

December 6, 1973

**'Instant' Missionaries
Tune Pianos in Guatemala**

By John W. Green

ELM GROVE, La. (BP)--R.B. Horton, pastor of Elm Grove Baptist Church here, may be the first Baptist to work in a foreign mission area specifically as a piano tuner. He even took his wife along to help during an unusual missions tour in Guatemala.

The unusual venture began for the Hortons when C.D. Cadwallader Jr., and his wife, Southern Baptist missionaries to Guatemala, were on furlough in the United States.

Cadwallader, Horton's pastor when both lived in Monroe, La., knew of Horton's part time work as a piano technician.

He told Horton there was no one to do good piano tuning and repair in Guatemala.

The seed was sown. The Baptist Mission of Guatemala, at Cadwallader's suggestion, requested the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board to invite the Hortons to help in Guatemala.

The Elm Grove congregation was excited about the opportunity for their pastor and his wife. Necessary arrangements were made through the Foreign Mission Board, and the Hortons were on their way.

The Cadwallader home in Guatemala City became headquarters for the "instant" missionaries during their first week away from home.

They tuned and repaired pianos in the immediate area, then moved on to Quezaltenago, in the heart of the Sierra Madre mountains, where Horton tuned pianos and was invited to preach to a Baptist congregation of Quiche (Key-chay) Indians. Southern Baptist missionary Donald Sims interpreted.

After preaching to the Indians, Horton baptized 15 of them at the request of the Indian pastor. The baptism ceremony was held at a "public bath house where boiling water ran out of a volcano mountain."

The water was so hot that the candidates for baptism and the minister had to wait for the liquid to cool before entering the pool, Horton said.

Next, the Hortons traveled high into the mountains to the 1,500-foot deep Lake Atitlan, where the Tzutuhil (Sue-too-eel) Indians live. They crossed the lake in a "small dugout boat that leaked continuously" to reach the village of San Pedro, where Horton repaired the only piano belonging to the local Baptist church.

Now back in Elm Grove, Horton said, "Our people (missionaries) in Guatemala, and I'm sure in all other countries, earn every dime we send (through the Cooperative Program unified budget and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering) and every prayer we send up...

"We saw how dedicated they are to the task of winning souls for the kingdom of God... They teach that a Christian is to have a changed life and is to follow Jesus Christ--not ritual."



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SBC Cooperative Program Tops \$3 Million in November

NASHVILLE (BP)--For the second time in the history of the Southern Baptist Convention--both in 1973--contributions through the denomination's Cooperative Program unified budget topped the \$3 million level in one month.

In November, SBC churches gave \$3,100,557 to support all national SBC causes through the Cooperative Program. The other \$3 million month came in January, when an all-time record \$3,194,938 was collected.

The November, 1973, total topped by \$778,346 (or 33.52 per cent) the \$2,322,212 received in November of last year, according to figures released by John H. Williams, director of financial planning and assistant to the treasurer for the SBC Executive Committee.

The 33.52 per cent increase represents the largest percentage increase over a corresponding month of the year before, according to Porter Routh, the Executive Committee's executive secretary-treasurer.

"We are grateful for the 33.52 per cent increase," Routh said. "This represents advance funds received by states over their goals. In a number of cases these funds were divided, with a larger per cent going to SBC causes."

Through the first two months of the 1973-74 fiscal year, Cooperative Program gifts totaled \$5,808,646, more than 15.3 per cent higher than the \$5,037,268 received at the same point in the 1972-73 fiscal year, Williams said.

Designated gifts reached \$360,780 in November, 34.91 per cent higher than the \$267,424 received in November of last year.

But the \$602,499 total designated gifts for the first two months fell \$7,317 (or 1.2 per cent) lower than the same period last year.

Total contributions to world missions (through the Cooperative Program and designated gifts) reached \$3,461,338 in November. That's 33.66 per cent higher than last November's \$2,589,635.

Overall figures for the two months of the 1973-74 fiscal year rose to \$6,411,145, an increase of \$764,061 (or 13.53 per cent) over the \$5,647,084 received at the same point in 1972-73.

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SBC Foundation Reports Record Earnings in '73

12/6/73

NASHVILLE (BP)--The Southern Baptist Foundation had a record year of earnings in fiscal 1973 and topped the \$14 million mark in total trust corpus value, Kendall Berry, executive secretary-treasurer of the foundation told the board of directors in their annual meeting here.

In his report to the board, Berry said the corpus value at the end of the fiscal year, September 30, for the benefit of Southern Baptist causes and annuitants under contract, was \$14,216,954, with earnings (collective income) reaching a record \$760,104 exclusive of any capital gains.

The foundation "has made significant progress during this past year," in spite of

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"economic uncertainties" and "money problems" in the world, Berry said.

Some \$1,796,873 was received in cash and securities for investment during the fiscal year, he said. "Due to withdrawals of \$1,067,395 and depreciation in the market (value) of \$180,210, we still ended up with a net increase of \$332,722. . ."

Berry continued, "Even though monetary progress (the past year) has left much to be desired, the record of Southern Baptists during fiscal year 1973. . . looks much better than comparable foundation funds or even in comparison to the stock market averages. . ."

"The Southern Baptist Foundation continues in a strong position and need not worry too much about fluctuations in the market," he said.

The foundation will "likely continue its conservative approach" in investments until a more firm basis can be seen for an optimism by most economists that "when something develops to restore confidence in government and the American way of life, the next rise could be dramatic," Berry added.

Mrs. E. W. Bess Jr., administrative assistant for the foundation, in the financial review for the board, reported that the general fund (the largest administered and invested by the foundation) reached a total \$10,222,237 for the year, up slightly over fiscal 1972 and earning an average rate of return of 5.43 per cent, also up slightly.

Berry said earnings for the year were due largely to high interest rates on certificates of deposit and earnings from high-yielding short term commercial paper (income producing securities).

Stirton Oman, a Nashville construction company executive, was re-elected president of the foundation's board and chairman of its executive committee.

John O. Ellis, a Nashville banker, whose board title was changed from secretary to recording secretary, was also re-elected.

G. Frank Cole, a Nashville banker, was elected vice president to succeed Nashville businessman L. B. Stevens.

In other business the board clarified its bylaws on membership and gave the foundation president authority to appoint board committees and delegate authority to them, subject to its executive committee's approval.

Membership on the board of directors includes: the president of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) as an ex-officio member; 15 Baptist laymen, 11 of whom live in or near Nashville; a member from the Southern Baptist Executive Committee; one member from each of the four general SBC boards and each of the six seminaries; one from each of the SBC's seven commissions and the Woman's Missionary Union (WMU); and a member from the board of such other agencies the SBC may recognize as entitled to membership.

Retirement age for both men and women foundation staff members was set at 65, subject to an annual waiver by the board for individual staff members. Previous retirement was set at 70 for men and 65 for women. The previous policy on retirement actually "discriminated against the women," Berry said.

Berry, who will be 67 in April, 1974, was re-elected by the board for an additional year, as was Mrs. Bess. The four women on the five-member foundation staff are all considerably younger than 65.

Board members paid tribute to the late Charles Houston Bolton, first full time executive secretary of the foundation from 1949-53, who died in November in Thomasville, Ga.

Besides Bolton's death, Berry recalled, the late J. W. Storer, executive secretary-treasurer of the foundation from 1956-67, died in 1970. The late Folk Lambert, a former member of the board of directors, died in 1971, and T. L. Holcomb, executive secretary-treasurer of the foundation from 1953-56, died in 1972, Berry said.

North Carolina Church Sets
Ordination of Woman

CHARLOTTE, N. C. (BP)--A Charlotte woman apparently will become only the second woman in North Carolina and the seventh in the Southern Baptist Convention to be ordained a minister by an SBC-affiliated church.

Arlene Westbrook, 24, now a student at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C., was to be ordained in mid-December by the rural Independence Hill Baptist Church, near Huntersville in northern Mecklenburg County.

A 1971 graduate of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Miss Westbrook told the Charlotte News in a phone interview that she has considered a ministerial career since her senior year in high school.

"I believe I've been called of God," she said of the ordination, which she believes will seal a contract between her and God. "I do believe this is right for me," Miss Westbrook told Warren Barnard, religion writer for the Charlotte News.

The church's pastor, John Perry, also a Southeastern Seminary student, said the church has proceeded with the ordination plans despite the lack of a recommendation from an advisory committee of the Mecklenburg Baptist Association, with which the church is affiliated.

In August, according to Perry and associational leaders, the ordination advisory committee declined to recommend Miss Westbrook to be examined for the ministry, primarily because she has no call from any church at the moment, the Charlotte News reported.

