



# 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  
Norman Jameson, 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

November 28, 1977

77-208

Hendricks To Join  
Golden Gate Seminary

MILL VALLEY, Calif. (BP)--William L. Hendricks, a veteran Southern Baptist seminary professor, has been elected by the board of trustees of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary here as professor of theology and Christian philosophy, according to William M. Pinson Jr., Golden Gate president.

Hendricks will assume his duties Aug. 1, 1978, after completing the school year at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Tex., where he has been on the faculty for the past 20 years.

"We're delighted to have Dr. Hendricks join the team of professors at Golden Gate Seminary," Pinson said. "He comes with a rich background in pastoring, teaching, and writing. Known throughout the United States and in many parts of the world for his scholarship, ability to communicate the gospel, and interest in persons, his move to the west is another indication that the Southern Baptist Convention's Bold Mission Thrust to evangelize the world is not just a slogan and that Southern Baptists are indeed a national denomination stretching from coast to coast."

Born in Butte, Mont., and raised in Wichita, Kan., Hendricks earned a bachelor of arts degree from Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, in 1951, and has earned master of divinity and doctor of theology degrees from Southwestern Seminary and master of arts and doctor of philosophy degrees from the University of Chicago. He has also studied at Southern Methodist University, Union Theological Seminary and the University of Tubingen.

Hendricks, an ordained Baptist minister, has served as pastor of churches in Oklahoma and Texas and as interim pastor in eight churches throughout the southern United States. He has written four books and had numerous articles published in denominational publications and scholastic journals.

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(BP) Photo will be mailed to the state Baptist papers by Golden Gate Seminary.

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Duvall Named  
Mayo Chaplain

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ROCHESTER, Minn. (BP)--Robert Wesley Duvall, 26, has been appointed as Southern Baptist chaplain at the hospitals affiliated with Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn.

He began his work Nov. 7 after his selection by the Human Welfare Coordinating Board of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, which sponsors the position with the Chaplaincy Division of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

Along with chaplains representing several denominations, Duvall ministers to Mayo Clinic patients regardless of religious affiliation. He succeeds Bill J. Williamson, appointed earlier as missions director for the Pioneer Baptist Association in the

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Minnesota-Wisconsin Southern Baptist Fellowship. Williamson had served as Southern Baptist hospital chaplain in Rochester since the ministry was established on a full-time basis in 1964.

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Pastors Don't Use Enough  
Theology, Hiltner Claims

Baptist Press  
11/28/77

LOUISVILLE (BP)--Ministers often carry out their tasks without relating those responsibilities to theology, Seward Hiltner, a national authority on pastoral care, said here.

"I've been impressed with the relative inability of ministers--regardless of denomination--to make constructive use of what they've learned theologically... as a relevant, concrete guide in instances of ministry," declared Hiltner, professor of theology and personality at Princeton Theological Seminary.

Hiltner, who delivered the Gheens Lectures in Ministry Studies at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary here, emphasized that acts of ministry should be seen from a theological foundation.

"Preaching is not just communication theory with a sprinkling of quotations," Hiltner quipped, noting that ministers should have a time of theological reflection after each act of ministry they perform, such as preaching or visiting.

"When the act of ministry is completed and we reflect on it, there are often insights that help us to improve on it," he said.

A practical suggestion the Princeton professor offered is for the minister to do an "honest self-diagnosis of those things in the whole corpus of theology that he has ignored." There may be some area of confusion or misunderstanding in the minister's background that causes him to avoid certain areas of theology, Hiltner explained.

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Baptist Conference Delegates  
Find Little Accord On Issues

By Mary Ann Wood

Baptist Press  
11/28/77

HOUSTON (BP)--The small number of Southern Baptists in attendance at the recent National Women's Conference here found they did not always agree on the issues presented for action.

Business conducted at the federally funded conference included votes on 25 points of a national plan of action for the upgrading of the status of women in America. The plan approved by the conferees will be presented to the President and Congress.

Dr. Curtis Caine, a physician from First Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss., and one of only six voting men among the conference's 2,000 delegates, said the meeting was manipulated by a "minority of vocal radicals who assume for themselves the authority to take stands for all the women of the United States contrary to the beliefs of the majority."

Caine, who considers the beliefs of the majority Godly, said, "I think many of the issues being voted on here are contrary to God's decalogue, and these are certainly not the feelings of the majority of the women of the United States."

One Southern Baptist conference participant, First Lady Rosalynn Carter, apparently disagreed. She told the 15,000 observers that "never before in our history has there been such a women's meeting--in numbers, in preparation, in diversity, in long range effect. The breadth of opinion, ethnic groups, income and occupation represented here is remarkably reflective of our whole country."

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Caine and his wife Evelyn, also a delegate, were part of a delegation billed as conservative by the secular press. Caine said his delegation was "anti-ERA, anti-abortion and pro-God, pro-family and pro-righteousness."

Tennala Gross of Memorial Baptist Church, Greenville, N.C., represented the other side of Baptist opinion at the conference. She said the North Carolina delegation included a broad racial mixture who were all Southern Baptists and who also supported the national plan of action, including the controversial issues.

She called Southern Baptists a diverse group and said she appreciates the fact that no one can speak for all Southern Baptists. "I am a Baptist because we have traditionally given freedom of choice to the individual," she said.

