheville, N.C.
1:40 Concert--The Bisonettes, Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, Okla., Mary Kay
Parrish, conductor
2:00 "Music and Missions"--Donald Orr, music missionary to Colombia
2:20 Concert--The Sixteens, First Baptist Church, Abilene, Tex., Bob Burroughs, conductor
2:40 President's address--Bob Burroughs, minister of music, First Baptist Church, Abilene, Tex.
3:10 Break
3:30 Election of president for 1971-72
3:40 Concert, a commissioned cantata--The Combined Junior Choirs, First Baptist Church,
Ferguson, Mo., Bob Woods, conductor; and First Baptist Church of St. Johns,
St. Louis, Jerry Webb, conductor
4:00 Departmental conferences
--Local church division, John Sims, presiding
--Educational division, James C. McKinney, presiding
--Denominational division, Duane Barrett, presiding
--Wives' conference, Mrs. Bob Burroughs, presiding
4:45 Dismiss

FRIDAY EVENING, June 4

- 6:15 Annual banquet at Holiday Inn, North, St. Louis, Mo.
Entertainment--The Naturals, Mississippi College, Clinton, Miss., Jack Lyall, director
8:15 Evening session at First Baptist Church of St. Johns
8:30 Worship experience--Chapel Choir, Orchestra, Eastwood Baptist Church, Tulsa, Okla.,
Bill Littleton, conductor
9:00 World Premier: "Immanuel"--A musical drama by Phillip Landgrave
Performed by the Combined Choirs of Walnut Street Baptist Church and
Hurstbourne Baptist Church, Louisville, Ky., and
Southern Baptist Theological Seminary Orchestra, Louisville, Ky.

SATURDAY MORNING, June 5

- 9:00 A congregational worship experience written by Milburn Price, Furman University,
Greenville, S. C., and performed by The Church Choir, First Baptist Church,
Raytown, Mo., Bob Woolley, conductor
9:25 Conference business
10:00 "Bells, Bells and Bells"--Donald Allured, First United Methodist Church, Lake
Charles, La.
10:40 Lecture demonstration: "The Musical Liturgy for Today in Pop Music"--Sidney Fox,
program specialist, Follett Educational Corp., Thousand Oaks, Calif.
11:40 Benediction: New president

