



BAPTIST PRESS

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

NATIONAL OFFICE

SBC Executive Committee
460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37219
(615) 244-2355
W. C. Fields, Director
Robert J. O'Brien, News Editor
James Lee Young, Feature Editor

BUREAUS

ATLANTA Walker L. Knight, Chief, 1350 Spring St., N.W., Atlanta, Ga. 30309, Telephone (404) 873-4041
DALLAS Orville Scott, Chief, 103 Baptist Building, Dallas, Tex. 75201, Telephone (214) 741-1996
MEMPHIS Roy Jennings, Chief, 1548 Poplar Ave., Memphis, Tenn. 38104, Telephone (901) 272-2461
NASHVILLE (Baptist Sunday School Board) Lloyd T. Householder, Chief, 127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn. 37234, Telephone (615) 251-2000
RICHMOND Robert L. Stanley, Chief, 3806 Monument Ave., Richmond, Va. 23230, Telephone (804) 353-0151
WASHINGTON W. Barry Garrett, Chief, 200 Maryland Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002, Telephone (202) 544-4226

June 13, 1977

77-104

Home Board Appoints Eight Missionaries

ATLANTA (BP)--Eight persons were appointed career missionaries by directors of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board during their June executive board meeting here.

The board also appointed a husband and wife as US-2 missionaries and approved 19 persons to receive pastoral aid.

Named career missionaries were Alan and Sandi Dahl of Louisville, Ky.; Dan and Dianne Lawton of Roanoke, Va.; Glen and Nancy Little of Electra, Tex., and Jim and Carole Putman of Conroe, Tex. Richard and Deborah Hale of Campbellsville, Ky., were appointed as US-2 missionaries.

The Dahls will live and work in Pittsburgh, Pa., where he will be director of Christian Social ministries. Dahl, a native of Pittsburgh, is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville. Prior to appointment, he was youth minister at Harrods Creek Baptist Church in Louisville, Ky.

Mrs. Dahl, a native of Birmingham, Ala., is a graduate of Alderson-Broadus College. Prior to appointment, she was a nursing instructor at Kentucky State University.

The Lawtons will live and work in Roanoke, where he will be director of the missions center. Lawton, born in China, is a graduate of Carson-Newman College and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He also attended the Graduate School of Social Work at the University of Texas at Arlington. Mrs. Lawton, a native of Knoxville, Tenn., is a graduate of the University of Tennessee and Southwestern Seminary.

The Littles will live and work in Palmer, Ala., where he will be a pastoral missionary. Little, a native of Phoenix, Ariz., is a graduate of Hardin-Simmons University and Southwestern Seminary. Prior to appointment, he was pastor of Rock Crossing Baptist Church in Electra, Tex. He also has been pastor of churches in Brandon, Tex., Douglas, Ariz., and Thornton, Colo. Mrs. Little, a native of Wichita Falls, Tex., is a graduate of Hardin-Simmons and attended Southwestern Seminary.

The Putmans will live and work in Conroe, Tex., where he will be director of Christian social ministries. Putman, a native of Natalia, Tex., is a graduate of the University of Corpus Christi and Southwestern Seminary. He received his clinical pastoral education at the Texas Department of Corrections, Huntsville, Tex. Prior to appointment, he was a social worker with the Conroe public schools. He also has been pastor of churches in Realitos, Leming and Conroe, Tex. Mrs. Putman, a native of Devine, Tex., is a graduate of the University of Corpus Christi and attended Southwestern Seminary.

The Hales will live and work in Ekwoh, Alaska, as US-2 missionaries. The US-2 program is a Peace-Corps like program, designed to allow young persons an opportunity to test their calling in a short-term missions program. Those appointed serve two years, generally between college and seminary. Hale, a native of Kentucky, is a graduate of Campbellsville College. Mrs. Hale, also a native of Kentucky, is a graduate of Campbellsville College.

-30-

Perry Elected To Home
Board Chaplaincy Post

Baptist Press
6/13/77

ATLANTA (BP)--Huey D. Perry of Talahassee, Fla., has been elected associate director of the division of chaplaincy of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board here.

-more-

He fills a vacancy created when Carl Hart was elected to head the division.

Perry, who has been coordinator of chaplaincy services with the Florida Department of Offender Rehabilitation in Tallahassee, will primarily serve in the area of institutional chaplaincy. He also will work in the area of volunteer chaplaincy.

"We are very pleased to have him on our staff," Hart said. "He combines experience in correctional chaplaincy with a denominational dedication. We feel he will be able to offer our division a great deal of resource as well as some creative concepts."

