

(BP)**BAPTIST PRESS**

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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March 16, 1978

78-39

**Seminary Task Force Studies
World Mission Center**

MILL VALLEY, Calif. (BP)--A task force has been working for two months at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary formulating programs for a unique World Mission Center on the seminary's campus in Mill Valley, Calif.

The task force, made up of missionaries, pastors and seminary faculty, staff and students, will present its report prior to the April 4 meeting of the Golden Gate board of trustees. The executive committee of the trustees has already approved the basic concept of the center, which will be designed to help the Southern Baptist Convention implement its Bold Mission Thrust goal to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ to everyone in the world by the year 2000.

Set in the cross-cultural environment of the San Francisco Bay area, the center will aim at preparing students to minister all over the world. The center will provide resources in mission conferences, research facilities, writing, and courses of study and specialized training in the international flavor of the Bay area. The center will emphasize all branches of missions--associational, state, home and foreign.

One of its features will be the Baker James Cauthen Chair of World Missions, which will honor the work and leadership of Cauthen, executive director of the SBC Foreign Mission Board. A perpetual fund has been established for the chair, which will be financed by gifts.

Commenting on the plans for the center and work of the task force, seminary president, William M. Pinson Jr., said, "Because Golden Gate Seminary is concerned about evangelizing the world, we feel we ought to provide specialized training for persons involved in missions whether they are seminary student mission volunteers or career missionaries--associational, state, home or foreign.

"Golden Gate is in a unique setting for mission research and training, not by accident but on purpose--God's purpose. We want to bring together the finest mission training, strategy, research team in the world and contribute to the Bold Missions Thrust in every way possible. God has placed us in a most unique laboratory for such a purpose. With his guidance and the support of Southern Baptists I believe we can render a distinct service to the cause of Christ."

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Campus Ministers Will
Hear Andrew LesterBaptist Press
3/16/78

ATLANTA (BP)--Andrew Lester, associate professor of psychology and pastoral care at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., will lead a series of sessions during the second annual meeting of the Association of Southern Baptist Campus Ministers, June 11-12, at the Baptist Student Center at Georgia Tech University.

The meeting is one of a number of pre and post convention sessions which meets in connection with the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 13-15, at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta.

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NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE**

Lester will lead sessions on the "Theology of Counseling" and "Crisis Intervention and Short Term Counseling Related to College Students."

Other program personnel for the association, formed last year prior to the annual SBC meeting in Kansas City, include Pearl DuVall, chaplain, School of Nursing, Georgia Baptist Hospital, who will speak on "Mental Health of Campus Ministers," and Dick Bumpass, president of the organization and campus minister at the U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md.

Mike Lundy, campus minister at Texas Tech, Lubbock, Texas, is in charge of reservations. The headquarters hotel will be the Sheraton-Biltmore in Atlanta.

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Evangelists Set June
14 Meeting in Atlanta

Baptist Press
3/16/78

ATLANTA (BP)--Five Southern Baptist evangelists will speak at the Southern Baptist Evangelists' Conference which meets June 14 at Baptist Tabernacle in Atlanta and will feature a program of preaching and music.

The conference is one of a series of satellite meetings surrounding the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 13-15, at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta. The evangelists will meet from 12:45 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. during an afternoon when no SBC session is scheduled.

Speakers will be Bill Penley, an evangelist from Fletcher, N. C., and president of the group; and evangelists Melvin Wise, Atlanta; Charles Chapman, St. Louis, Mo.; and E. J. Daniels, Orlando, Fla. Don Womack of Memphis, Tenn., is executive officer of the conference.

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Former Cuban Prisoner Among
43 Home Mission Appointees

Baptist Press
3/16/78

DAYTON, Ohio (BP)--Directors of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, meeting in Dayton, Ohio, appointed 43 persons to missions service including a pastor released from prison last summer.

Appointees include two missionaries, five missionary associates, 18 US-2 missionaries (college graduates who serve in home missions for two years), and 18 pastors approved to receive financial aid.

The directors met in Dayton for the spring board meeting to give Southern Baptists in the area a first-hand glimpse of the Home Mission Board's operations.

