



#### BUREAUS

**ATLANTA** Walker L. Knight, Chief, 1350 Spring St., N.W., Atlanta, Ga. 30309, Telephone (404) 873-4041

**DALLAS** Richard T. McCartney, Chief, 103 Baptist Building, Dallas, Tex. 75201, Telephone (214) 741-1998

**MEMPHIS** Roy Jennings, Chief, 1548 Poplar Ave., Memphis, Tenn. 38104, Telephone (901) 272-2481

**NASHVILLE** (Baptist Sunday School Board) \_\_\_\_\_, Chief, 127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn. 37234, Telephone (615) 251-2798

**RICHMOND** Robert L. Stanley, Chief, 3806 Monument Ave., Richmond, Va. 23230, Telephone (804) 353-0151

**WASHINGTON** Stan L. Hestey, Chief, 200 Maryland Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002, Telephone (202) 544-4226

January 31, 1980

80-19

### Southern Baptists Penetrate Counties Across the U.S.

By Jim Newton

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP)--Southern Baptists had established churches and missions in 82.4 percent of the counties in the United States by the spring of 1979, according to a survey just completed by the Home Mission Board.

Only 542 of the 3,043 counties in the nation do not have a continuing Southern Baptist witness, survey results indicated.

In 209 of these 542 counties, Southern Baptists have established a temporary beachhead with some type of outreach ministry, such as a Vacation Bible School, Backyard Bible Club, survey, revival or some other approach.

That means there are only 333 counties in the nation, or 10.8 percent, where there has been no Southern Baptist mission outreach.

The survey of directors of missions in counties which have no Southern Baptist mission work was conducted by Clay Price of the Home Mission Board's research division.

The survey disclosed that half of all the unentered counties were in five states, all in the upper midwest section of the nation.

Nebraska and Minnesota had the most counties without a Southern Baptist witness, with 67 counties each. Others were Iowa with 53 unentered counties, Wisconsin with 44, and South Dakota with 40.

Orin D. Morris, director of the board's research division, pointed out that these five states are predominantly rural, and most of the counties without Baptist work are rural.

Some of these counties have populations as small as 200, and most have populations less than 5,000, he said.

Southern Baptists, Morris added, have unique opportunities to begin work in these rural counties because of the denomination's general rural and family orientation.

The survey indicated rapid progress in starting new missions work in counties without a Baptist witness.

In 1973, there were 832 counties without a continuing Southern Baptist ministry. By 1977, that number had decreased to 738. The 1979 figure of 542 means Southern Baptists have entered 196 counties in the last two years.

Quentin Lockwood, director of the rural-urban missions department at the Home Mission Board, hopes that by the end of the 1981-82 church year, Southern Baptists will have entered every county in the nation with some type of ministry.

"We want to do something effective in every county, not just to mark the chart or color in the map," Lockwood said.

Both Lockwood and James Nelson, director of the board's associational missions division, stressed that the vast majority of new mission points are established, not by missionaries or pastors, but by lay people.

"One of the principle tools the Lord has given for penetrating these counties has been short-term volunteers--Vacation Bible School teams, witness teams, survey teams, and lay people who live in the area," Nelson said.

"It has been rediscovered in Bold Mission Thrust that the greatest resource available for missions is people who will go out in Jesus' name. Sometimes they go for a summer or more, and sometimes for a few days or a week. But they go!

"Already, during the years of Bold Mission Thrust we have seen more than 2,000 churches established and more than 200 counties entered which had no previous Baptist witness."

-30-

Volunteer Critically Ill  
Following Nigerian Trip

Baptist Press  
1/31/80

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)--One member of a volunteer evangelistic team is listed in critical condition suffering from cerebral malaria and another team member has received medical treatment following their return from Nigeria.

Milford Doss Jr. of Somerset, Ky., became seriously ill following his Jan. 18 return from a 22-day visit in Nigeria. In the intensive care unit of the University of Kentucky Hospital, Lexington, Doss is unconscious with a high fever.

Another team member, Wiley B. Faw Jr., has been ill with a fever and is expected to be hospitalized. Faw, pastor of Friendship Baptist Church, Lincoln County, Ky., is the son of Southern Baptist missionaries Mr. and Mrs. Wiley B. Faw Sr. of Gombe, Nigeria.

Missionary Faw and C. E. Jacobs, pastor of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Somerset, Ky., coordinated the trip. The seven-member team assisted with evangelistic projects in Gombe, in the northeastern part of Nigeria east of Jos, and in Kafanchan, south of Jos, from Dec. 27 through Jan. 17.

Dr. Franklin T. Fowler, medical consultant for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, said that cerebral malaria is the more serious type of the disease that affects the brain functions and has a higher mortality rate than the more common type of malaria.

He said there have been no reports from the field that any Southern Baptist missionaries have had similar problems.