Perry, 40, is a native of Alabama. He is a graduate of Tennessee Temple College and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Prior to becoming chaplaincy services coordinator for the Florida Prison System in 1973, he was chaplain in the Lowell, Fla., correctional institution and pastor of churches in Ecrú, Miss. Newport, Tex., and Kingsley Lake, Fla. He also has been a high school teacher in Florida.

-30-

Pastoral Aid Okayed
For 18 Persons

Baptist Press
6/13/77

ATLANTA (BP)--Directors of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board have approved financial aid for 18 mission pastors.

The approval was given during the June meeting of the executive committee of the board.

Language pastoral aid (LPA)--assistance which aids pastors of language church--was approved for 10 persons and Church pastoral aid (CPA)--grants to pastors of mission churches--was given to eight.

The 10 persons receiving LPA are:

Diosdado Abella, a native of Pinar Del Rio, Cuba, to serve in Leisure City, Fla.; Roberto Arrubla, a native of Venecia, Columbia, to serve in Silver Spring, Md.; Stephen Chow, a native of Taipei, Taiwan, to serve in Flushing, N.Y.;

Also, Miguel Della Corte, a native of Buenos Aires, Argentina, to serve in Elizabeth, N.J.; Carl Enoch, of Murray, Ky., to serve as minister to the deaf in Louisville, Ky.; Elson Hernandez, a native of Marfa, Tex., to serve in Mineral Wells, Tex.;

Also, Mark Hui, a native of China, will serve in Brooklyn, N.Y.; Titus Hwang, a native of China, will serve in New York, N.Y.; David Kim, a native of Seoul, Korea, will serve in Sacramento, Calif.; and Ernest Silvas, a native of Wharton, Tex., will serve in Clearfield, Utah.

The eight persons receiving CPA are:

Larry Beard, a native of Lynnwood, Calif., to serve in Julesburg, Colo.; Roy Bennett, a native of Fordsville, Ky., to serve in Manchester, Ohio; Don Hayhurst, a native of Concord, Calif., to serve in Nashua, N.H.;

Also, Don Johnson, a native of Lawrence, Kansas, to serve in Empire, Mich.; Larry Kemp, a native of Newgulf, Tex., to serve in Cameron City, Pa.; Joe Lawhorne, a native of Calhoun, Ga., to serve on Marco Island, Fla.;

Also, Oscar Miles, a native of Lepante, Ark., to serve in Circlesville, Ohio, and Jesse Shaver, a native of Grady, N.M., to serve in Longmont, Colo.

-30-

Language Leaders Study
Ethnic Evangelism

by Judy Touchton

Baptist Press
6/13/77

MONTCCLAIR, N.J. (BP)--Leaders representing nine language groups studies ways to evangelize the ethnic population of the United States during the first National European Ethnic Evangelism Conference here.

The conference, sponsored by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's Department of Evangelism Development, involved 30 pastors and mission workers from across the U.S.

-more-

French, Italian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Ukranian, Yugoslavian, Hungarian and Spanish ethnic groups were represented.

As part of the evangelism section's emphasis of "Growing an Evangelistic Church," the leaders received information on the Biblical basis for evangelization from John Havlik, director of evangelism development for the Home Mission Board.

In addition, Bob Sena, the board's consultant on ethnic evangelism, challenged the participants to "grasp the 'handles' the evangelism section has developed."

The methods suggested included renewal evangelism, revival evangelism and evangelism to Catholics.

Jack Lowndes, executive secretary of the Baptist Convention of New York, emphasized the importance of worship, evangelism, education, service and fellowship in growing the evangelistic church.

-30-

Court Voids N.Y.
Contraceptive Law

Baptist Press
6/13/77

WASHINGTON (BP)--The U. S. Supreme Court struck down a New York law forbidding the sale of nonprescription contraceptive products to teenagers.

The court also declared unconstitutional other portions of the New York law forbidding the advertisement of such products and making it unlawful for anyone but a registered pharmacist to distribute them to persons over the age of 16.

Declaring that "there is substantial reason for doubt whether limiting access to contraceptives will in fact substantially discourage early sexual behavior," the high court rejected one of the principal arguments invoked by New York officials.

The court cited its decision last year that underage women, like their adult counterparts, have the right to obtain an abortion as one reason for striking down the New York law.

"State restrictions inhibiting privacy rights of minors are valid only if they serve 'any significant state interest. . . that is not present in the case of an adult,'" the court said.

The 7-2 majority also cited the constitutional right to privacy in sexual decisions as another reason for invalidating the statute.

