



March 18, 1980

80-45

Young Girl Finds True  
Meaning of Missions

By Gene Medaris

GRIFFITH, Ind. (BP)--Susanne O'Rear is like most 9-year-old girls. She likes to go skating, eat ice cream and spend money on 9-year-old girls things, but not at the expense of missions.

Just before the sermon was preached on a recent Sunday at the First Baptist Church of Griffith, Ind., pastor Thurmon Harris asked Susanne to come forward and tell the church about her plans for Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for home missions.

Without hesitation, the petite, smiling brunette with the flashing brown eyes took the microphone and became a real professional before an audience.

"My daddy raises dogs," she began, "and last fall he gave me the coupons off the dog food sacks to send back to the company to redeem for cash. Well, I was hoping to receive the money to use for Christmas, but I waited too late to send them off."

Much to her disappointment Christmas came and no money had arrived for coupon refund. About the middle of January, the wheels of "big business" ground out a computerized check to Susanne for \$18.

Early in February, Susanne, an active member of the Girls in Action missions program at her church, decided to set her goal at \$30 for the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, with the \$18 rebate as the foundation. She placed it as a starter fund and began saving her dollar-a-week allowance.

An invitation came to go skating, and she really wanted to go, but she turned it down. "If I'm going to reach my \$30 goal for missions, I'm going to have to give up some things, so I'll start here," she must have thought, for she took the sacrifice in stride.

"Last week," she told the congregation, "I was visiting in the home of a friend and someone gave me a dollar. It was the last dollar I needed to make the \$30 I had asked God to help me give."

Susanne then related some of the ways the money would be used by the missionaries, handed the microphone back to the pastor and took her seat.

The church members sat silently for a moment, then broke into a resounding applause. The meaning of missions had gotten through to them as it had to Susanne.

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Gene Medaris is editor of the Indiana Baptist.

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# -- 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 Jamecon, Feature Editor

### BUREAUS

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

**DALLAS** \_\_\_\_\_, 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

## SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION CERVANTES CONVENTION CENTER

June 10-12, 1980

St. Louis, MO

Theme: "That We May Boldly Say"  
(Hebrews 13: 6-7)

### Tuesday Morning, June 10

Session Theme: Boldness in Proclamation

- 9:00 Music for Inspiration--Sanctuary and Youth Choirs, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, TN, Thomas P. Lane, minister of music
- 9:30 Call to Order  
Congregational Singing--Thomas P. Lane, Memphis, TN, director  
Scripture (Eph. 6: 10-19)--Virginia (Mrs. Gene) Moore, Charlotte, NC  
Prayer--Acie Ford, Memphis, TN
- 9:45 Registration and Constitution of Convention Report--Lee Porter, Nashville, TN  
Committee on Order of Business Report--James L. Pleitz, Dallas, TX, chairman
- 9:55 Welcome--Mayor James Conway, St. Louis, MO
- 10:00 Response--Morris Chapman, Wichita Falls, TX
- 10:10 Recognition of Fraternal Messengers from other Baptist Bodies
- 10:20 Convention Photograph
- 10:25 Announcement of Committee on Committees, Committee on Resolutions, Committee on Tellers--Adrian Rogers, SBC president; pastor, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, TN
- 10:30 Executive Committee Report (Part 1)--Harold C. Bennett, Nashville, TN
- 11:10 Introduction of Business and Resolutions
- 11:25 Congregational Singing--Thomas P. Lane, Memphis, TN, director
- 11:30 Music--Sanctuary and Youth Choirs, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, TN,  
Thomas P. Lane, minister of music  
Soloist, Joyce (Mrs. Adrian) Rogers, Memphis, TN
- 11:35 President's Address--Adrian Rogers, Memphis, TN
- 12:00 Benediction--Len Turner, Merritt Island, FL  
Adjourn

### Tuesday Afternoon, June 10

Session Theme: Boldness in Convention Advance

- 2:00 Music for Inspiration--Senior High-College Choir, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, TN, James D. Whitmire, director
- 2:30 Congregational Singing--Bob Woolley, Jefferson City, MO, director

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Tuesday Afternoon, June 10 (continued)

- Scripture (Acts 4: 13-31)--Larry Lewis, St. Louis, MO  
 Prayer--Gary Cook, Waco, TX
- 2:45 Theme Interpretation--Harold C. Bennett, Nashville, TN  
 3:00 Election of Officers
- 3:20 Introduction of Business and Resolutions  
 3:35 Executive Committee Report (Part 2)--Harold C. Bennett, Nashville, TN  
 4:15 Stewardship Commission Report--A. R. Fagan, Nashville, TN  
 4:25 Congregational Singing--Bob Woolley, Jefferson City, MO, director  
 4:30 Business and Election of Officers  
 5:05 Benediction--Warren Hall, Los Altos, CA
- Adjourn

Tuesday Night, June 10

Session Theme: Boldness in Reaching A Lost World

- 7:00 Music for Inspiration--Missouri Music Men, Bob Woolley, director  
 Missouri Music Women, Linda Boyd, director
- 7:25 Congregational Singing--William J. Reynolds, Fort Worth, TX, director  
 Scripture (Matt. 28: 16-20)--Robert Parker, Little Rock, AR  
 Prayer--Lorene (Mrs. Donald) Murphy, Kansas City, MO
- 7:40 Theme Interpretation--Landrum P. Leavell II, New Orleans, LA  
 7:50 Business and Election of Officers  
 8:00 Bold Mission Thrust Goal Report, Harold C. Bennett, Nashville, TN  
 8:10 Foreign Mission Board Report--R. Keith Parks, Richmond, VA  
 8:45 Six SBC Seminaries Report--Milton Ferguson, Kansas City, MO, presiding  
 9:00 Congregational Singing--William J. Reynolds, Fort Worth, TX, director  
 9:10 Music--Missouri Music Men and Missouri Music Women, Bob Woolley, Jefferson  
 City, MO, director
- 9:15 Message--Doctors Giles and Wana Ann Fort, medical missionaries, Zimbabwe(Rhodesia)  
 David Fort, M.D., Dallas, TX  
 Gordon Fort, student, Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, TX
- 9:40 Benediction--Fhl Wung Seo, San Jose, CA
- Adjourn

Wednesday Morning, June 11

Session Theme: Boldness In a Changing World

- 9:00 Inspirational Music--Adult and Youth Choirs, Second Baptist Church, Houston, TX,  
 Charles Muller, minister of music
- 9:30 Congregational Singing--Thad Roberts Jr., Houston, TX, director  
 Scripture (Heb. 13: 5-8)--Luman Gillman, Pocatello, ID  
 Prayer--H. K. Sorrell, Brownsville, TN
- 9:45 Theme Interpretation--Albert McClellan, Nashville, TN  
 9:55 Committee on Committees Report
- 10:00 Committee on Boards Report  
 10:05 Miscellaneous Business  
 10:25 Radio and Television Commission Report--Jimmy R. Allen, Fort Worth, TX

Wednesday Morning, June 11 (continued)

- 10:40 Brotherhood Commission Report--James H. Smith, Memphis, TN  
 10:50 Congregational Singing--Thad Roberts Jr., Houston, TX  
 10:55 Music--Adult and Youth Choirs, Second Baptist Church, Houston, TX, Charles Muller, minister of music  
 Sololst, Cynthia Clawson, