



BAPTIST PRESS

New Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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July 25, 1974

Home Board Names Two
New Staff Members

74-19

ATLANTA (BP)--The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's directors, at their summer meeting here, named two staff members, an Anglo to work as a loan officer and a Black man to work with National Baptists, and accepted the resignation of another.

Jack Grisham, associate director in the department of Christian social ministries since 1973, is resigning to become pastor of First Baptist Church, Russellville, Ky., effective September 23.

Joe Carl Johnson will begin work in October as associate director in the division of church loans. Edward Lorenzo Wheeler will be associate director of the department of cooperative ministries with National Baptists.

Johnson, 55, born in Merit, Tex., comes to Atlanta from the Panama Canal Zone, where he has served as superintendent of Baptist work in Panama and the Canal Zone since 1966.

Earlier Johnson was director of missions for the Baptist Convention of New Mexico. He was a missionary to Brazil for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board from 1949-56 and served pastorates in Raton and Hatch, N.M., and Dallas and Hebron, Tex.

A graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary at Fort Worth, Tex., Johnson will counsel with churches in the mid-western U.S. about their financial and program needs.

Beginning work in December, Wheeler, 28, will provide consultative direction to the department of cooperative ministries with National Baptists in metropolitan areas.

Completing residency for Ph.D. at Emory University in Atlanta, in the area of historical theology, Wheeler earned the master of divinity degree from Colgate Rochester Divinity School in Rochester, N.Y., where he also served as pastor of Trinity-Emmanuel Presbyterian Church. He received a bachelor's degree from Morehouse College in Atlanta and was pastor's assistant at Friendship Baptist Church in Toccoa.

He served as visiting professor of black church studies at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., during June, 1974 interterm.

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National Missions Budget
Nears \$20 Million For HMB

7/25/74

ATLANTA (BP)--The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board approved a nearly \$20 million budget for 1975, an increase of close to \$2 million.

The record budget was made possible as the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions passed its 1974 goal of \$7.2 million, and the Southern Baptist Cooperative Program unified budget is running 13.22 per cent ahead of last year.

Some \$400,000 of the \$2 million increase comes from an enlarged budget in the division of church loans and is provided in earnings from loans.

The Easter offering totaled \$7,272,428 as of July 24, with more than five months to go before the books close on the offering. This amount is \$1,261,024 more than on the same date a year ago--a 19 per cent increase.

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The agency's 1975 budget increases, according to Arthur B. Rutledge, executive director, in his report to the directors, will provide for missionary salary increases and special projects in the evangelism, missions and associational services divisions.

A breakdown of budget among Home Mission Board departments shows associational services division, with \$1.5 million; chaplaincy division, \$350,000; and church loans division, \$2.3 million.

The budget earmarks nearly \$900,000 for the division of evangelism, with additional funds of possibly \$400,000 expected from the over-and-above section of the Annie Armstrong Offering. The board continues to provide new funds for the television evangelism ministry, Spring Street, USA.

In the missions division, Christian social ministries will get nearly \$1.9 million; church extension, \$2.3 million; cooperative ministries with National (Black) Baptists, \$600,000. Interfaith witness department will get \$250,000; language missions, which employs half of the 2,000 missionaries on board's payroll, \$3.4 million, and special missions ministries department, \$600,000.

Other funds will be divided among the division of business services, which gets \$1.8 million; communication, \$1 million; and personnel, \$390,000.

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Home Mission Board Names
27 Missionary Personnel

7/25/74

ATLANTA (BP)--The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's directors appointed a missionary couple and 25 missionary associates in the board's summer meeting here.

Jess Dee and Jo Anne Cooke were appointed missionaries to the northeastern area of Indiana, where he will serve as superintendent of missions.

A native of Marysville, Tex., he is a graduate of Howard Payne College, Brownwood, Tex., and holds a master of religious education degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Tex. He formerly was pastor of churches in Texas, Ohio and Indiana.

Mrs. Cooke is the former Jo Ann Shockley of Midlothian, Tex.

James Chong-Kee Chiu and his wife Minnie, natives of China, were appointed missionary associates to serve in a Chinese mission in Anaheim, Calif. He holds the doctor of ministries degree from American Baptist Seminary in Nashville, Tenn.

Reuben and Martha Guerro were appointed to San Diego, Tex., where he will serve as pastor of First Baptist Church. He is a native of Robstown, Tex. and she, formerly Martha Rivera, of Corpus Christi, Tex. Both are students at Mexican Baptist Bible Institute, San Antonio.

Guy and Alberta Lozier will serve in language missions in Kingfisher, Okla., with Lozier as pastor of Broadway Indian Baptist Church. He is a native of Ripley, Okla., and she, the former Alberta Smith, of Cushing, Okla.

Harold and Martha Manahan, natives of Houston and Fort Worth, Tex., respectively, have been appointed to serve the state of Nebraska, with Manahan as superintendent of missions.

Santos and Josephine Martinez, natives of Mathis, Tex., and Ephrate, Wash., respectively, have been appointed to serve in Arlington, Tex.. He will serve as pastor of the Spanish department of First Baptist Church there.

Jackie and Novella McClung, natives of Robbinsville, N.C., and Gastonia, N.C., respectively, will serve as directors of Stewart Baptist Center, Atlanta, Ga.