Although the court has not defined the boundaries of the right to privacy, Justice William J. Brennan, Jr. observed that in the court's opinion "it is clear that among the decisions that an individual may make without unjustified government interference are personal decisions relating to marriage, procreation, contraception, family relationships, and child rearing and education.

"The decision whether or not to beget or bear a child is at the very heart of this cluster of constitutionally protected choices," Brennan wrote.

In deciding that persons other than licensed pharmacists should be allowed to sell contraceptives, the court said that New York had failed to demonstrate sufficient "state interest" in drafting the requirement.

Instead, the court noted, such limitation on the distribution of the devices "imposes a significant burden on the right of the individuals to use contraceptives if they choose to do so."

The court also rejected New York's argument that open display and advertisement of contraceptives should be banned. Attorneys for the state had held that advertising the products would be offensive and embarrassing to some people.

The court majority ruled, however, that such a restriction on the display and advertising of condoms, foams, or jellies amounts to "suppression of expression" protected by the First Amendment's free speech guarantee.

Two of the justices dissented. Chief Justice Warren E. Burger objected to the decision but chose not to disclose his reasoning.

-more-

Justice William H. Rehnquist, however, protested the ruling vigorously in a dissenting opinion which declared that "those who valiantly but vainly defended the heights of Bunker Hill in 1775" would have disbelieved the majority's view that the Constitution gives commercial vendors the right to "peddle" contraceptives to unmarried minors.

He said further that the citizens of New York, through their elected legislators, have the right to deal with "the problem of promiscuous sex and intercourse among unmarried teenagers."

The case arrived at the Supreme Court after a three-judge federal district court had earlier declared the New York law unconstitutional.

-30-

Singapore Evangelism Project
Ready For Implementation

Baptist Press
6/13/77

SINGAPORE (BP)--After two years of extensive planning, an urban evangelism project sponsored by the Singapore Baptist Convention and Southern Baptist missionaries serving here is ready for action.

The development stage of the evangelism strategy is nearing completion. Already Singaporians and missionaries are implementing the project, according to Southern Baptist Missionary Associate Ralph W. Neighbour Jr., who has led in the development of strategy for starting 200 house churches in Singapore by 1980.

With the planning phase near completion, Neighbour is returning to his former pastorate, West Memorial Drive Baptist Church in Houston, Tex. He expects to leave Singapore in mid-July. William R. Wakefield, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's secretary for Southeast Asia, said he will consult with Neighbour in the United States or even call on him for short trips overseas as the need arises in connection with the project.

Neighbour came to Singapore in January 1975 as a specialist in urban evangelism. The Singapore convention adopted the evangelism program in July 1975, and Southern Baptist missionaries have cooperated closely in planning the project.

The first step in Singapore's strategy has been identification. Using varied means of communication, Singapore Baptists have sought identity as "the people who care."

In the second step, they tried to determine the needs of the people through direct mail and door-to-door surveys. Using the survey results, Singapore Baptists are now setting up friendship groups aimed at meeting the needs of the people.

Friendship groups will offer help in such areas as guitar playing, personality development and choosing the right career. Participants in these groups will be encouraged to join Bible study groups.

"Those who come to accept Christ will then be nurtured and encouraged to start or become part of extension churches. The implementation will take many years as this program is designed to plant churches in every neighborhood of the city of Singapore," said Wakefield.

"I am very pleased that the work is at a stage where the Singaporians feel confident of its success," Wakefield said. He just returned from a trip to Southeast Asia during which he met with Singaporians and missionaries.

Wakefield said the urban strategy plan in Bangkok, Thailand, developing parallel with that of Singapore, is also ready for implementation. "My expectation is that the two programs will support one another as expertise and experience are shared," he said.

-30-

(BP) Photo mailed to state editors.

Church Musicians Elect
McKinney, Note Growth

Baptist Press
6/13/77

By Bonita Sparrow

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP)--Members of the Southern Baptist Church Music Conference elected a new president, made a constitutional change, and noted growth in the 20 years of the organization's history during a two-day meeting here.

James C. McKinney of Fort Worth, Tex., dean of Southwestern Baptist Theological

--more--

Seminary's school of music, was named president for a two-year term. He succeeds Paul Bobbitt of Jacksonville, Fla., music secretary for the Florida Baptist Convention.

The constitutional change will provide for the appointment of a permanent editor of the Music Conference's journal, Bobbitt said.

Cleamon Downs, associate professor of church music and voice at William Carey College, Hattiesburg, Miss., recounted some of the organization's 20-year history.

It began, he said, as a suggestion at the Southern Baptist Convention in Kansas City in 1956. It became a reality in 1957 when the group gathered at the Conrad Hilton in Chicago.