Missionary appointees are Becky Sumrall of Louisville, Ky., and Gay Nichols of San Jose, Calif. Associates are Peter Cabrera of Sunnyside, Wash., Raffaele and Antonietta Manzi of Brooklyn, N. Y., and Benjamin and Carmen Valdes of Marietta, Ga.

Valdes, who will serve as a Cuban pastor in Atlanta, entered the U. S. this last summer after 12 years imprisonment in Cuba. Before his arrest during the Fidel Castro takeover, he was pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church, Lasdecicais, Cuba, and had served as a Cuban pastor since 1953.

Both he and Mrs. Valdes are graduates of the Baptist seminary in Cuba. She served with her husband in Cuba until 1963, when she and the four Valdes children moved to Marietta, Ga.

The directors named US-2 missionaries to serve both the special mission ministries and the church extension departments of the Home Mission Board.

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Special mission ministries US-2 appointees are David Benjamin of Shawnee, Okla., to serve in Columbus, Ohio; Mark Boes of Berea, Ky., to serve in Anchorage, Alaska; Kim Deniston of Ironton, Mo., to serve in Calgary, Alberta, Canada; Wayne Fagala of Tyrone, Okla., to serve in Lake Placid, N. Y.; Wendell Gibson of Barnwell, S. C., and his fiancée Melinda Bean of Nashville, Tenn., to serve in Jasper, Ala., after their marriage; Erlene Grise of Quality, Ky., to serve in Atlanta; John Haeger of Tusculumbia, Ala., to serve in Beaver Lake, Colo.; Thomas Harrison of Swainsboro, Ga., to serve in Lake Tahoe, Calif.; Douglas Kauffman of Louisville, Ky., to serve in Eugene, Ore.; Annette Nielson of Danbury, Conn., to serve in Rochester, N. Y.; Don Phillips of Pine Bluff, Ark., to serve in Grand Canyon, Ariz.; and Marilyn Ray of Austin, Texas, to serve in State College, Penn.

Church extension department US-2 appointees are Jack Coggins of Greer, S.C., to serve in Prospect, Ore.; Rendell and Teresa Day of Birmingham, Ala., to serve in Alaska; Marty Hogue of Lancaster, S. C., to serve in Missouri; and Cynthia Market of Kenbridge, Va., to serve in Nebraska.

Becky Sumrall, a Troup County, Ga., native, will serve in Gadsden, Ala., as director of Christian social ministries from the Etowah Baptist Association. She is a graduate of Georgia College, Milledgeville, and earned a master of religious education degree in social work from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky. She has served as a community minister in Louisville and in weekday ministries in Springfield, Mo. She taught in high schools in Thomson, Ga., and served three summers as a summer missionary.

Gay Nichols will serve in Spartanburg, S. C., as director of Christian social ministries. A native of Live Oak, Fla., she is a graduate of Troy State University and holds the master of religious education degree from Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif.

Prior to appointment, she worked as a day care center director for the Foxworthy Baptist Church, San Jose, Calif. She has also worked at Glorieta (N. M.) Baptist Conference Center in the preschool building, as a US-2 missionary in Los Angeles, and as a summer missionary in Northern California.

Cabrera, a Uvalde County, Texas, native, will serve as a regional language missionary in Yakima Valley, Wash. He is a graduate of the Mexican Baptist Bible Institute, San Antonio, Texas, and has attended Northern Baptist Theological Seminary, Lombard, Ill.

The Manzis will serve in Brooklyn as catalytic language missionaries. They are both natives of Italy. Prior to appointment, he was a case worker for the New York Society for Prevention of Cruelty of Children. She works for a New York bank.

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May 6 Set as Convention
Pre-Registration Deadline

Baptist Press
3/16/78

ATLANTA (BP)--May 6 is the deadline for persons wishing to pre-register as "messengers" the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 13-15, at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta.

The Atlanta convention is the second year of an experimental attempt to shorten registration lines at the convention city by pre-registering persons elected as messengers by Southern Baptist churches.

