

(BP)**BAPTIST PRESS**

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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February 14, 1980

80-27

HMB Directors Pray
For Olympic Ministry

By Marv Knox

ATLANTA (BP)--Directors of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board bowed in prayer to support immediate ministry needs of the 13th Winter Olympics and voted to support ongoing ministries throughout the United States at their February meeting.

The prayer for Southern Baptist ministries at the Olympics in Lake Placid, N.Y., was offered at the request of William G. Tanner, executive director-treasurer of the board.

"We've been working on this project for two years, and more than 90 persons are involved in the Southern Baptist Olympic ministry," Tanner said.

"For several weeks, a sign at the Olympic Center has proclaimed, 'Welcome World, We're Ready,'" he continued. "This is true of our ministry there: The world is coming, and we are ready.

"The ramifications of this work are unbelievable," he said. "Our missionaries and volunteers are involved in at least 10 ministries in the Olympics area. Through these, a lot will go on behind the scenes. This work should be a matter of prayer for all of us."

The votes of support for ongoing Home Mission Board ministries were voiced as approval of 60 persons for missions service, including 14 missionaries, 13 missionary associates, eight mission pastor interns and 25 people who will receive language pastoral assistance or church pastoral assistance.

Named missionaries were David and Jacque Cross of Hewitt, Texas; Tom and Anita Green of Houston, Texas; James Franklin Holladay Jr. and Patricia Ann Holladay of Louisville, Ky.; Lowell and Patricia Houts of Indianola, Iowa; Wilfred and Carol Miles of Anchorage, Alaska; John Raspberry Jr. and Fay Raspberry of Denton, Texas; and John and Carolyn Simmons of Brushton, N.Y.

The Crosses will live and serve in Waco, Texas, where he will direct Christian social ministries for Waco Baptist Association. He has been a personnel specialist, an account analyst, pastor and chaplain intern. He is a graduate of Sam Houston State University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

The Greens will continue to live in Houston, and he will direct Christian social ministries for Union Baptist Association. A former Foreign Mission Board missionary to Paraguay and Argentina, he has been a pastor in Texas and Louisiana. He has earned degrees from Howard Payne University, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and North Texas State University.

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The Holladays will remain in Louisville, where he will be pastor/director of Christian social ministries for East Church/Baptist Center. He has been a campus minister for the Kentucky Baptist Convention and associate pastor/program director for the church/center in Louisville. He is a graduate of Samford University and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Houts will serve as associational missions director for North Central Iowa, and the couple will continue to live in Indianola. He has been a pastor in Missouri and Iowa and is a graduate of Northwest Missouri State University and Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

The Miles couple will remain in Anchorage. He will be a consultant at the Family Service Center. He has been a pastor, psychiatric aide, psychology teacher, pastoral counseling therapist, planner for an agency on aging and staff therapist at the Anchorage center. He is a graduate of Hardin-Simmons University, Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary and Baylor University.

The Rasperrys will continue to live in Denton, where he will direct Christian social ministries for Denton Baptist Association. A graduate of East Texas Baptist College and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, he has been pastor of churches in Texas and Montana and has been director of Denton County Cooperative Ministries.

The Simmons couple will live in New York, where he will direct associational missions for Southern Tier Baptist Association. He has been pastor of churches in Georgia and New York and has earned degrees from Mercer University and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Appointed missionary associates were Rafael and Maria Fraguela of Union City, N. J.; Alan and Sean Gilley of College Park, Ga.; Wilbert Goatley Jr. and Ruby Goatley of Louisville, Ky.; Neal and Marlon Henry of New Orleans, La.; Norma Hunt of Denton, Texas; Rosalinda Martinez of Alamogordo, N.M.; Jimmy Perkins of Talladega, Ala.; and Harry and Judy Strauss of Allan, Saskatchewan, Canada.

The Fraguelas will continue to live in New Jersey, where he will serve as a language pastoral missionary. He has been a pastor in Cuba and spent almost six years in Cuban communist prison camps, held because of his faith. He is a graduate of Baptist Seminary and Havana University.

Gilley will serve as a church planter apprentice, and the couple will live in Snellville, Ga. He has been a school teacher, supply and interim pastor and associate Baptist Student Union director. He is a graduate of Mercer University and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

The Goatleys will remain in Louisville. He will direct missions and a fellowship center for Central District Association. He is a graduate of Eastern Kentucky University and is studying at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

The Henry couple will serve in Payson, Springville and Spanish Fork, Utah, where he will be a church planter apprentice. He has been an accountant, clerk and cashier and is a graduate of the University of Southwest Louisiana and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

Hunt will move to Waco, Texas, where she will direct ministries with older persons for Waco Baptist Association. A graduate of Phillips University and North Texas State University, she has been a teacher and counselor/consultant with several senior adult ministries and programs.

Martinez was appointed to serve with her husband, Fernando, who is a language pastor in Alamogordo.

Perkins will move to New Florence, Pa., where he will serve as a church planter apprentice. He is a graduate of the University of Alabama and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

The Strauss couple will continue to live in Allan. He will serve as a church planter apprentice. A graduate of the University of Saskatchewan and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, he has been an interim pastor.

Named mission pastor interns were Kenneth and Mae Delores Dowlen of Arlington, Texas; Fred and Lorene Kitch of Rockvale, Colo.; Randall and Linda Scott of Cedar Lake, Ind.; and James and Jackie Shaver of New Orleans, La.