Presiding at that first meeting was Paul McCommon of the Georgia Baptist Convention's church music department. McCommon was elected its first president. He was on hand Monday at William Jewell College to present a devotional.

McKinney was named president by a mail vote of the organization's 900 members.

"We vote by mail so the members who can't come to the convention will be able to vote, too," observed Bobbitt.

Serving with McKinney will be Thad Roberts, minister of music, South Main Baptist Church, Houston, president-elect; Allen R. Brown of the Baptist General Association of Virginia's church music department, denominational vice president; Max Lyall of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif., educational vice president; A.L. Butler, First Baptist Church, Ada, Okla., local church vice president, and Mary June Tabor, Oklahoma Baptist Convention's associate state music secretary, secretary-treasurer.

The conference conferred four life memberships on retired members. Honored were Saxe Adams of Nashville; Inman Johnson of Prince George, Va.; Donald Winters of Hattiesburg, Miss., and J. Campbell Wray of Fort Worth.

Sunday night's concert sessions included music by the Southern Baptist Singing Men, Ragan Courtney of Nashville, a choir of 1000 voices from church choirs in the Greater Kansas City area, and a mini-concert by evangelistic singer Cynthia Clawson.

-30-

WRAPUP

Baptists Urged To
Alter Lifestyle

Baptist Press
6/13/77

By Larry Crisman

OVERLAND PARK, Kan. (BP)--If Southern Baptists reach future mission goals, they must change their lifestyles.

Cecil Ray of Raleigh, general secretary of the Baptist Convention of North Carolina, made this statement to about 175 persons attending the 16th Southern Baptist Conference for Directors of Associational Missions here.

"Lifestyles of too many Southern Baptists are on a collision course with the 'Bold Missions' themes we've adopted," he said.

Ray explained many Southern Baptists are too involved in materialistic pursuits to maintain lifestyles of sacrifice necessary to undergird world-wide mission objectives of the denomination's Bold Mission effort to evangelize the world by the close of the century.

He called for new lifestyles more conducive to global mission support.

Ray's address ended a two-day conference of Baptist directors of missions which preceded the 120th Southern Baptist Convention in Kansas City, Mo.

Robert D. Dale, supervisor of the career guidance project section of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, gave directors practical advice on coping with pressures faced by ministers and their families.

He also advised directors to help ministers in their associations decide whether their churches are growing or dying.

A key which tips a minister to the progress or decline of his church concerns its original "dream," Dale said. Churches sometimes need to reaffirm the vision on which they were built.

-more-

Directors resolved to seek curriculum materials on the "Associational Emphasis Week" from several Southern Baptist agencies--Sunday School Board, Brotherhood Commission, Woman's Missionary Union and the Home Mission Board.

In another resolution, the group agreed to work with "the metropolitan and rural-urban associational members serving on the Southern Baptist committee on long-range emphasis..."

-30-

Baptist 'Good Buddies'
Monopolize CB Chatter

By Dan Martin

Baptist Press
6/13/77

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP)--Baptist "good buddies" flooded Channel 19 as they convoyed to Kansas City and the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC).

Folks like the Tuna Fish Lady, Mongoose, Missions Man, Shepherd, Solid Rock and many a Preacher Man kept the yackety yack going as they filled the air as well as the highways.

"The truckers didn't even get to talk about the smokies (police), because we were so busy talking about the convention and the Lord," said Missions Man, who goes by the name of Hal Crane, when not using his handle.

"We had a real convoy going from St. Louis to Kansas City," said Crane, director of missions for the Michigan Baptist Convention. "There were probably 15 people talking about the convention."

Missions Man started talking to The Mongoose, and they got up a lunch date. Crane stopped at a highway restaurant and was joined by Bob Gattney, a pastor from Macon, Ga., The Mongoose.

"We had a wonderful time fellowshiping," Crane said.

As he got back on the road, Crane heard a message from the Shepherd. He asked if it was the Shepherd from Gaylord, Mich., and got a big 10-4.

"It was John Besse, one of our mission pastors. We switched over to Channel 20, and I learned more about his work than I have in several months from reading the reports.

"Four or five other guys also switched over and they learned a lot about our work in Michigan," Crane added.

The Missions Man and the Tuna Fish Lady (Marilyn Hall of Hawk Point, Mo.) both remember listening to a "preacher from Alabama who sure did talk a lot."

The Tuna Fish Lady said the Alabaman "sounded like a preacher . . . long and loud," but the Missions Man was more diplomatic, saying only that the Southerner "sure did have a loud unit."

