



BAPTIST PRESS
News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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March 6, 1973

SBC Program To Emphasize Theme, "Share the Word Now"

PORTLAND, Ore. (BP)--Carrying out the theme "Share the Word Now," the program for the Southern Baptist Convention's 116th annual session here June 12-14 will conclude with a "Share-the-Word Celebration" featuring an address by Oregon Senator Mark Hatfield.

The proposed agenda for the three-day convention, which begins Tuesday morning and concludes Thursday night at the Memorial Coliseum, was released by the chairman of the convention's committee on order of business, Russell H. Dilday Jr., pastor of Second-Ponce de Leon Baptist Church in Atlanta.

The "Share-the-Word Celebration" during the closing Thursday night session, will be coordinated by the SBC Sunday School Board, with Louisville entertainer Grady Nutt as master of ceremonies.

Designed to call messengers and visitors "to a more frequent and deeper sharing of their Christian experience now," the celebration will be presented in three parts: "The Word We Share," "The Way We Share," and "Our Commitment to Share."

James L. Sullivan, executive secretary of the SBC Sunday School Board Nashville, will begin the first part, emphasizing the urgency of "sharing the word now."

Annie Vallotton of Paris, France, illustrator of Today's English Version of the New Testament, will present sketches of New Testament scenes as portions of the scripture are read.

The second part will consist of testimonies by famous individuals, including Sen. Hatfield, along with a prominent entertainer and an outstanding sports figure whose participation is still being negotiated.

The celebration will close with a brief service of commitment led by Ralph H. Langley, pastor of Willow Meadows Baptist Church, Houston.

Both the Tuesday evening and Wednesday evening convention sessions will emphasize missions, with the focus Tuesday on foreign missions and Wednesday on home missions.

Major addresses are scheduled on Thursday by a black Baptist minister, Frederick Sampson of Tabernacle Baptist Church in Detroit; and by a seminary ethics professor, William M. Pinson Jr., of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth.

Other major addresses include the annual convention sermon, scheduled Wednesday morning, by Dotson M. Nelson Jr., pastor of Mountain Brook Baptist Church, Birmingham; and the annual president's address, slated Tuesday morning, by SBC President Owen Cooper of Yazoo City, Miss.

Cooper, chairman of the board for the Mississippi Chemical Corp., and the first layman elected as SBC president in 13 years, will preside throughout the three-day convention.

Each of the five morning and afternoon sessions will open with a theme meditation brought by Sullivan, whose lead-off message during the Thursday night session will conclude the meditations on the theme, "Share the Word Now."

For the second consecutive year, music will be under the direction of William J. Reynolds, secretary of the church music department for the SBC Sunday School Board.

Seven musical groups have been scheduled to sing during the sessions, providing music for inspiration, Reynolds said.

The groups include: The Celebration, from First Baptist Church, Fort Smith, Ark.; The Spring Street Singers, organized for the SBC Home Mission Board's television program "Spring Street USA;" The Revelation Singers of Arapahoe Baptist Church, Littleton, Colo.; the Lower Columbia Singers of Longview, Wash.; The Free People and The Trouveres, both of California Baptist College, Riverside; and the Chapel Choir of First Baptist Church, Abilene, Tex.

In addition, solos will be presented by Russell Newport, businessman from Springfield, Mo., and Randall Veazey, concert soloist from Foley, Ala. A duet will be sung by Mr. and Mrs. James Yates of Yazoo City, Miss. Yates, pastor of First Baptist Church, and his wife will sing just before layman Owen Cooper brings the presidential address.

Most of the convention program, as usual, will be devoted to conducting the business of the nation's largest Protestant-evangelical denomination.

During the three-day meeting, a total of five hours, 40 minutes will be devoted to miscellaneous and special business. An additional six hours will be devoted to hearing reports on the work of 22 agencies, institutions and organizations related to the convention.

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World Missions Conferences
Involve One Million Baptists

3/6/73

ATLANTA (BP)--Baptist world missions conferences last year involved more than a million Southern Baptists in studies of the denomination's mission efforts.

According to a report prepared by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board here, 178 Baptist associations conducted conferences involving members of 3,390 churches last year. A total of 1,157,668 persons attended the programs.

The conferences, in which an entire church congregation studies missions in classes and hears messages from visiting missionaries, brought a total of 2,257 state, home and foreign missionaries to the participating associations.

During the programs, 807 professions of faith and 5,284 decisions for church related vocations were made, according to the report compiled by Kenneth Day, secretary of the department of promotion for the board which last year had administrative responsibility for promotion of the conferences.