Approved for language pastoral assistance were Paul and Helen Cho of Cerritos, Calif.; Fred and Roberta DeBerry of Renton, Wash.; and Arnold and Lucy Pessoa of Cactus, Texas.

Granted church pastoral assistance were Jimmy and Pamela Barnett of Chatsworth, Ga.; Edward and Janice Bedrosian of Mill Valley, Calif.; Tommie Dade Jr. and Ursula Dade of East Chicago Heights, Ill.; Fred Dyer Jr. and Karen Dyer of Denton, Texas; Jim and Betty Gantenbein of Puyallup, Wash.; Robert and Polly Haines of Altoona, Fla.; Bill and Sheryl Holbrook of Roxboro, N.C.; Ronald and Pamela Huffman of Randolph Center, Vt.; Betty Sue Scantlan of Post Falls, Idaho; and Larry and Pat Schurings of DeMotte, Ind.

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Annuity Board Takes Stance Against IRS Classification

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DALLAS (BP)--Southern Baptist Annuity Board trustees have agreed to take a stand against a recent Internal Revenue Service decision that the board is not entitled to treatment as part of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Annuity Board President Darold H. Morgan explained the IRS ruled that the board has been classified as other than "a church, an integrated auxiliary of a church, or a convention or association of churches."

If the IRS classification stands, the Annuity Board, which administers annuity, welfare and relief programs for ministers and other denominational employees, will be required to file Information Return Form 990 with the IRS. Form 990 calls for specific financial information about an organization and its activities.

Morgan contends, however, that "the situation extends far beyond whether or not to file a form.

"We view this matter as a government attempt to deprive the Annuity Board of basic constitutional rights in an area involving separation of church and state," Morgan explained.

The Internal Revenue code provides "mandatory exceptions" from filing Form 990 for "churches, their integrated auxiliaries and conventions or associations of churches."

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The IRS maintains the Annuity Board does not fit into this category because its purpose is not "exclusively religious."

Gary Nash, general counsel for the board, called the IRS decision a "constitutionally doubtful position."

According to Nash, the IRS has taken a questionable position concerning what it deems "exclusively religious."

The IRS said, Nash reported, that "there is no basis for finding that an organization is exclusively religious if that organization does not provide spiritually-oriented or morally-oriented instruction directly to the people it is set up to serve."

Morgan contended, however: "(The Annuity Board) would not even exist were it not for the Southern Baptist churches and a mandate given to the board by the Southern Baptist Convention to serve Baptist ministers and other denominational workers within the bounds of the convention.

"It (the IRS classification) marks the continued erosion of the constitutional principles of separation of church and state through extensive government entanglements in Southern Baptist affairs," he added.

Morgan also warned that implications of the integrated auxiliary regulations and ruling may "spill over" into church plan regulations not yet finalized under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

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Prayer For TV Studio
Answered in a Hurry

Baptist Press
2/14/80

NITEROI, Brazil (BP)--When they prayed, they didn't expect an answer quite so soon.

At the Niteroi First Baptist Church recently, Nilson Fanini, a well-known Brazilian evangelist, joined in earnest prayer with two volunteers from Memphis, Tenn., David Ripley and Shad Williams.

The men were asking God to move the heart of someone to provide \$100,000 to equip a television studio for production of Fanini's evangelistic broadcasts.

Fanini, president of the Brazilian Baptist Convention's executive committee, is heard and seen regularly on 74 television stations and 18 radio stations in 200 Brazilian cities and five surrounding countries. But the tremendous cost of studio production time had become a major obstacle.

"As we rose from our knees," Fanini recalls about the prayer session, "my secretary came in and handed me a letter." It contained the news that Baptist Temple Church, Houston, Texas, would provide the money needed for the television and radio production facilities.

"Immediately we knelt again to thank God," said Fanini. "David and Shad had to pray because I was too overcome with emotion to speak."

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In Houston, Baptist Temple pastor Roy Ladd said that he first heard of the Brazilian evangelist's need when Fanini addressed last fall's meeting of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

As Fanini challenged Texas Baptists to help Brazilian Baptists achieve a centennial goal of doubling their number of churches to 6,000, Ladd said he felt God saying to him that Baptist Temple ought to give the \$100,000 needed, but to him it hardly seemed possible.

After all, the 2,100-member church was considering a 1980 budget of \$673,000 and had set a \$30,000 goal for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions.

When Ladd put the challenge before the church, he recalls, "It seemed I stood there for a week, but it must have been only a few seconds before people began to move."

First down the aisle was McGinnis Clark, who with his wife last year gave \$20,000 for Bold Mission Thrust. That gift is helping support the ministries of Mission Service Corps volunteers serving in student ministries across Brazil.

To date about \$25,000 has been given for the much needed broadcast facilities. Ladd says lay people of the church assure him the \$100,000 should be in hand well before the end of the year.

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What Kind
Of Moon?

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PONTOTOC, Miss. (BP)--Five-year-old Jessica was a flower girl in her cousin's wedding. When she returned home from the church she told her grandmother, in very exciting terms, all about the wedding.

"And then," she ended her narrative, "Belinda and Randy got in a car and went to a motel for their 'Lottie Moon.'"

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CORRECTION: In Baptist Press mailing of 2/13/80, page 6, in story entitled "Foreign Board Opposes Proposed CP Share," paragraph 4, beginning "the proposed basic operating budget gives....", please change the 48.84 percent of the 1980-81 total basic operating budget (line 4) to 48.40 percent. The 48.69 percent (of 79-80 budget) is correct, as is the \$36,059,008 on line one of the same paragraph.

Thanks

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