Others Crane remembers in their convoy were the Sky Pilot and the Bootlegger, both of whom are Florida pastors.

Blue Pencil, motoring/ driving up from Memphis eavesdropped on a conversation between Preacher Man and the Rambling Rebel.

"The Rebel is a truck driver hauling electronic equipment from New York to San Jose, Calif., and the Preacher Man is a pastor in North Carolina. They got to talking and found out they live about 20 miles from each other," Blue Pencil said.

He noted the two CBers got into a longer conversation and found out the trucker is a Southern Baptist layman. Before it was all over they decided to get together with their families for dinner.

Blue Pencil also had a conversation with another Preacher Man, this one from East Tennessee.

"He wanted to follow me on in, but decided he would stop and eat a bite. When he signed off, he told me, 'If I don't see you at the SBC, I'll see you in heaven.'

"An unidentified voice cracked over the radio, 'Now, that's confidence if I ever heard it.'

"Preacher Man came back and said, 'That's not confidence. It comes from knowing the Lord.'"

-more-

Another Preacher Man paid careful attention to handles of those in his range.

"There was the North Carolina Watchman, the Good News Man from Florida, the Cajun Preacher from Louisiana, and when a trucker asked me if I was a real 'sky pilot' I didn't know what he meant. He explained that it was a 'real preacher man.'"

But this particular Preacher Man--Jerry Stevens, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church of Columbus, Miss.--found so many other CBers who use the Preacher Man handle that he had to become Preacher Man from Mississippi to preserve his identity for the rest of his trip.

Woodpecker and his brother, Woodfin, had a little conversation with the Action Man as they drove through Nashville, Tenn.

"That's the guy from the (Southern Baptist) Sunday School Board who started the ACTION Program" (for Sunday school growth), said Woodpecker. "We just talked about the convention and South Georgia pastors we all know though."

Action Man is Andy Anderson' Woodpecker and Woodpin are the Woodfin brothers, James pastor at Plainville Unity Baptist Church in Plainville, Ga., and Charles, pastor of Macedonia Baptist Church, Gadsden, Ala.

"CB for Christians," a book on sale in the Baptist Book Store in the exhibit area at the convention center is, according to William A. Cox, a sales supervisor for Broadman Press, a "popular item."

The book was written by Beau Colle, Sunday school program director for the Louisiana Baptist Convention.

"The whole book is excellent. It tells how to witness, to form CB clubs and things like that," Cox said. "It has been selling real well."

The book, normally a \$2.25 item, is on sale this week for only \$1.80.

The experience was not good for every CBer who tuned in while truckin' to KC.

"We listened as we drove up, but we couldn't hear anything but 'Where's Smoky? Where's Smoky? Where's Smoky?'," said the Sight See-er, who came up with his compadre, the Preacher Boy.

"We tried to get some local information in St. Louis, but even people who live there don't know how to get around," added Preacher Boy.

"We just gave up and came on in," said the Sight See-er, who also is known as Carl Culpepper, director of missions for the Bethel Baptist Association in Edison, Ga.

Preacher Boy was asked why he picked his handle.

"There is a guy in our area who uses the handle of Preacher Man," said Harry Sims, pastor of Colonokee Baptist Church in Blakely, Ga., so I started using Preacher Boy.

"I didn't figure anybody would call himself a Preacher Boy, so I just picked it up."

-30-

Pastor Urges Eradication
Of Latent Anti-Semitism

Baptist Press
6/13/77

By Jim Newton

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP)--Confessing his own latent anti-Semitism, the pastor of the First Baptist Church of Miami Beach urged 3,000 Baptists to "look into your own life" and to realize that "you have been just as guilty" as Adolph Hitler.

Robert Tremaine, speaking during the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union, said that although he and other Christians may have had no direct involvement in Hitler's holocaust, "if you will look deep into your life, you and I have been just as guilty because we have failed to communicate that God really loves Jewish people and He wants to love them through you and me."

Tremaine said that after he became pastor of the Miami Beach church, he, for the first time, began to understand a little of the deep resentment Jewish people have had toward Christians because they feel Christians have not demonstrated love and concern toward the Jewish people undergoing oppression.

-more-

Most Christians simply do not understand the history of 2,000 years of Jewish oppression, much of it at the hands of so-called Christians.

Citing instance after instance in history, including situations where Christians sang the hymn, "Christ We Adore Thee," while Jews were burned at the stake, Tremaine said he could go on all afternoon with a list of atrocities committed against Jews "in the name of Jesus."

And after Hitler's holocaust slaughtered more than 6 million Jews, the surviving Jews asked Christians in agony, "Where were you? Why did you wait so long to come help us," Tremaine said.