Pre-registrants may receive an SBC "Book of Reports," official messenger badge and official computer card ballots for SBC business sessions by sending a filled-out pre-registration form and a check for \$2.50, made out to SBC Executive Committee, to SBC Pre-Registration, 460 James Robertson Parkway, Nashville, Tenn. 37217. Additional members of the same family may register for only \$1, provided only one "Book of Reports" is desired for the family.

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"To protect the integrity of the SBC voting process, both persons who pre-register for the convention or register at the regular time in Atlanta are responsible for taking care of their messenger badges and ballots," said Lee Porter, SBC registration secretary. "Lost badges and ballots will not be replaced, but additional copies of the 'Book of Reports' may be purchased."

Pre-registration forms are available from the offices of state Baptist executive secretaries or from the March, 1978, issue of the "Baptist Program" magazine, published by the Executive Committee. Each person must fill out a separate pre-registration form and have it signed by the moderator or clerk of the church which elected that person as a messenger to the convention.

Under the SBC constitution, no church may elect more than 10 messengers to the convention. Each church cooperating with the convention is eligible to appoint at least one messenger. One additional messenger, up to the limit of 10, is allowed for each 250 members in the church or for each \$250 paid by the church to the work of the convention during the fiscal year preceding the annual meeting.

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Stewardship Members
Elect Botts Chairman

Baptist Press
3/16/78

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)--Robert H. Botts, a layman from Wichita, Kans., was elected chairman of the Southern Baptist Stewardship Commission during its annual meeting in Nashville.

The commission, which meets in Nashville on alternate years, also adopted a record \$1,271,700 budget; promoted Jim Powell from associate director to director of Cooperative Program Promotion effective Oct. 1; and elected officers.

David C. (Bill) Bates, a layman from Pineville, La., was re-elected to a one year term as vice chairman and Eugene Fleming, pastor of First Baptist Church, Franklin, Ky., was re-elected secretary.

New committee chairmen named were Harry Bonner, executive director of the Northwest Baptist Foundation, stewardship development committee; Harold Garrett, pastor of Suburban Baptist Church, Granite City, Ill., Cooperative Program committee; and Charles L. McKay, professor of Bible from Phoenix, Ariz., endowment and capital giving committee. The officers and committee chairman make up the commission's executive committee.

A. R. Fagan, the commission's executive director-treasurer, said the Southern Baptist Convention's Bold Mission Thrust effort to present the gospel to every person by the year 2000 has "increased demands on staff and material sales considerably as our churches seek assistance in undergirding their own financial base."

Increased demands prompted the addition of seven commission staff members last year, including five for the "Together We Build" program that provides capital needs fund raising consultation services to churches and agencies. Fagan said the program raised \$21.6 million in gifts last year.

Fagan emphasized the money raised was in the form of gifts, not loans that need to be paid back--with interest. He said "Southern Baptists are paying more in interest on church debt than we give in all missions offerings together, on all levels." The interest SBC churches pay annually is close to \$300 million.

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Rouse Dies
In Dallas

Baptist Press
3/16/78

DALLAS (BP)--Dr. Milford O. Rouse, a leader in the medical field and an active Southern Baptist layman, died March 14 in Dallas.

Rouse, 75, a former president of the American Medical Association, had served on the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention and was active in local church and state Baptist affairs in Texas.

The son of a Texas Baptist pastor who was a Southern Baptist foreign missionary to Brazil in 1904-05, Rouse was a pioneer in gastroenterology. He established a lectureship in digestive diseases and nutrition at Baylor Medical Center in Dallas. He received degrees from Baylor Medical School in Houston and Baylor University in Waco.

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Deneen Named President
Of Home Board Directors

Baptist Press
3/16/78

DAYTON, Ohio (BP)--Robert L. Deneen of Columbia, S. C., was elected president of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board during the spring meeting of the directors.

Deneen, pastor of Park Street Baptist Church, succeeds Tommy Jones, pastor of Vineville Baptist Church, Macon, Ga.

