

(BP)**BAPTIST PRESS**

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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March 7, 1977

77-42

**Church Music Conference
Celebrates Twentieth Year**

INDEPENDENCE, Mo. (BP)--The Southern Baptist Church Music Conference will celebrate its first 20 years of existence as an organization at its 21st annual meeting, June 12-13, preceding the 131st annual session of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC), June 14-16, Kansas City, Mo.

The two-day program begins with a 6:30 p.m. Sunday evening service of worship and praise in the auditorium of the headquarters of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (RLDS), Independence, Mo. It moves to Gano Hall, William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo., for three sessions, Monday, June 13, at 8 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Besides a wide range of music, the conference will feature addresses, special interest conferences and business sessions.

The Sunday night service features Robert Harrison, associate concert master, Atlanta Symphony, on violin; Donald Hustad, organ professor, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, on the organ; worship leading and narration by Ragan Courtney, playwright-lyricist-poet-performer of Nashville; solos by Cynthia Clawson (Mrs. Courtney), soloist-recording artist-song writer of Nashville, and David Ford, minister of music, First Baptist Church, Nashville; the Southern Baptist Singing Men, conducted by James D. Woodward, dean of the school of fine arts, Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee; and a massed choir of voices from Missouri and Kansas choirs conducted by Duncan Couch, dean of the music department, Southwest Baptist College, Bolivar, Mo.

The conference closes on Monday with an evening of music from William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo., after morning and afternoon sessions, featuring a variety of program personnel.

Monday morning, Cleamon Davis, associate professor of church music, William Carey College, Hattiesburg, Miss., will speak on "Our First Twenty Years," and Joe Coleman, an architect from Tulsa, Okla., will speak on "Acoustics for the Sanctuary."

Other features at that session include concerts by the Chapel Handbell Choir of Westbury Baptist Church, Houston, Tex., directed by Hart Morris, minister of music; the Children's Choir, First Baptist Church, Ada, Okla., directed by Jo Ann Butler, children's choir specialist; the Kentucky Baptist Male Chorale, directed by J. Eugene Sutherland, minister of music, Walnut Street Baptist Church, Louisville; and the Missouri Music Women, directed by Linda Boyd, associate, Missouri Baptist church music department, Jefferson City.

On Monday afternoon, Robert Harrison will give a recital-lecture, "The Violin in Missions"; the adult choir of First Baptist Church, Tulsa, directed by Jim Davis, minister of music, will give a concert honoring Southern Baptist composers west of the Mississippi; the Missouri Music Men, directed by Bob Woolley, secretary of church music, Missouri Baptist Convention, will perform a concert; and optional special interest conferences and Church Music Conference division meetings will be held.

The optional special interest conferences include "The Use of a Solo Orchestral Instrument In the Worship Service," by Doug Smith, associate professor of church music, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville; "Acoustics for the Sanctuary, Coleman; "Handbell Demonstration and Materials," the Chapel Handbell Choir, Westbury Church, Houston; and "What to Do in Case of a Choir Rehearsal," Woodward.

Also at the afternoon session, Gene Bartlett, church music secretary for the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, will premier an anthem commissioned by the Southern Baptist Church Music Conference, "It Takes Faith."

The Church Music Conference is divided into educational, denominational and local church divisions. Officers are Paul R. Bobbit Jr., president, director of church music, Florida Baptist Convention, Jacksonville; president-elect, James C. McKinney, dean of the school of church music, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth; Max Lyall, vice president, educational division, associate professor of church music, Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif; Allen R. Brown, vice president, denominational division, church music secretary, Baptist General Association of Virginia, Richmond; Jim Ashworth, vice president, local church division, minister of music, First Baptist Church, Ponca City, Okla.; and Mary June Tabor, secretary-treasurer, of the church music department, Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City.

Baptist Pastor Dies Shortly
After Talking with President

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Baptist Press
3/7/77

RIDGELAND, S. C. (BP)--Funeral services were held in Great Swamp Baptist Church here for James Baker, 56, a Southern Baptist pastor who died of a heart attack soon after talking with President Jimmy Carter on the dial-a-President national CBS radio special.

Baker, pastor of Robertville Baptist Church in nearby Robertville, S. C., talked to President Carter, a Southern Baptist layman, by phone on Saturday afternoon, Mar. 5.

According to reports, he called his wife at work to tell her about his talk with Carter, then called a sister-in-law and was talking to her when the attack occurred.

Mrs. Baker told reporters her husband had angina but had not previously suffered a heart attack. A hospital spokesman was quoted as saying a major blood vessel had become blocked and caused the attack, which resulted in Baker's death about two hours after his conversation with the President.

Baker's youngest son, Jimmy, 16, was with his father when he talked with Carter and when he suffered the heart attack. The boy was able to revive his father briefly by giving mouth-to-mouth resuscitation at their Ridgeland home, in the ambulance, and again at Jasper County Hospital. Mrs. Baker said she also attempted to revive her husband by mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

Carter and his wife, Rosalynn, sent a telegram to the family expressing condolences, and Carter called personally to talk with Mrs. Baker on Saturday night, March 5.

Mrs. Baker said Carter "spoke of his faith and the common ground we both shared in that we are both believers in God." The State newspaper in Columbia, S. C., quoted her: "He is a person with much humility and my husband and I held him in high esteem."