Administrative responsibility for promoting the conferences is being shifted this year from the Home Mission Board to the SBC Brotherhood Commission, Memphis.

"These conferences," said Day, "have proved to be the most popular method of securing reports from mission fields. They provide fact-to-face contact with missionaries, and we feel no comparable substitute exists as a basis for mission education."

One of the contributing factors to the popularity of world missions conferences is their economic feasibility, Day explained. Although every church involved hears five missionaries, the cost per church in 1972 was less than \$60.

Associations, in cooperation with the SBC Foreign Mission Board, Home Mission Board, and state conventions, annually sponsor about 175 world missions conferences across the United States.

Due to the number of missionaries available from the Foreign Mission Board and Home Mission Board, state conventions are usually limited to twenty per cent of their associations participating in these programs during the year, Day said.

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SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

June 12-14, 1973
Memorial Coliseum
Portland, Oregon

THEME: "Share the Word Now"

- OFFICERS:** Owen Cooper, president; chairman of the board, Mississippi Chemical Corp., Yazoo City, Miss.
James E. Coggin, first vice president; pastor, Travis Avenue Baptist Church, Fort Worth, Tex.
George W. Bullard, second vice president; executive secretary, Baptist Convention of Pennsylvania-South Jersey, Harrisburg, Pa.
Clifton J. Allen, recording secretary; retired editorial secretary, Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.
W. Fred Kendall, registration secretary; retired executive secretary, Tennessee Baptist Convention, Brentwood, Tenn.
Porter W. Routh, treasurer; executive secretary, Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, Nashville, Tenn.
W.C. Fields, press representative; public relations secretary, Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, Nashville, Tenn.
William J. Reynolds, music director; secretary, church music department, Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.
Russell H. Dilday, Jr., chairman, Committee on Order of Business; pastor, Second-Ponce de Leon Baptist Church, Atlanta, Ga.

PROPOSED ORDER OF BUSINESS

Tuesday Morning, June 12

- 9:00 Music for Inspiration--The Celebration, First Baptist Church, Fort Smith, Ark., Charles Collins, minister of music
- 9:15 Call to Order
Congregational Singing--William J. Reynolds, secretary, church music department, Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.
Special Music--The Celebration
Theme Meditation--James L. Sullivan, president, Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.
- 9:35 Report of Registration and Constitution of the Convention--W. Fred Kendall, registration secretary; retired executive secretary, Tennessee Baptist Convention, Brentwood, Tenn.
Committee on Order of Business--Russell H. Dilday, Jr., chairman; pastor, Second-Ponce de Leon Baptist Church, Atlanta, Ga.
- 9:40 Welcome
- 9:50 Announcement of Committee on Committees, Committee on Resolutions, and Tellers
- 9:55 Congregational Singing
- 10:00 Executive Committee Report (first section)
- 10:50 Miscellaneous Business
- 11:05 Introduction of Resolutions
- 11:25 Congregational Singing
- 11:30 Special Music--Mr. & Mrs. James Yates, pastor, First Baptist Church, Yazoo City, Miss.
- 11:35 President's Address--Owen Cooper, chairman of the board, Mississippi Chemical Corp., Yazoo City, Miss.
- 12:15 Benediction--Peter Lord, minister, Park Avenue Baptist Church, Titusville, Fla.

Tuesday Afternoon, June 12

- 2:15 Music for Inspiration
 2:20 Introduction of Resolutions
 2:40 Congregational Singing--Sam Fort, student work and church music director,
 Northwest Baptist Convention, Portland, Ore.
 Theme Meditation--James L. Sullivan, Nashville, Tenn.
 2:55 Miscellaneous Business
 3:10 Election of Officers
 Recognition of Past Presidents
 3:40 Executive Committee Report (final section)
 4:10 Election of Officers
 Ambassador Service National Award
 Miscellaneous Business
 4:30 Benediction--Glenn Sullivan, minister, First Baptist Church, Russellville, Ky.

Tuesday Evening, June 12

- 6:45 Music for Inspiration--The Lower Columbia Singers, Longview, Wash., Ted
 Campbell, director
 7:00 Congregational Singing--Duane Barrett, director, brotherhood and church music
 departments, Southern Baptist General Convention of California, Fresno, Calif.
 Scripture--Louis Nobles, president, Mississippi College, Clinton, Miss.
 Prayer--W.L. Sewell, associate executive secretary, Louisiana Baptist
 Convention, Alexandria, La.
 7:15 Annuity Board Report
 7:30 Committee on Public Affairs Report
 7:45 Stewardship Commission Report
 8:00 Foreign Mission Board Report
 9:00 Benediction--Allan Fulmer, attorney, Columbia, S.C.