During the spring meeting in Dayton, directors reassigned two staff members, created two new staff positions, approved changes in meeting schedules and approved an emergency contingency fund plan.

John Havlik, director of evangelism development for the board, was transferred to become director of evangelism education and writing, a new position the directors created at the board meeting. Havlik will be responsible for researching and writing in the area of the theology of evangelism and evangelistic apologetics. He also will write, edit or assist in the writing of resources and materials for the evangelism section.

Joe L. Ford, 29, director of evangelism for young adults in the evangelism section for the past four years, was named to Havlik's former post. He will work with state conventions, associations, churches, and other Southern Baptist agencies in interpreting, promoting and relating New Testament evangelism. He is the youngest man currently heading a major department at the Home Mission Board.

Directors also approved two new staff positions. They are for a consultant on the research data management to work with the planning section in obtaining and using computerized research data and an associate director of the department of missionary personnel to assist in recruiting and evaluating candidates for missionary appointment.

During the three-day session of the board, directors also got a first-hand look home mission work in Ohio--touring mission sites and attending a rally at Far Hills Baptist Church.

"We are very happy to have this group in Ohio," said Ray Roberts, executive secretary of the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio, which has about 120,000 members in local churches. "Just about everyone who has come to do mission work in Ohio has come with the support of the Home Mission Board."

Directors also approved bylaw changes which set the membership of the board's executive committee at 24, shifted meeting schedules and created sub-committees for the departments within the missions ministries division.

The action broadens executive committee membership to include representatives from geographical areas outside the states contiguous to Georgia. The action follows a Southern Baptist Convention vote to reduce the number of local members on boards of agencies.

The executive committee meets in months in which the full board of 66 directors does not meet. The full board meets in March, July and October. The action changes schedules for the executive committee to Monday night and Tuesday rather than the current Thursday meeting of each month.

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A plan to provide \$2.5 million line of credit at Citizens and Southern National Bank in Atlanta also was approved, providing for an emergency contingency fund as well as operating capital for the first quarter of each year during which the board operates at a deficit.

"The convention has insisted we have a rather liquid contingency fund for immediate use in case of emergency," said William G. Tanner, executive director-treasurer. "This plan will provide that. Also, during January, February and March, we operate at a deficit of about \$2.2 million until Annie Armstrong Easter Offering funds begin to come in," he added. "This plan provides an excellent way to provide interim financing during those months."

Cost of the line of credit will be offset, Tanner said, by the banks' management of the boards' memorial funds, which will be put into long-term rather than short-term investments.

In other actions, the board:

--Appointed 43 persons for mission service, including two missionaries, five missionary associates, 18 US-2 missionaries, 16 mission pastors, two language missions pastors.

--Improved an increase of loan limits by the church loan department, allowing \$250,000 building loans and \$60,000 site loans. The limit had been \$175,000 on buildings, and \$40,000 on sites.

--Adopted a recommendation which allows the church loan department to advise churches considering bond issuing programs.

--Assigned \$20,000 to the Baptist Convention of New York for purchase of property in Lake Placid, N. Y., to prepare for a ministry to visitors and participants in the 1980 Winter Olympics.

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Board Identifies 1,100
Mission Service Corps Slots

Baptist Press
3/16/78

DAYTON, Ohio (BP)--Directors of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board learned at their spring meeting in Dayton, Ohio, that the board has identified 1,100 places of home missions service for volunteers for the newly formed Mission Service Corps.

"If we had the volunteers for those places, we could assign them today," said David Bunch, director of Mission Service Corps coordination for the board. He said the board, which has already appointed and placed five persons in MSC service, has 31 volunteers ready to assign and sent out 6,000 applications to potential volunteers during February.

Mission Service Corps, formed with approval of the Southern Baptist Convention last June in Kansas City, Mo., seeks to appoint 5,000 short-term volunteers to home and foreign mission fields by 1982 to supplement career missionaries. Funding will come from the volunteers or donors wishing to underwrite a volunteer over and above regular contributions.

"The Home Mission Board is now deeply involved in developing procedures for enlisting Mission Service Corps volunteers," reported the board's executive director-treasurer, William G. Tanner.