Also in Atlanta will be Carolyn Mobley, a native of Sanford, Fla., who will serve as student intern at Clark Howell-Techwood Baptist Center.

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Marcos and Rose Anne Ramos of Colon, Cuba, and Hendersonville, N.C., respectively, will serve in Miami, Fla. He will be pastor of South Miami Heights Baptist Church there.

Lorenzo and Sara Salinas, natives of Donna Tex. and Kerens, Tex., respectively, will serve in Alamo, Tex. He will be pastor of the Spanish Baptist Mission there.

William and Wilma Sumner of Henderson County and Brevard, N.C., respectively, will serve in Christian social ministries in New Orleans, La., with Sumner as director of youth and family services there.

Douglas Turner, native of Chatom, Ala., will also serve in New Orleans in Christian social ministries as student intern at the men's rescue center there.

Andrew and Tina Viera, natives of Roswell, N.M., and Los Angeles, Calif., respectively, will serve as catalytic missionaries with Spanish-speaking people in Seattle, Wash.

Alice Whitetree of Vandalia, Ill., has been appointed missionary associate to serve with her husband, Greg, who is new director of Christian social ministries in Davenport, Iowa. He had already been appointed missionary associate while a student in Louisville, Ky. They formerly served in Hawaii under the Home Mission Board's two year US-2 program.

Directing Christian social ministries in the West Union Baptist Association, Paducah, Ky., will be Daniel and Carolyn Zoeller, natives of Williamson and White Counties, Ill., respectively.

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Cliff Elkins, Idus Owensby
Elected to NACBA Offices

7/25/74

SAN ANTONIO, Tex. (BP)--Cliff Elkins, business administrator of Second Baptist Church, Houston, was elected here as president-elect of the National Association of Church Business Administrators (NACBA).

Another Southern Baptist, Idus V. Owensby, a consultant in the church administration department of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, was re-elected secretary of the interdenominational organization made up of more than 500 church business administrators and related denominational workers.

Mrs. Guy F. Barnes, business administrator of Old Mission United Methodist Church, Shawnee Mission, Kan., was named president; Neil Rimington, business administrator of First Church-Nazarene, Bethany, Okla., vice president; and Eugene Osborne, business administrator of First Presbyterian Church, Lincoln, Neb., treasurer.

The NACBA's national headquarters is in Bellevue, Neb.

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Special Bicentennial Projects
Planned By Home Board

7/25/74

ATLANTA (BP)--The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board will add to the celebration of the nation's 200th anniversary coming up in 1976 with a group of special projects.

The projects, announced and approved during the agency's directors' meeting here, will include motor caravans visiting national monuments, a traveling art-photo exhibit and a specially-written musical drama related to the theme "We Hold These Truths."

A volunteer is being sought to coordinate the 18-month project series.

Bob Bingham, director of the board's program services section, and chairman of the project committee, said that one of the objectives is to direct attention to the role that Baptists have played in the spiritual growth and development of our nation.

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Emphasis on all the projects is the ability of local churches to participate, Bingham said. For instance, a drama-musical group of student summer missionaries or other volunteers will travel the summer of 1976 performing the production, but a simplified adaptation of the program, which church groups can perform in their own towns, will be available to local churches.

Church members may join or leave any of the three planned caravans--circling the west, the midwest and the east--and when the caravans stop nearby, churches may participate in the special worship services.

Another project churches may participate in will be a series of 60-second spot announcements. Ten or eleven of these will be produced on 16 mm film and videotape dealing with home missions and its relationship to development of the nation, through missionaries, Baptist leaders or contributions of Baptist heritage.

The videotape spots will be available for use by local groups desiring to buy time on television, while the film spots will be available to associations and state conventions for regular or special services.

The art-photo exhibit will include work done basically by Home Mission Board personnel and will tour from June 1, 1975 through July 4, 1976, among shopping malls, college campuses, national parks and Baptist state and associational meetings.

It is envisioned that the board's US-2 missionaries will accompany the van and exhibits to talk with and witness to visitors. Local involvement might include advance invitations to church people to enter their own art and photos in the exhibit.

Other projects include a special travel guide, pointing out the routes of the caravans and showing scheduled events of the bicentennial year. Special promotional materials will be available from the board, both for Baptist and non-Baptist audiences, including special biographies, suitable for reproduction in local media, of outstanding home missionaries, past and present.

Members of the bicentennial committee which includes both Home Mission Board staff and directors, are: Wendell Belew, Bob Bingham, Mrs. I. W. Bowen, William Hinson, James Kelly, James Sapp, Ed Seabough, Ed Sickafus and James Windham.

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Editor Bit Off More
Than He Could Chew

7/25/74

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (BP)--When Robert J. Hastings, editor of the Illinois Baptist, mentioned Teaberry chewing gum in one of his human interest columns, little did he realize that his office would soon be overrun with Teaberry gum.

The Reed Candy Company in Chicago sent him a complimentary case of Teaberry gum, after reading the article in the statewide newspaper for Southern Baptists in Illinois.

The article described a talk which Hastings gave earlier this summer at a service noting the 70th anniversary of the ordination of Illinois pastor A. E. Prince. Prince was Hastings' boyhood pastor, and he recalled chewing this brand of chewing gum to make the sermons seem shorter.

"I can't possibly chew this much gum," Hastings said. "So I'm going to carry it around in my car, so long as the supply lasts, giving it away to whomever I meet."

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