Jewish people are very sensitive, and it hurts them deeply when they overhear someone make a remark like "Let's Jew him down," or "He looks like a Jew," Tremaine said.

"I, like you, am guilty of those kinds of things," the Baptist pastor confessed.

Although he said it is difficult to change 2,000 years of history, Christians can and should seek to bridge the barriers of the past by seeking to show Jewish people that they love them by acts of concern and compassion, he said.

Telling about the ministries of First Baptist Church in Miami Beach, Tremaine noted that church members have organized shopping programs to help 63 per cent of the Jewish residents of the city who are living on Social Security to do their shopping.

Utilizing a mobile medical unit operated by the Florida Baptist Convention, the church members have also sought to provide free medical care for Jewish people in Miami Beach. They have discovered that about 8 per cent of the people have symptoms of skin cancer, he said.

"One Jewish man simply couldn't believe that we did not charge anything for the services we provided," Tremaine said.

One woman in the community called and asked if someone in the church could just stop by and say "Hello." Tremaine said "the loneliness among the elderly in Miami Beach is something so pervasive that I can't even begin to describe it."

The church has been able to get a Bible study started among the entertainment workers in Miami Beach's hotels, including a topless show at one hotel. Seven entertainment workers left Miami and became an insurance salesman in Las Vegas, he said.

"I've never seen anyone, Jew or Gentile, black or white, who will not respond to love," Tremaine said.

Earlier during the session of the WMU Convention, Mike Mojica, Baptist home missionary with the Spanish-speaking people in the Laredo, Tex., area, told about the needs of the Spanish world, and urged Baptists to respond by getting to know Spanish-speaking people personally and becoming involved in programs to meet their needs.

"It is humanly impossible for me as a missionary to reach the entire Spanish-speaking world, but together, all Southern Baptists could do it if we would become concerned and involved."

Just before Mojica spoke, Jimmy Allen, pastor of First Baptist Church in San Antonio, Tex., and an often-mentioned nominee for president of the Southern Baptist Convention, told what the Woman's Missionary Union organization had meant to his church and to him as pastor.

"The Woman's Missionary Union has been the heart of the heartbeat of our church's total missions outreach," said Allen.

Miss Carolyn Weatherford, executive director of Woman's Missionary Union, challenged the 3,000 persons attending to boldly reaffirm the organization's unchanging purpose of challenge of the day, and to be bold as individual Christians.

-30-

WMU Urged To Listen,
And Respond, to Needs

Baptist Press
6/13/77

By Jim Newton

KANSAS CITY (BP)--A repeated call for Southern Baptists to respond to world needs with a massive bold mission thrust resounded throughout huge Roe Bartle Convention Center during the annual meeting of the Woman's Missionary Union.

-MORE-

Over and over, through drama and pageantry, speech choirs, music, sermons, speeches and panel discussions, the 5,000 Baptists attending the woman's convention heard pleas to "listen" to the needs of the world and respond. Theme of the convention was "World Listen."

Some of the Baptists, however, complained about the sound system at the massive, two football field wide exhibition hall, saying they had to strain to hear what the speakers were saying, and they had difficulty seeing the figures on the platform from seats almost 200 yards from the stage.

The convention opened with a Bold Missions Rally on Sunday afternoon which featured a two-hour pageant dramatizing mission efforts beginning with the creation of Adam and continuing through the present and into the future.

Actors dramatized the past of missions with vignettes on four stages spread 130 yards apart. They featured Adam, Abraham, King David, the Apostle Paul, pioneer Indian missionaries David and John Brainerd, foreign missionary William Carey, Baptist missionary to China Lottie Moon, and modern-day urban missionaries in New York City, Don and Goldie Rhymes.

Interspaced throughout the dramas was music by Jubilation, a six voice choral group from Grand Canyon College, Phoenix, Ariz., and orchestral music provided by a 21-piece orchestra.

The dramatic narration was provided by three young men who introduced themselves as "the mission triplets"--Gerald, Darrell, and Harold Ware, ministers of youth and music for Baptist churches in Pauls Valley, Atoka, and Wewoka, Okla., respectively.

Five Baptist missionaries and nationals who are the products of Baptist missions told the women of the needs of the people with whom they work, urging Baptists to pray specifically for these needs and to become personally involved in mission support.

Jose Borrás, president of the Spanish Baptist Union and dean of a Baptist seminary in Madrid, called especially for Baptists to pray for full religious liberty in Spain, and for the first free elections three days later, Wednesday, June 15, when Spain was scheduled to elect representatives to a new Senate and Congress under a new democratic form of government.

