



# --- FEATURES

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Many Pastors, Wives Need  
Extra Jobs 'To Make It'

By Theo Sommerkamp

DALLAS (BP)--About half the pastors of Southern Baptist churches with less than 200 members depend on secular employment to augment their income.

In more than one-third of the churches, the pastor's wife also is employed outside the home.

While over half of the pastors of these churches earn less than \$5,000 a year from church compensation, nearly half make over \$10,000 a year when all sources of family income are considered.

These facts concerning the status of pastors of churches with less than 200 members were revealed in a survey conducted by Baynard F. Fox, Dallas, vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) Annuity Board.

Fox, whose assignment includes research and training, conducted the survey to determine how the Annuity Board can reach more of the pastors of these small churches with its retirement and insurance programs.

Fox said the now-defunct Committee of 15 last year called for the Annuity Board to increase its promotion of retirement plans among the smaller churches.

The committee of 15 was a committee of denominational leaders who surveyed SBC agencies and suggested ways it felt their ministries could be extended and improved.

Survey forms went out to 2,500 pastors of churches having 200 members or less. Fox said there are more than 15,000 churches with less than 200 members among the 34,734 churches which cooperate with the SBC.

"Usable replies were received from 1,218 pastors in 42 different states," Fox said.

Results of the survey showed about half of the pastors of these smaller churches belong to a retirement plan administered by the Annuity Board.

About 1 in 6 is enrolled in a group life insurance program with the Annuity Board, and only 1 in 5 has medical insurance available through the Annuity Board.

The survey shows "we (the Annuity Board) are reaching a larger percentage of the smaller churches than we realized," Fox added. The survey also indicates "The average minister is under-insured and needs additional protection."

Some pastors reported they have at least two sources of retirement income, other than Social Security. The greatest number (601) have coverage through the Southern Baptist Protection Plan, administered by the Annuity Board.

Secular employment provides retirement protection for 283 pastors of these smaller churches.

"We cannot say the pastors were not concerned about retirement. It is obvious that some of the men had more than one retirement program," Fox concluded.

About three-fourths of the pastors who responded are paying Social Security tax on their ministerial income. Fox noted further "all who are employed in secular occupations are required to pay Social Security tax on this employment."

One pastor in 7 reported having no medical insurance. Those who have medical insurance occasionally have coverage through two or more sources. The largest number (471) have medical insurance through secular employment. By comparison, 199 pastors of the survey group have medical insurance as provided through the Annuity Board, and 401 have it through various other sources.

Other highlights of the survey, as outlined by Fox, show 75 per cent of these churches have annual receipts of \$7,500 or more. Sixty per cent exceed \$10,000.

Further, 43 per cent of the pastors own their homes. From the standpoint of education, 78 per cent of the pastors responding have college and-or seminary training. More than 1 in 4 are seminary graduates.

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Most churches under 200 members have rural locations, Fox observed. While the Annuity Board needs to redouble its effort to reach these churches, "they will be very hard to contact because of their size and location," he said.

Pastors hesitate to present their need for retirement and insurance protection to those church leaders who determine salary and budget expenditures, Fox noted.

On the other hand, it is difficult to find out who these lay church leaders are, he said, so they may be contacted by the Annuity Board on behalf of the pastors.

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Church's 'Gospel' Balloons  
Get Far-reaching Results

Baptist Press  
3/31/75

NASHVILLE (BP)--Radnor Baptist Church here gets "far-reaching" results from its promotional efforts.

On Easter Sunday the church released 15,075 "gospel" balloons as part of a 90-day Sunday School promotion.

Inserted in the balloons were tracts with a print out of John 3:16 and the church's name, address and phone number.

The church's Easter attendance was a record 1,375 for Sunday School, with about 1,600 in morning worship, Paul Durham, the pastor noted.

The clincher, however, came six hours after the balloons were released.

A 14-year-old boy, playing at home in Federalsburg, Md., found one of the balloons and popped it, finding the tract.

He then telephoned the church, to the pastor's and congregation's surprise.

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Editors, Pastors Celebrate  
Polish Paper's Anniversary

Baptist Press  
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WARSAW (BP)--Polish religion editors and Baptist pastors here commemorated the 50th anniversary of the denominational paper *Slowo Prawdy* began by Baptists in 1925, European Baptist Press reported.

Editors of religious journals, Protestant and Roman Catholic, joined the ministers in a special service honoring the publication, during the pastors' three-day conference-study of the new Polish translation of "Evangelism," by Lewis A. Drummond of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky. Drummond led the study.

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Baptist Women Honored  
In Great Britain

Baptist Press  
3/31/75

By Baptist Press

A Baptist minister's wife, Mrs. Eirlys Goodwin of Hinckley, Leicester, England, is the new president of the National Free Church Women's Council in Great Britain.

Another Baptist woman was honored when the Baptist Men's Movement of Great Britain invited as featured speaker, Miss Elfreda Davies, headmistress of Walthamstow Hall, a girls' school at Sevenoaks, England.

