

(BP)**BAPTIST PRESS**

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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September 7, 1977
5 Agencies Launch Joint
Strategy, Employ Bryan

NASHVILLE (BP)--A comprehensive missions education strategy for Southern Baptists began taking form here with representatives of five agencies working out details on a series of approaches and developing an administrative plan.

Carolyn Weatherford of Birmingham, executive director of Woman's Missionary Union, was elected chairperson of the executive group of the newly formed Missions Education Council, which includes Glendon McCullough of Memphis, executive director of the Brotherhood Commission; Grady Cothen of Nashville, president of the Sunday School Board; William Tanner of Atlanta, executive director of the Home Mission Board; and Baker James Cauthen of Richmond, executive director of the Foreign Mission Board.

The planners also agreed to employ a staff assistant to lead in designing and launching cooperative projects of the Missions Education Council.

Named to the position was Miss Katharine Bryan, former director of Baptist Women for the Texas Baptist Woman's Missionary Union, who is currently enrolled in a doctoral program. Tenure is for one year and is renewable for an additional year.

The joint missions strategy effort grew out of the missions challenge recommendations, adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) in Norfolk in 1976, which called for unprecedented mobilization of denominational resources to win the world to Christ.

The planners agreed to develop as part of the strategy a coordinated curriculum, a communications plan with church staff members, a national merchandising plan for missions education materials, an evaluation plan, and a missions education growth plan.

The planners said the coordinated missions education curriculum will include the elements of balance, sequence, dating, and an intergration of content.

The communications plan for church staff will focus on the pastor and will include a missions education digest vehicle, the council reported.

The merchandising plan will include sales efforts by catalog, book store and telephone.

The missions education growth plan will encourage mission education in every church, with special attention to small and large churches.

In the area of research and development, planners will develop and test mission education approaches before they are recommended to churches.

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(BP) Photo mailed to state Baptist papers.

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Baptist Missionary Couple
Spends Furlough 'On Wheels'Baptist Press
9/7/77

By Jennifer Hall

RICHMOND (BP)--So you've heard of meals on wheels. How about furlough on wheels?

For four months Jim and Mary Lochridge have been eating, sleeping and rolling along, traveling more than 7,000 miles sharing their experiences as Southern Baptist missionaries

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in the Philippines.

How?

About a year before the couple embarked on their short furlough in the States, the Lochridges spent their spare moments perusing information about small recreational vehicles--and wishing.

"We kept asking ourselves, 'With only four months of furlough and a schedule of speaking engagements, how can we do it without meeting ourselves on the road?'" Mary said.

Their solution was a compact recreational vehicle which would double as their home and transportation in one package. The "extras" to this deal included no grass to mow, no monthly utility bills, no excessive housekeeping tasks and no unnecessary trips to retrieve forgotten items left in conventional houses.

"There were some disadvantages--such as less gas mileage and smaller living quarters--but they were outweighed by the advantages," she commented.

Jim piloted the vehicle, which they named "Lochrige Lodging," across their home state of North Carolina, where they were camp missionaries at two camps and a youth retreat, and to Foreign Missions Week at Ridgecrest, the Southern Baptist Conference Center. They also drove and lived their way to the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in Kansas City, Mo., and two missionary conferences.

But equally as significant were the 102 speaking engagements the Lochridges made in towns and cities and churches where they promoted missions.

"Sometimes an extra bonus, such as speaking to a group of senior citizens and having lunch with them would be waiting for us," Mary said. When opportunities of this kind arose it was a snap for the couple to enter their "home of wheels" and emerge in complete Filipino attire. "This gave our listeners a personal touch of the Philippines," she noted.

"And," Mary added, "stopping at campgrounds gave us many opportunities to tell fellow campers about missions as we shared with them our reason for buying a recreational vehicle."

The Lochridges are back in the Philippines now. No more quick changes into Filipino dress for Mary while driver Jim attempts to locate the church where they were scheduled to speak. No more rolling along U.S. highways. But, come 1980, they plan to hit the road again for their next four-month furlough. "We firmly believe," Mary said, "that a mini-motor home is a must for a mini-furlough."

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Treasury Department Lauds
Handicapped Baptist Layman

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9/7/77

PORTLAND, Ore. (BP)--The U. S. Treasury Department's Outstanding Handicapped Employee of the Year is a Southern Baptist who serves as deacon and directs church training at Metropolitan Baptist Church here.

He is John Montgomery, who is confined to a wheelchair as a result of multiple sclerosis.

Montgomery, a national bank examiner for the Portland regional office of the Comptroller of the Currency, will receive a certificate from Treasury Secretary Blumenthal.

He was selected from a group of handicapped employees nominated by Treasury agencies throughout the nation. In submitting his nomination, the office cited his "exceptional courage" in volunteering for a special training program that involved a trip to Washington, D. C. It notes that "despite his weakening condition" he volunteered for travel assignments, including winter travel in Alaska, performs his work without assistance, and is seldom absent from work.

Montgomery and his wife and two children are all active members of Metropolitan Baptist Church.

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Sizemore Moves to
New York City

NORTHBORO, Mass. (BP)--Elmer Sizemore, a veteran of nearly 20 years in Southern Baptist mission work in the northeastern United States, will move to New York City, Oct. 1., to begin a new English-speaking Southern Baptist church on Manhattan Island.

The Kentucky native has served in the Northeast since 1959 when he was appointed by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board to serve in the entire area north of Maryland.

Sizemore has served as executive director for Southern Baptist work in the six states of New England since 1962, where he has organized numerous chapels and churches. He helped organize the Delaware Valley Baptist Association in the greater Philadelphia area, the New England Baptist Association (dissolved in 1967 in order to create three new associations) and the Baptist General Association of New England, a forerunner to an eventual state convention for the area.

Under Sizemore's leadership, Southern Baptists in New England have constructed and entered a new Baptist Building, located on the birth site of famed Baptist pioneer statesman Luther Rice in Northboro, Mass. For the past 10 years, he has also edited the New England Baptist, a newspaper serving the area.

Sizemore's move to Manhattan will fill a gap in Southern Baptist work. Currently, Southern Baptists minister to 17 different ethnic groups in the area but need a strong church for English-speaking persons.

He will start the new church as part of the denomination's Bold Mission effort to win America to Christ. New York City is the only city included in all three phases of a Bold Mission Thrust effort directed by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

Sizemore attended Baptist colleges in Kentucky and was graduated from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, in 1953. He served churches in Kentucky and later was an associational missionary in Kentucky and Georgia. Mrs. Sizemore is also a native of Kentucky.

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Smith Named to PR Post
at Golden Gate Seminary

Baptist Press
9/7/77

MILL VALLEY, Calif. (BP)--Mark Smith, a 24-year-old Oklahoma native, has been named public relations associate at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary here.

Stanton H. Nash, the seminary's vice president for development, said Smith, director of public information for the past two years at Louisiana College, Pineville, assumed the post vacated by Gary Baldrige. Baldrige was recently appointed a missionary to Zambia for the Southern Baptist Convention Foreign Mission Board.

At Golden Gate, Smith is in charge of writing and disseminating news from the seminary, editing the alumni quarterly "Gateway" and the summer publication "The Span", directing photography on campus, and other duties.

A 1975 graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee, where he earned a bachelor of arts degree in journalism, Smith is a past executive board member of the Central Louisiana Press Association. He was selected for inclusion in the 1976 volume of "Outstanding Young Men of America."

His wife, a former 6th grade school teacher in Grant Parish, La., is presently the administrative assistant to the vice president for development at the seminary.

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