Baker "was very elated and delighted to have talked to the President and was looking forward to seeing it on TV," Mrs. Baker was quoted in wire service reports. In his talk with Carter, reports said, the minister congratulated Carter on what he said the President had done "to restore ethics and morality in government." And he asked Carter what his plans were to protect consumers.

Carter replied that he "would consider my administration a failure," if he did not do something in the area of consumer protection, adding that he favored a separate agency to work on consumer issues.

Robertville Baptist Church, a Southern Baptist congregation of about 70 members, was founded in 1781. Baker had been pastor there about six months, after serving an interim pastorate at the church for the previous few months.

The Baker's other two sons are George and Jerry.

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NOTE: Program for Southern Baptist Church Music Conference begins on next page.

CORRECTION

The Monday evening session, June 13, of the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union has been changed from 7:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Please change that in graph six of the news story and on the program in the Baptist Press mailing of March 4, 1977.

Thanks, Baptist Press



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Southern Baptist Church Music Conference

June 12-13, 1977

RLDS Auditorium, Independence, Mo.*

and

Gano Auditorium, William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo.*

Theme: "Our First Twenty Years"

Sunday Evening, June 12, 6:30 p.m.

A Service of Worship and Praise
RLDS Auditorium, Independence, Mo.

- Presiding Paul R. Bobbitt, Jr., president, Church Music Conference, and director of church music, Florida Baptist Convention, Jacksonville
- Worship Leader/Narrator Ragan Courtney, poet-lyricist-playwright-performer, Nashville, Tenn.
- Organ Recitalist Donald P. Hustad, professor of organ, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville
- Southern Baptist Singing Men Group from all state Baptist singing men groups, conducted by James D. Woodward, dean of the school of fine arts, Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee
- A Thousand Voices Missouri and Kansas choir members conducted by Duncan Couch, dean of the school of music and fine arts, Southwest Baptist College, Bolivar, Mo.
- Congregational Singing Led by Bob Woolley, secretary of church music, Missouri Baptist Convention, Jefferson City
- Violinist Robert Harrison, associate concert master, Atlanta (Ga.) Symphony
- Vocal Soloists Cynthia Clawson, singer-recording artist-song writer, Nashville, Tenn., soprano, and David M. Ford, minister of music, First Baptist Church, Nashville, bass

All Monday Sessions at

Gano Auditorium, William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo.

Monday Morning, June 13

- 8:00 Registration and Exhibits Open
- 8:45 Presiding--Jim Ashworth, vice president, Church Music Conference, and minister of music, First Baptist Church, Ponca City, Okla.
- Moments of Meditation--Paul McCommon, secretary, church music department, Georgia Baptist Convention, Atlanta
- Welcome--Wesley L. Forbis, chairman, music department, William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo.

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- 8:55 Concert: Chapel Handbell Choir--Hart Morris, minister of music, Westbury Baptist Church, Houston, Tex., director
- 9:10 Address: "Our First Twenty Years" --Cleamon Downs, associate professor of church music, William Carey College, Hattiesburg, Miss.
- 9:30 Concert: Missouri Music Women--Linda Boyd, associate, church music department, Missouri Baptist Convention, Jefferson City, director
- 9:50 Address: "Acoustics for the Sanctuary"--Joe Coleman, architect, Tulsa, Okla.
- 10:15 Exhibit break
- 11:00 Presiding--Max Lyall, Church Music Conference vice president and associate professor of church music, Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif.
- Concert: Children's Choir--First Baptist Church, Ada, Okla., Jo Ann Butler, children's choir specialist, director
- 11:25 Business session
- Introduction of new president-elect and Executive Council
- Presentation of honorary life memberships
- 11:40 Concert: Kentucky Baptist Male Chorale--J. Eugene Sutherland, minister of music, Walnut Street Baptist Church, Louisville, Ky., director

Monday Afternoon, June 13

- 1:30 Presiding--Allen R. Brown, Church Music Conference vice president and church music secretary, Baptist General Association of Virginia, Richmond
- Concert Honoring SBC Composers in the West--Adult Choir, First Baptist Church, Tulsa, Okla., Jim Davis, minister of music, director
- 1:55 Premier of Anthem Commissioned by Southern Baptist Church Music Conference: "It Takes Faith"--Gene Bartlett, church music secretary, Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City
- 2:00 A Recital-Lecture: "The Violin in Missions"--Robert Harrison, Atlanta, Ga.
- 2:30 Concert: Missouri Music Men--Bob Woolley, Jefferson City, Mo., director
- 3:00 Division Meetings--Election of Council Members
Local Church Division
Educational Division
Denominational Division
- 3:30 Special Interest Conferences (choose one)--"The Use of a Solo Orchestral Instrument in the Worship Service"--Doug Smith, associate professor of church music, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.
- "Acoustics for the Sanctuary"--Joe Coleman, Tulsa, Okla.
- "Handbell Demonstration and Materials"--
The Chapel Handbell Choir, Westbury Baptist Church, Houston, Hart Morris, director
- "What to Do in Case of a Choir Rehearsal"--James D. Woodward, Shawnee, Okla.
- 4:30 Adjourn (or linger awhile)

Monday Evening, June 13

- 7:00 Presiding--Paul R. Bobbitt, Jr., Jacksonville, Fla.
- An Evening of Music from William Jewell College

*The Sunday evening session, June 12, meets in the auditorium of the headquarters of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (RLDS), Independence, Mo. The conference moves, for all sessions, to Gano Auditorium, William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo., on Monday, June 13.