-30-

**(BP)**

SBC Executive Committee  
 400 James Robertson Parkway  
 Nashville, Tennessee 37233  
 (615) 254-2355  
 W. G. Batts, Director  
 Robert J. Brown, News Editor  
 Norman J. Jackson, Feature Editor

**BUREAUS**

**ATLANTA** Walker L. Knight, Chief, 1350 Spring St., N.W., Atlanta, Ga. 30309, Telephone (404) 873-4041  
**DALLAS** Richard T. McCartney, 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) Chief, 127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn. 37234, Telephone (615) 251-2798  
**RICHMOND** Robert L. Stanley, Chief, 3806 Monument Ave., Richmond, Va. 23230, Telephone (804) 353-0151  
**WASHINGTON** Stan L. Haste, Chief, 200 Maryland Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002, Telephone (202) 544-4226

January 31, 1980

80-19

**Southern Baptists Penetrate  
 Counties Across the U.S.**

By Jim Newton

**MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP)**--Southern Baptists had established churches and missions in 82.4 percent of the counties in the United States by the spring of 1979, according to a survey just completed by the Home Mission Board.

Only 542 of the 3,043 counties in the nation do not have a continuing Southern Baptist witness, survey results indicated.

In 209 of these 542 counties, Southern Baptists have established a temporary beachhead with some type of outreach ministry, such as a Vacation Bible School, Backyard Bible Club, survey, revival or some other approach.

That means there are only 333 counties in the nation, or 10.8 percent, where there has been no Southern Baptist mission outreach.

The survey of directors of missions in counties which have no Southern Baptist mission work was conducted by Clay Price of the Home Mission Board's research division.

The survey disclosed that half of all the unentered counties were in five states, all in the upper midwest section of the nation.

Nebraska and Minnesota had the most counties without a Southern Baptist witness, with 67 counties each. Others were Iowa with 53 unentered counties, Wisconsin with 44, and South Dakota with 40.

Orin D. Morris, director of the board's research division, pointed out that these five states are predominantly rural, and most of the counties without Baptist work are rural.

Some of these counties have populations as small as 200, and most have populations less than 5,000, he said.

Southern Baptists, Morris added, have unique opportunities to begin work in these rural counties because of the denomination's general rural and family orientation.

The survey indicated rapid progress in starting new missions work in counties without a Baptist witness.

In 1973, there were 832 counties without a continuing Southern Baptist ministry. By 1977, that number had decreased to 738. The 1979 figure of 542 means Southern Baptists have entered 196 counties in the last two years.

DARGAN-CARVER LIBRARY

S. B. C. HISTORICAL COMMISSION

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

-more-

Quentin Lockwood, director of the rural-urban missions department at the Home Mission Board, hopes that by the end of the 1981-82 church year, Southern Baptists will have entered every county in the nation with some type of ministry.

"We want to do something effective in every county, not just to mark the chart or color in the map," Lockwood said.

Both Lockwood and James Nelson, director of the board's associational missions division, stressed that the vast majority of new mission points are established, not by missionaries or pastors, but by lay people.

"One of the principle tools the Lord has given for penetrating these counties has been short-term volunteers--Vacation Bible School teams, witness teams, survey teams, and lay people who live in the area," Nelson said.

"It has been rediscovered in Bold Mission Thrust that the greatest resource available for missions is people who will go out in Jesus' name. Sometimes they go for a summer or more, and sometimes for a few days or a week. But they go!

"Already, during the years of Bold Mission Thrust we have seen more than 2,000 churches established and more than 200 counties entered which had no previous Baptist witness."

-30-

#### Volunteer Critically Ill Following Nigerian Trip

Baptist Press  
1/31/80

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)--One member of a volunteer evangelistic team is listed in critical condition suffering from cerebral malaria and another team member has received medical treatment following their return from Nigeria.

Milford Doss Jr. of Somerset, Ky., became seriously ill following his Jan. 18 return from a 22-day visit in Nigeria. In the intensive care unit of the University of Kentucky Hospital, Lexington, Doss is unconscious with a high fever.

Another team member, Wiley B. Faw Jr., has been ill with a fever and is expected to be hospitalized. Faw, pastor of Friendship Baptist Church, Lincoln County, Ky., is the son of Southern Baptist missionaries Mr. and Mrs. Wiley B. Faw Sr. of Gombe, Nigeria.

Missionary Faw and C. E. Jacobs, pastor of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Somerset, Ky., coordinated the trip. The seven-member team assisted with evangelistic projects in Gomb, in the northeastern part of Nigeria east of Jos, and in Kafanchan, south of Jos, from Dec. 27 through Jan. 17.

Dr. Franklin T. Fowler, medical consultant for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, said that cerebral malaria is the more serious type of the disease that affects the brain functions and has a higher mortality rate than the more common type of malaria.

He said there have been no reports from the field that any Southern Baptist missionaries have had similar problems.

-30-

NEWS SERVICE OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

LYNN MAY  
HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
127 9TH AVE NO  
NASHVILLE TN 37203

EDITORS FIRST CLASS

460 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, Tennessee 37219

BAPTIST PRESS



*Handwritten initials and signature*  
ACB  
ACB

EDITORS FIRST CLASS