



BAPTIST PRESS
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May 12, 1972

Plane Crash Kills Two
Washington Pastors, Wives

HUGO, Colo. (BP)--Two Baptist pastors from Washington, D.C., and their wives were killed in a private plane crash near here as they flew through a thunderstorm enroute to attend the American Baptist Convention in Denver.

The crash claimed the lives of Mr. and Mrs. B. Frank Foster, and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph W. Wortman. Foster was pastor of Riverside Baptist Church, and Wortman was pastor of Chevy Chase Baptist Church, both in Washington, D.C.

The single-engine Piper Tri-Pacer plane which Foster was flying in a thunderstorm apparently crashed into the muddy wheat field where it was found.

Last radio contact with Foster had been made at 7:37 p.m., Tuesday, May 9, when the Baptist pastor had asked the Denver control center if there were any openings in the thunderstorm clouds. Observers surmise that Foster sought a lower altitude to get beneath the thunderstorm activity, and crashed into the ground without warning.

Altitude in the Hugo area, located near a ridge that encircles Denver, is about 2,000 feet higher than the altitude in Denver. Hugo is about 100 miles southeast of Denver.

The wreckage was spotted two days later, May 11, by a Civil Air Patrol pilot in an air search for the missing plane. Sheriff Alfred D. Clark found the bodies.

Editors James O. Duncan of the Capital Baptist and O. L. Bayless of the Rocky Mountain Baptist and Colorado Training Union Secretary Phil Card identified the bodies. Card, a pilot, said plane crashes are numerous in the area because of the sudden altitude shifts.

The weather was the contributing factor, they said. The thunderstorms were accompanied by fog, high winds and some hail. It appeared that Foster was trying to make it to Denver despite the weather and oncoming darkness.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Foster and Mr. and Mrs. Wortman had two children. They were staying with friends and relatives in Washington while the two couples planned to attend sessions of the American Baptist Convention.

Foster, 41, was a native of Richards, Tex., and a graduate of the University of Texas, Austin, and Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Philadelphia. He also had studied at the European Baptist Seminary, Ruschlikon-Zurich, Switzerland.

Before coming to Washington's Riverside church as pastor 18 months ago, he was associate minister at National Baptist Memorial Church in downtown Washington. Previously he had been minister of education at First Baptist Church, Silver Spring, Md., and First Baptist Church, Gaithersburg, Md.

Wortman, 39, was a native of Sapulpa, Okla., and a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C. He was associate pastor of the Chevy Chase Church for three years before becoming pastor three years ago. Mrs. Wortman, the former Diana Walker, was a native of Oklahoma City.

The Fosters left two children, Allen, 11, and Laura, 8. The Wortmans' two children are Mark, 12, and Leslie, two.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete, pending an investigation by the Federal Aviation Agency.

Child Care Center Available
At Southern Baptist Convention

PHILADELPHIA (BP)--A child care center will be open during the Southern Baptist Convention and related meetings, June 5-8, for pre-school children of out-of-town Baptists attending the sessions.

Plans for the center, and guidelines, were disclosed here by a five-member convention committee headed by Glenn Ridall Jr., chairman, and pastor in Hatfield, Pa.

The child care center will be located in the Philadelphia Convention Center where the SBC will meet. It will open at 8:30 each morning, Monday through Thursday, and close 45 minutes after each session. The center will be closed on Wednesday afternoon.

A fee of \$1.50 per child per session will be charged to cover expenses, Ridall said. A child may be left for both morning and afternoon session, including the lunch period, for \$3.50.

Ridall stressed, however, the need for picking up children from the center no later than 45 minutes after the close of the convention sessions. A \$5.00 penalty will be charged for each child left over this time period, the committee guidelines stated.

The child care center will open 45 minutes before each convention session is scheduled to begin.

Other guidelines call for registration of each child with complete information on where the parents can be reached in case of emergency, and labeling of each child's bag and clothing.

The child care center will be staffed by nursery workers from Philadelphia area Baptist churches.

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Three Missionary Couples
Appointed by Home Board

ATLANTA (BP)--Three missionary couples were appointed to full-time career service in three areas of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board work.

Appointed by the Home Mission Board were William and Alice Peters, associational services work; Bobby and Priscilla Sena, language missions; and Howard and Maxine Teel, Christian social ministries.

The six new appointees are part of a mission force of 2,229 serving in the United States, Panama, and Puerto Rico. However, recent rising costs and inflation have slowed the work and mission expansion down.

"These posts we are filling are positions vacated by retiring or resigning missionaries. There is a great need for filling new posts but there just aren't the funds," said Warren Woolf of Atlanta, director of the board's Personnel Division.

Peters, a Kansas City, Mo., native, will serve as superintendent of missions in the Inland Empire Association in Pullman, Wash. A graduate of William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo., and Central Baptist Seminary, Kansas City, Kans., he served pastorates in Washington and Missouri before becoming superintendent of missions.

Both New Mexico natives, the Senas will return to their native state as language missionaries to the Spanish in the northern region of New Mexico. A graduate of Wayland Baptist College, Plainview, Tex., and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Sena is a native of Roswell, N.M. Mrs. Sena, a Carlsbad, N.M., native, is also a graduate of Wayland College. The Senas previously served as missionary associates in Lubbock, Tex.

The Teels are former missionaries in the war-torn area of Bangladesh. He is the new director of Christian social ministries in the Long Run Association in Louisville, Ky.

A graduate of Samford University, Birmingham, Ala., Teel also received two degrees from Southwestern Seminary, in addition to a masters in social work from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, and did studies in social work at the College of Social Welfare and Research at Dacca University in Bangladesh. He is a native of Tallassee, Ala. Mrs. Teel, a Gardendale, Ala., native, attended Samford University and Southwestern Seminary.



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