"Nothing is more important in this century than Mission Service Corps. It is working. We are going to make it."

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80-Year-Old Widow Gives
\$50,000 To Home Missions

By Judy Touchton

Baptist Press
3/16/78

ATLANTA (BP)--An 80-year-old widow from Virginia has sent a hand-written letter and a \$50,000 personal check to the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board designated for the Baptist seminary in Puerto Rico.

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The woman, who has a premonition she will not live long, asked to remain anonymous until after her death.

Oscar Romo, director of language missions for the board, said the gift will help secure a large central facility for the seminary's classes. Students have been meeting in extension centers and a small second floor apartment.

Seminary facilities in Puerto Rico allow young pastors to remain there and serve struggling churches while equipping themselves through theological and pastoral training, Romo said.

Having lived a simple life since her husband died 40 years ago, the widow worried about what her church, friends and family might think about her gift.

Although she always tithed and gave to special offerings, she lived plainly--never owning a car, eating at home, making her own clothes, fixing her own hair.

She never earned more than \$1.13 an hour, yet managed to save enough for the gift to the Home Mission Board, as well as enough to support herself until she dies.

William G. Tanner, executive director of the Home Mission Board, was amazed when he found the widow's letter and check in the day's mail.

He said the gift's coming just before the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for home missions excited him about the possibilities of the future.

Some people have wondered and worried about sources for funding the newly formed Southern Baptist Mission Service Corps which hopes to place 5,000 volunteer short-term missionaries by 1982, Tanner explained.

"Some worry about sponsors to meet the financial challenge of MSC. But if an 80-year-old widow can send a \$50,000 check unannounced, then we don't need to worry about funding for MSC. It will come." Funds will come from the volunteers or from donors who wish to support a volunteer over and above their regular contributions.

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Southwestern Names
Distinguished Alumni

Baptist Press
3/16/78

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)--A college president, a retired missionary, and a denominational leader have been named the 1978 Distinguished Alumni at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Named were Jesse Fletcher, president, Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene, Texas; Helen Bagby Harrison, a retired Southern Baptist missionary residing in Waco, Texas; and Cecil A. Ray, executive director of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Raleigh, N. C.

The three will be honored during the seminary's annual national alumni meeting to be held in Atlanta, Ga., on June 14, during the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention.

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There's Nothing Like
Friends - Lots of Them

Baptist Press
3/16/78

PLAINVIEW, Texas (BP)--There's nothing quite like having lots of friends. Ask Marvin Matthews, a senior at Wayland Baptist College in Plainview, Texas.

Matthews is a native of Washington, D.C., a long way from Plainview where he will receive a bachelor of arts degree in music May 20. But his home church, Antioch Baptist, believes in supporting its college students and several members are making plans to attend the graduation ceremonies with Matthews' family.

Matthews' pastor, Fred Porter, wrangled an invitation to preach at Plainview's First Baptist Church near graduation time. He decided that as long as he was going to preach, he'd bring part of his church with him.

Before it was over Porter enlisted his family, the church's traveling choir, a number of the members, Matthews' mother, brother, five sisters and at least four of his nieces and nephews to come with him.

"There are 75 of them the last I heard," Matthews said. "It's really going to be exciting. It's sort of a vacation for the church."

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Abandoned Infant
Shows 'Real World'

Baptist Press
3/16/78

COLUMBIA, S.C. (BP)--A new-born baby girl, found on top a fresh grave, has given seminary candidate Rod Hitchens a look at the "real world."

Hitchens named the abandoned baby, only hours old when found, Baby Grace. "Grace seemed like the name to give the child because it was a miracle she survived," he said. A woman visiting her husband's grave heard the baby cry and found it under some flowers on the nearby grave.

"If the baby had been out there much longer she would have died," said Hitchens, a member of Columbia's First Baptist Church where he teaches a singles class.

Hitchens, who plans to enter seminary in a year, works at the local ambulance service because he wants the education it offers about the practical aspects of life. "I want to see what the real world is all about," he said.

Baby Grace is one aspect of that real world.

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