



BAPTIST PRESS

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Cancer Claims Paul Allison Of SBC Stewardship Commission

NASHVILLE (BP)--F. Paul Allison, 50, director of stewardship development for the Southern Baptist Stewardship Commission here, died Aug. 9 after a three-month battle with cancer of the liver.

Memorial services were scheduled at the First Baptist Church of Nashville on Aug. 11 following a private burial service.

Leading the memorial service were H. Franklin Paschall, pastor of the church, John Havlik of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board Evangelism Division, Atlanta; and William J. Reynolds and Jimmy Key, both of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board here.

Allison had been a member of the SBC Stewardship Commission staff since 1969, serving as director of communications before assuming responsibility for the development of stewardship promotion materials for SBC churches on Feb. 1, 1971.

Before joining the commission staff, Allison was field services consultant for the Education Division of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board for two years.

Previously, he had been associate executive secretary of the Kansas Convention of Southern Baptists, Wichita, Kan., and editor of the Baptist Digest. He served in Kansas for nine years and was responsible for stewardship promotion in the state most of that time.

He was pastor of Baptist churches in Columbia, Independence and Kansas City, Mo., from 1943-1958. Allison attended Central Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Kan., and was a graduate of William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo.

The family requested that in lieu of flowers, contributions be made to the Paul Allison Parabolani Memorial Fund in care of the First Baptist Church, Nashville. The fund would be used to aid in Christian world relief efforts following natural disasters.

Allison had for many years urged Baptists to do more in world relief efforts, especially following the Pakistan cyclone, news of starvation in Biafra and the earthquake in Peru.

He had outlined a complete program for world relief efforts, calling it "parabolani," a Greek word used in Philippians 2:30 to describe a first-century Christian who risked his life to help others in need.

Allison wrote that the word "parabolani" was used to refer to those early Christians who would risk their lives to help people in natural disasters. He cited a historical account of a plague that hit the city of Carthage in 252 A.D. The accounts said the city was saved from the plague by the work of the "parabolani" called out by the Bishop of Carthage.

He had urged Baptists to develop "Parabolani Corps" and a "Society of Parabolani" to work in meeting needs of people in emergency disaster situations and a "Parabolani Fund" to provide financial aid, food, clothing and necessities for disaster victims.

At age 50, he died without seeing his dream become more than ideas and proposals on paper.

Baptists, Others Attend
World Council Sessions

8/10/71

LOUVAIN, Belgium (BP)--Individual Baptists, Pentecostals and Roman Catholics--all representing communions not belonging to the World Council of Churches--were among those participating in study sessions during a meeting of the Faith and Order Commission of the
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World Council here (Aug. 2-13).

The Faith and Order Commission is a joint, continuing commission established in 1965 by Pope Paul VI and the World Council of Churches for dialogue and cooperation on a regular basis.

Baptists attending the sessions included Dale Moody, professor of Christian Theology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville; Gunter Wagner of the Baptist Theological Seminary in Ruschlikon, Switzerland; and Jannes Reiling of the Baptist Seminary in Utrecht, Netherlands.

Keynote speaker for the opening sessions was Joseph Cardinal Suenens, primate of Belgium and Archbishop of Malines-Brussels, one of the world's largest dioceses.

Southern Baptist Missionary Rudolph M. Wood said, "It is an historic development that such a conference should meet in this world-renowned center of Catholic scholarship, that it should be hosted in Jesuit premises and should be addressed by a member of the Catholic hierarchy of the stature of Cardinal Suenens.

Speaking on the theme of the study sessions, "Unity of the Church--Unity of Mankind," Cardinal Suenens addressed himself to the problem of harmony between unity and plurality, the one and the many.

Citing the Trinity as an example of the difficulty of expressing one in terms of plurality, he said the concept of the "undivided and unique church" must be harmonized with the plurality of churches.

Essential unity, both in the church and in mankind, finds its essence through the Holy Spirit, he said.

Eugene Carson Blake, general secretary of the World Council, reiterated the need to strike a balance between theological quest and practical application.

Blake noted that both critics and friends of the ecumenical movement allege that the council has departed from traditional faith in God and the unity of the church toward a preoccupation with programs of ethical action.

Blake said that the council refuses to choose between academic study with theological reflection on the one hand and activist programs on the other. He asserted that action without sufficient theological reflection leads to frustration, while academic theology only does not give light and stimulus for action leads to futility.

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Annie Armstrong Missions Offering Exceeds 1971 Gifts

ATLANTA (BP) --By early August, the Southern Baptists had given more to support the work of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board here through the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering than they gave during the entire year of 1970.

SBC Home Mission Board Executive Secretary Arthur B. Rutledge reported that Annie Armstrong gifts had reached \$5,014,469 in early August, compared to \$4,679,175 at the same time in 1970.

"This increase of more than \$335,000 is seven per cent above last year's gifts at this date," Rutledge said. "We are very encouraged about the prospect of setting a new record in our giving."

He added, however, that Home Mission Board officials expect the total for the year will be short of the \$6 million goal.

"Frankly, we were worried knowing that inflation had made everyone's budget difficult to meet with expenses often exceeding budget funds," he said. "There was concern that without an increased (Annie Armstrong) offering, we were faced with the necessity of cutting back mission work."

Rutledge said there is a new note of optimism being sounded on every hand and that he was grateful Southern Baptists were providing the resources to enter many new doors now opening in Baptist ministries and missions in the United States.

The Annie Armstrong Offering for Home Missions, named for a Woman's Missionary Union leader (1850-1938) from Baltimore, Md., supports Baptist home missions work and is collected during the Easter season in Baptist churches across the nation.

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Two Named To Receive Baptist Standard Aid

DALLAS (BP)--Journalism students from Texas and Tennessee have been named to receive the Baptist Standard--E. S. James Journalism Scholarship at Baylor University, Waco, Tex., during 1971-72, the Baptist Standard reported here.

They are Bill Sorrell, son of the pastor of First Baptist Church, Brownsville, Tenn., H. K. Sorrell; and Willie White of Livingston, Tex.

Sorrell is a summer intern for the Baptist and Reflector, weekly newspaper of the Tennessee Baptist Convention and is assistant sports information director at Baylor's Athletic Department. He plans a career in religious journalism.

White, editor and publisher of the New Christian Digest, a national publication produced in Waco, Tex., for black churches, was editor of The Baylor Lariat last fall. He is also associate pastor of Second Baptist Church, Waco, and is majoring in religion and journalism at Baylor. He has been a summer intern on the Dallas Morning News and the Waco News-Tribune.

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