Gross considers her strong feelings on women's issues to be "based on my faith in Jesus Christ and the attitude I feel His life represented, which is basic human rights for all people."

Caine was disappointed that more Baptists did not support his side of the issues and fewer still showed enough concern about the meeting itself. "I think the awareness among the smaller, conservative oriented churches whose main thrust is evangelism have been supportive (of the conservative stance)," he said. "I think there has been a dearth of support from sophisticated liberal churches who have failed to understand the gravity of the deliberation going on here."

Other religious groups received more attention at the meeting than Southern Baptists. Roman Catholics, known traditionally to be against abortion, were at the meeting in large numbers, though not all present were anti-abortion. Members of the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints (Mormon) were also present in large numbers to oppose abortion, the ERA, and homosexuality.

Members of many religious groups, including Southern Baptists, were present in another meeting in Houston at the same time. A counter-convention was held in the Astro Arena that was billed as "pro-life, pro-family." People from many states attended that meeting.

One group from Chattanooga, Tenn., brought five bus loads of women to indicate their opposition to the National Women's Conference. Southern Baptists were in that group, which drove for 18 hours to get there and faced an equally long trip back.

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Arthur Rutledge  
Dies In Atlanta

By Dan Martin

Baptist Press  
11/28/77

ATLANTA (BP)--Arthur Bristow Rutledge, 66, who guided the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board during 12 of its most stormy years, died Nov. 23 after suffering a heart attack. Funeral services were Nov. 26 in Atlanta, with burial in Newnan, Ga.

Rutledge suffered the attack while at his home on Lake Lanier near Cumming, Ga. A neighbor took him to a Gainesville hospital where he was dead on arrival. Mrs. Rutledge, his wife of 41 years, died Oct. 3 in Atlanta.

He retired as the Home Mission Board's executive director-treasurer Dec. 31, 1976, after 12 years at the helm. The years were at turns peaceful and strife filled, secure and uneasy as the fabric of society changed and modified.

Under his leadership, Southern Baptists moved into all 50 states and developed into the United States' most multi-cultural denomination. The board doubled its national staff and tripled its budget.

The board, during the Rutledge years, became what one church planning expert called "the most effective mission board of any religious group in the United States."

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Rutledge joined the board in 1959 as director of the newly created missions division. He became executive director-treasurer Jan. 1, 1965, succeeding the late Courts Redford.

A native of San Antonio, Tex., he worked as a bank teller before going to Baylor University. He also was graduated from Southern and Southwestern Seminaries and was pastor of churches in Indiana, Kentucky and Texas.

After serving as pastor of First Baptist Church of Marshall, Tex., 1945-1957, he became stewardship and direct missions secretary for the Baptist General Convention of Texas, a post he held until he joined the Home Mission Board.

Shortly before his retirement, Rutledge said of his leadership: "It has been my desire and the desire of our staff people and of our directors to be open to new ideas, new ways of doing things. Once we venture out, we're willing to stick our necks out. There may have been some rough days and some flack and some criticism, but there has been a surprising acceptance of the positions we've advocated. Sometimes we were alone in advocating them for a while."

Rutledge admitted during the interview that he and others at the board received more negative mail... "more criticisms on our position on race than any other."

The firm yet flexible leader added: "I could not be fully satisfied with what I was doing because I felt people needed to be a lot farther down the road than they were. And I was willing--I settled this in my heart--to be fired if it would help the cause. But I never could believe that the cause of Christ would be furthered by my taking such a stand that hardly anyone would stand with me."

The years of the late 1960s--when he was executive--were years of crisis for the U.S. "They were years in which hostility was expressed by youth...demonstrations and even deaths, destruction of property," he said. "I think at that point the convention began to do some maturing, to take seriously the responsibilities to lead out.

"The statement on the national crisis (on the race issue) adopted by the convention at its meeting in Houston (1968) was a very significant action," he continued. "The Home Mission Board was asked to assume leadership among the agencies of the convention to develop whatever correlation might be needed, whatever plans might need to be developed in those turbulent years."

Rutledge said the years were not as critical as others have been but were "critical for shaping the board for the immediate future."

He added, "For the convention and the agencies, the crisis years represented a turning point in us becoming more aware and more widely conscious of our need to be concerned for all people." Rutledge carried the philosophy into his own life, as well. On his desk was a small placard bearing the words, "people count".

Upon his retirement, Rutledge had looked forward to short term teaching assignments at the seminaries, promotion of the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for home missions, revivals and writing. However, he suffered a series of mild heart attacks in late summer, followed by Mrs. Rutledge's illness and death.

Of Rutledge, William G. Tanner, his successor as executive director-treasurer, said: "He was a giant. He left footprints on the life of Southern Baptists which will never be eradicated." Tanner also noted he was "privileged to have peeked over Arthur Rutledge's shoulder for a short time," working with Rutledge for three months prior to assuming leadership of the board.

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(BP) Photo will be mailed to state Baptist papers by the Atlanta Bureau of Baptist Press.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: On page 4, paragraph 3 of 11-23-77 mailing, in story entitled "Southern Baptists Send Relief Funds to India," bottom line should read: "about 200,000 acres of other crops were damaged." This provides missing figure.

Thanks---Baptist Press