Both Perry and Lawrence Childs, the association's missions superintendent, said some committee members, although impressed with the young woman, had reservations about ordaining a woman, the News said.

Reportedly a factor in the committee's decision not to recommend a formal examination of her credentials at that time was her lack of a call to a specific church.

"If it had been a man in the same situation, they would have come to the same conclusion," said Perry, who has served as pastor of the 101-year-old church for five years.

Childs told the News there are about 60 ordained Baptist ministers in the Charlotte area not now actively involved in the ministry. This condition concerns many Baptists, he said, and the association sets guidelines, including the requirement of having a formal call from a specific church or agency, before the committee can recommend a candidate for ordination.

Southern Baptist churches remain autonomous despite their relations with associations and conventions, so it's not unusual for a church to proceed on its own in ordaining someone, the News said.

Perry said Miss Westbrook now preaches and performs other tasks usually expected of a minister, "but she feels inadequate in doing these things without being an ordained minister," he said, adding that she has had to reject requests to officiate at marriages since she is not formally recognized as a minister.

"In order to help her function as a minister, she felt, and we agreed, she ought to be ordained," he said.

Miss Westbrook told the Charlotte News she has not had time to think about what she will do when she finishes her seminary training in May. She said her prime interest lies in working with young people and believes she rates well with them.

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Annuity Board "13th
Checks" Top \$1 Million

12/6/73

DALLAS (BP)--More than 7,000 annuitants have again received a "Christmas present" of two extra months' benefits, the Southern Baptist Convention's Annuity Board announced here.

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Darold H. Morgan, board president, said the "13th check" this year totaled a record \$1,187,379. It's the second year in a row it has exceeded a million dollars.

The "13th check" went out in early December to disabled and retired pastors and other church-related vocational workers or their widows and other dependents. Benefits are based on contributions to Annuity Board plans in earlier years.

"Contracts call for fixed monthly benefits, yet the cost of living rises continually," Morgan said. "The '13th check' helps annuitants bridge this gap."

Extra benefits were first distributed in 1967. They took the name "13th check" because they paid a sum equal to one month's benefit--above the 12 regular monthly payments.

For the last three years, the "13th check" has actually been the "13th and 14th checks," Morgan added. It has equalled two regular monthly benefit payments.

Good experience on investments makes possible continued issuance of these checks, the Annuity Board president explained. The "13th check" is not guaranteed by contract. Funds for it depend year by year on the amount of returns on investments.

At the same time, the Annuity Board sent additional payments to nearly 400 persons who receive relief benefits. These payments totaled \$29,775, according to Morgan.

"As 1973 ends, all of you know there is an unusual crisis in the investment responsibility. Since the '13th check' is based on the current investment experience, there is a strong possibility that the '13th check' for 1974 will be considerably smaller," Morgan advised annuitants in a personal note accompanying the 1973 checks.

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Clinard Dies in Abilene
Automobile Accident

12/6/73

ABILENE, Tex. (BP)--Gordon Clinard, 51, former professor at two Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) seminaries, was killed in an automobile accident here.

Funeral services were held here, with burial in Fort Worth.

At the time of his death, he was professor of Bible at Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene. He came to the West Texas school in 1972 after serving as professor of the Billy Graham Chair of Evangelism at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

He also was professor of preaching at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, 1955-66.

Clinard, born in Springfield, Tenn., served as pastor of the First Baptist Churches of San Angelo, Tex., Huntsville, Tex., and Burleson, Tex. He was former president of the Baptist General Convention of Texas and former chairman of the Texas convention's executive board.

He received both his bachelor of divinity and doctor of theology degrees from Southwestern Seminary. He also was graduated from Union College in Jackson, Tenn.

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R. Clyde Hall Jr. Named
Church Training Consultant

12/6/73

NASHVILLE (BP)--R. Clyde Hall Jr. of Dallas, who resigned earlier in the year as Texas Baptist church training secretary to enter private business, will join the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board here as adult consultant in the church training department.

Hall, 42, joined the staff of the Baptist General Convention of Texas in 1965 as an associate and has worked out of Dallas since June for a San Diego-based consultant firm.

Before joining the Texas convention, Hall served as youth and education director for churches in Florida, Tennessee and Texas. He is former Baptist Student Union director at Florida Southern College, the University of Tampa and St. Petersburg Junior College.

Hall was graduated from the University of Florida and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth.

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