Two speakers during the drama, American Indian Jimmy Anderson, who directs mission efforts with the Seminole and Creek Indians in Oklahoma, and Allen Elston, missionary to the Indians on the Warm Springs Reservation in central Oregon, urged Baptists to respond to the needs of American Indians.

Two black Baptist pastors, Lambert Mills of Antigua, and Samuel Fadeji of Ogbomosho, Nigeria, expressed appreciation for Baptists who helped provide their education, and urged the people to pray for the needs of their people.

Following the rally, many of the Baptists attending the rally divided into 34 prayer groups scattered throughout the convention center complex to pray for 16 specific prayer needs printed in the program.

The participants prayed for missions work in "danger zones" of the world, including Ethiopia, Uganda and Rhodesia; for Christians in Vietnam; for missionaries efforts with 70 million ethnic people in the USA; for the need for 10,000 persons to volunteer to serve in short-term home mission projects, and a host of other mission needs.

In the closing message at the WMU convention, John R. Claypool, pastor of Northminster Baptist Church in Jackson, Miss., urged the convention to match their words with deeds that give validity to what they say as Christians. "We must both speak out and reach out if the attention of the world is going to be attracted," Claypool said.

Another speaker, William G. Tanner, SBC Home Mission Board executive director, urged Baptists to love other people the same way God loves every person who ever lived on earth.

"He loves the Arab nations as much as he loves the people of Missouri," Tanner said. "He loves the dictator in Uganda as much as he loves the born-again believer in the White House. God loves us," he added, "not because we are lovable objects, but because he is a loving subject."

Tanner said that the love of God is even more amazing in the light of man's response.

"When you consider the things that God puts up with from man--the irritating sassiness of nations, the debunking of the Bible, the profit motive of a self-centered religion or the hypocrisy of so-called 'believers'--it makes me wonder why God has not flooded the earth a few more times," Tanner added.

Seven Baptist home and foreign missionaries told of specific needs and concerns for reaching national and ethnic groups at home and abroad, pleading with Baptists for intensified mission support.

Over and over, through drama and pageantry, speech choirs, music, sermons, speeches and panel discussions, the 5,000 Baptists attending the woman's convention heard pleas to "listen" to the needs of the world and respond. Theme of the convention was "World Listen."

Some of the Baptists, however, complained about the sound system at the massive, two football field wide exhibition hall, saying they had to strain to hear what the speakers were saying, and they had difficulty seeing the figures on the platform from seats almost 200 yards from the stage.

The convention opened with a Bold Missions Rally on Sunday afternoon which featured a two-pageant dramatizing mission efforts beginning with the creation of Adam and continuing through the present and into the future.

Actors dramatized the past of missions with vignettes on four stages spread 130 yards apart. They featured Adam, Abraham, King David, the Apostle Paul, pioneer Indian missionaries David and John Brainerd, foreign missionary William Carey, Baptist missionary to China Lottie Moon, and modern-day urban missionaries in New York City, Don and Goldie Rhymes.

Interspaced throughout the dramas was music by Jubilation, a six voice choral group from Grand Canyon College, Phoenix, Ariz., and orchestral music provided by a 21-piece orchestra.

The dramatic narration was provided by three young men who introduced themselves as "the mission triplets"--Gerald, Darrell, and Harold Ware, ministers of youth and music for Baptist churches in Pauls Valley, Atoka, and Wewoka, Okla., respectively.

Five Baptist missionaries and nationals who are the products of Baptist missions told the women of the needs of the people with whom they work, urging Baptists to pray specifically for these needs and to become personally involved in mission support.

Jose Borrás, president of the Spanish Baptist Union and dean of a Baptist seminary in Madrid, called especially for Baptists to pray for full religious liberty in Spain, and for the first free elections three days later, Wednesday, June 15, when Spain was scheduled to elect representatives to a new Senate and Congress under a new democratic form of government.

Two speakers during the drama, American Indian Jimmy Anderson, who directs mission efforts with the Seminole and Creek Indians in Oklahoma, and Allen Elston, missionary to the Indians on the Warm Springs Reservation in central Oregon, urged Baptists to respond to the needs of American Indians.

Two black Baptist pastors, Lambert Mills of Antigua, and Samuel Fadeji of Ogbomosho, Nigeria, expressed appreciation for Baptists who helped provide their education, and urged the people to pray for the needs of their people.

Following the rally, many of the Baptists attending the rally divided into 34 prayer groups scattered throughout the convention center complex to pray for 16 specific prayer needs printed in the program.