Wednesday Morning, June 13

- 9:00 Music for Inspiration--The Revelation Singers, Arapahoe Road Baptist Church
 Littleton, Colo., Terry Low, director
 9:15 Congregational Singing--John Johnson, music faculty, Golden Gate Baptist
 Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif.
 Special Music--Randall Veazey, concert soloist, Foley, Ala.
 Theme Meditation--James L. Sullivan, Nashville, Tenn.
 9:35 Election of Officers
 9:55 Sunday School Board Report
 10:15 Committee on Resolutions Report (first)
 10:35 Committee on Committees Report
 Committee on Boards Report
 10:40 Congregational Singing
 10:45 Special Music
 10:50 Convention Sermon--Dotson M. Nelson, Jr., pastor, Mountain Brook Baptist
 Church, Birmingham, Ala.
 Alternate: Charles A. Trentham, pastor, First Baptist Church, Knoxville, Tenn.
 11:20 Miscellaneous Business (consideration of constitution changes and other)
 12:45 Benediction--Gilbert Barrow, minister, First Baptist Church, Leesburg, Fla.

No Convention Session Wednesday Afternoon, June 13

Wednesday Evening, June 13

- 6:45 Music for Inspiration--The Spring Street Singers, Southern Baptist Home Mission
 Board, Atlanta, Ga., Beryl Red, musical director
 7:00 Congregational Singing--William J. Reynolds, Nashville, Tenn.
 Scripture--Douglas Watterson, minister, Cliff Temple Baptist Church, Dallas, Tex.
 Prayer--W. Perry Crouch, executive secretary, North Carolina Baptist State
 Convention, Raleigh, N.C.
 7:10 Christian Life Commission Report
 7:45 Home Mission Board Report
 9:00 Benediction--Bill Montgomery, minister, St. Andrew Baptist Church, Panama City, Fla.

Thursday Morning, June 14

- 9:00 Music for Inspiration--The Free People, California Baptist College, Riverside, Calif., Larry Longshore, director
- 9:15 Congregational Singing
Special Music
Theme Meditation--James L. Sullivan
- 9:35 Resolutions Committee Report (final)
- 10:15 Denominational Calendar Committee Report
- 10:20 Committee on State Papers Report
- 10:25 American Bible Society Report
- 10:30 Special Music--Russell Newport, businessman, Springfield, Mo.
Address--William M. Pinson, Jr., professor of Christian ethics, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex.
- 11:00 Recognition of Fraternal Messengers
- 11:05 Baptist World Alliance Report
- 11:20 Radio and Television Commission Report
- 11:35 Miscellaneous Business
- 12:15 Benediction--Pat Harrison, minister, First Baptist Church, Mobile, Ala.

Thursday Afternoon, June 14

- 2:15 Music for Inspiration--The Trouveres, California Baptist College, Riverside, Calif., Curtis Cheek, director
- 2:30 Congregational Singing
Theme Meditation --James L. Sullivan
- 2:45 Southern Baptist Foundation Report
- 3:00 Committee on American Baptist Seminaries Report
- 3:05 Education Commission Report
- 3:20 Historical Commission Report
- 3:35 Southern Baptist Convention Seminaries Report
- 3:55 Special Music
Address--Frederick Sampson, minister, Tabernacle Baptist Church, Detroit, Mich.
- 4:30 Benediction--Gerald Buckley, minister, West Heights Baptist Church, Pontotoc, Miss.

Thursday Evening, June 14

- 6:45 Music for Inspiration--Chapel Choir, First Baptist Church, Abilene, Tex., Tom Mosley, minister of music
- 7:00 Congregational Singing--William J. Reynolds, Nashville, Tenn.
Scripture--Harold Killian, minister, Earle Street Baptist Church, Greenville, S.C.
Prayer--Russell McIntire, director of development, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, New Orleans, La.
- 7:10 Presentation of Officers
- 7:15 Women's Missionary Union Report
- 7:30 Brotherhood Report
- 7:45 Share-the-Word Celebration, coordinated by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.
Master of Ceremonies--Grady Nutt, entertainer, Louisville, Ky.
The Word We Share--Annie Vallotton, illustrator, Today's English Version of the New Testament, Paris, France
The Way We Share--Senator Mark Hatfield, Salem, Ore.
Our Commitment to Share--Ralph H. Langley, pastor, Willow Meadows Baptist Church, Houston, Tex.
- 9:00 Benediction--Hoffman Harris, minister, Briarlake Baptist Church, Decatur, Ga.