Miss Davies' address on "Freedom for Women," marked the first time in more than 50 years that the men's program had featured a woman speaker, European Baptist Press Service noted. (BP)

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**A Year Later--Tornado  
Scars Healed at Seminary**

By Larry High

LOUISVILLE (BP)--It was one year ago, April 3, 1974, that a ravaging tornado struck The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary campus and the surrounding Crescent Hill community.

Students rushed to aid neighboring victims. The campus was without electric power and heat for 12 days as student teams worked around-the-clock in emergency rescue and repair efforts.

Now Southern's wounds have mostly been tended and repaired. The campus' scars are healed.

About 600 homes across Grinstead Drive from the campus have either been repaired or torn down. Hundreds of tiny trees are beginning to produce spring leaves where giant oaks elms once provided dense shade.

Trucks have hauled 1,818 loads of debris from the 106-acre seminary campus, and more than 1,500 window panes have been replaced.

Workmen have restored a five-ton copper-domed cupola on the crown of Mullins Hall, on the campus, a two-ton cupola atop Fuller Hall and a 1000 lb. steeple on Williams Hall.

The Mullins' 67-foot-tall cupola was hand built from original blueprints of the first cupola, built in 1926. It is an exact replica.

Kenneth Herren, director of the seminary's physical plant, said all repairs on-campus, with the exception of roof work, were completed in mid-March. Repairs to the distinctive slate roofs should be completed by May 31, he said.

Roof repair costs are expected to reach \$50,000, Herren said.

The roof work and a \$375,000 bill for other building repairs are being paid for by insurance, except for a deductible portion of \$1,000.

All insurance coverage on seminary property is updated annually to compensate for inflation, said Badgett Dillard, Southern's vice president for business affairs.

"It's difficult to believe," Dillard said, "but our policies were updated last year one day before the tornado struck."

Now, life at Southern is amazingly normal one year after the tornado.

A massive grounds clean-up, which lasted all year, is complete. Because of the staggering cost of professional debris removal, the student grounds crew was totally responsible for this phase of recovery.

Restoration of the 460 lost trees is in the planning stage, according to Dillard.

"We have not yet moved into the area of relandscaping," he said, "because we want to be certain that we spend the funds wisely and for the beauty of the campus."

Since April, 1974, alumni and friends of the seminary have contributed more than \$34,570 to the campus restoration fund, which will help purchase some of the new trees.

Like the 1937 Ohio River flood in a generation past, the 1974 tornado will remain a vivid personal experience for the 1,700 students at Southern Seminary during the year just ended.

A community-wide worship service called "A Time To Remember" was held during the recent 1975 Mission Emphasis Week on the anniversary of the windstorm. Students and faculty expressed thanks for the dramatic recovery of the Crescent Hill community and Southern Baptists' oldest seminary.

**'Fire from Above' Gives  
Groundbreaking Real Charge**

FORT WORTH (BP)--More than 500 people--wearing yellow hard hats--bowed their heads and, as the dedicatory prayer ended, a bright fiery ball whooshed down a steel cable to set off a buried charge.

The explosive broke ground for the \$3 million building that will house a television production studio and broadcast training center for the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission here.

The groundbreaking was held in late March at the Radio-TV Commission headquarters. The plastic hard hats were souvenirs of the event.

The "fire from above" concluded a program that featured Fort Worth industrialist Charles D. Tandy, national Second Step Campaign chairman, outlining the origin of the campaign to raise money for the building.

The program also included brief telephone conversations from Africa, Switzerland, Mexico, and the Philippines.

As representatives from cities where Second Step fund-raising campaigns have been held were introduced, each threw an electric switch to outline in lights the site and floor size of the new building.

The addition, to be completed in late 1976, will extend the present Radio-TV building by 43,000 sq. ft. and will increase the commission's property value to more than \$5 million, said Paul M. Stevens, commission president.

The commission's "first Step" was in radio, Stevens noted.

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M. W. Freeman President  
Of Child Care Executives

Baptist Press  
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ORLANDO, Fla. (BP)--Marion W. Freeman, administrator of the Baptist Home for Children of Washington, D. C., has been named president of the Child Care Executives of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Other officers named for the coming year are: first vice president, Ferris Winn; superintendent of Baillie Memorial Boys Ranch in Mesa, Wash.; second vice president, O. Leonard Pedigo Jr., executive director of the Georgia Baptist Children's Homes, Inc., Atlanta; secretary-treasurer, Tom Collier, superintendent of Decatur Branch of Alabama Baptist Children's Home; historian, Roger Williams, superintendent of Kennedy Home, Kinston, N. C.

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British/Irish Union May  
Discontinue Deaconesses

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By Baptist Press

The Council of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland (BUGBI) has accepted a proposal that may mean discontinuing the order of deaconess, according to a report from European Baptist Press Service (EBPS).

The move is subject to approval by "various groups involved," including the national Baptist assembly, but it "seems to be generally accepted that this will be done," EBPS said.

The action, if approved, would transfer the more than 20 active Baptist deaconesses in the Union to the list of accredited ministers.

The Baptist deaconess movement began in Britain in 1890, with the women early involved in social work and visitation. In recent times, however, their work has become more in line with that of ministers.

No women have been accepted for training as deaconesses in the Union in the past five years, but a few have entered theological schools, EBPS noted. (BP)

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