The participants prayed for missions work in "danger zones" of the world, including Ethiopia, Uganda and Rhodesia; for Christians in Vietnam; for missionaries efforts with 70 million ethnic people in the USA; for the need for 10,000 persons to volunteer to serve in short-term home mission projects, and a host of other mission needs.

In the closing message at the WMU convention, John R. Claypool, pastor of Northminster Baptist Church in Jackson, Miss., urged the convention to match their words with deeds that give validity to what they say as Christians. "We must both speak out and reach out if the attention of the world is going to be attracted," Claypool said.

Another speaker, William G. Tanner, SBC Home Mission Board executive director, urged Baptists to love other people the same way God loves every person who ever lived on earth.

"He loves the Arab nations as much as he loves the people of Missouri," Tanner said. "He loves the dictator in Uganda as much as he loves the born-again believer in the White House. God loves us," he added, "not because we are lovable objects, but because he is a loving subject."

Tanner said that the love of God is even more amazing in the light of man's response.

"When you consider the things that God puts up with from man---the irritating sassiness of nations, the debunking of the Bible, the profit motive of a self-centered religion or the hypocrisy of so-called 'believers'---it makes me wonder why God has not flooded the earth a few more times," Tanner added.

Seven Baptist home and foreign missionaries told of specific needs and concerns for reaching national and ethnic groups at home and abroad, pleading with Baptists for intensified mission support.

Mike Mojica, Baptist missionary among the Spanish-speaking people of the Laredo, Tex., area, urged Baptists to respond to the Spanish-speaking world by getting to know Spanish-speaking people personally and becoming involved in mission programs to meet their needs.

Three Baptist missionaries in urban Chicago called for response to the needs of reaching big cities of the nation, agreeing that "if we do not reach our cities, we will lose America."

Dale Cross, executive director of the Chicago Metropolitan Baptist Association, said that Baptists must have a better understanding of metropolitan problems if they are to be effective in the future.

Cross and two associates, Don Sharp, a black Baptist pastor, and Jim Queen, a church planner and community minister in Chicago's inner "Uptown" area, told of specific needs in their area of work in a panel-discussion type presentation.

Sharp, pastor of Faith Tabernacle Baptist Church, said his greatest request for prayer was for Baptists to eliminate words like honkie, pollock, wop, spic and nigger from their vocabularies so that they can relate to others as human beings, "as brothers in Jesus Christ."

The pastor of the First Baptist Church of Miami Beach, Robert Tremaine, urged Baptists to eliminate another form of prejudice--anti-semitism.

Tremaine said that although he and other Christians may have had no direct involvement in Hitler's holocaust against the Jews, "if you will look deep into your life, you and I have been just as guilty because we have failed to communicate that God really loves Jewish people and He wants to love them through you and me."

He said he had only begun to understand the bitterness Jewish people have toward Christians since he became pastor of the church in the highly-Jewish populated city, saying the Jews have a history of 2,000 years of oppression, much of it in the hands of so-called Christians.

Although he said it is difficult to change 2,000 years of history, Christians can and should seek to bridge the barriers of the past by seeking to show Jewish people they love them by acts of compassion and concern.

Two Baptist foreign missionaries to Africa, Carlos Owens of Tanzania, East Africa, and Maxine Moseley of Ghana, West Africa, told of the needs of people in their area of the world.

"Our people need help," said Owens. "They are poor, weak, sick. They are calling us, seeking our help. They are hungry people in a land where to have one good meal a day is exceptional."

He told of one Baptist church that decided to begin their Sunday services at 8:00 a.m. instead of 9:00 a.m. because "most of the church members would not have eaten before coming to church, and if they could get out earlier, they would have more time to look for their food for that day."

Miss Moseley told of encouraging response among the people of West Africa, especially in Ghana, and outlined a strong leadership development program and a unified religious education program among Baptist churches in Ghana.

In its only business during the two-day meeting, the Woman's Missionary Union re-elected Mrs. A. Harrison Gregory of Danville, Va., to a third term as president. Also re-elected to a third term as recording secretary was Mrs. William Ellis of Shelbyville, Ky.

In her annual report to the WMU, Miss Carolyn Weatherford, executive director of the organization based in Birmingham, Ala., issued a challenge for Baptist women to be bold in their mission involvement.

She challenged the women to (1) boldly reaffirm the unchanging mission purpose of WMU, (2) face the challenge of future shock, (3) boldly speak to the missions challenge of our day, and (4) be bold as individuals.

The two-day women's convention concluded on Monday night as the participants sang as a closing benediction the hymn, "Send Me, O Lord, Send Me."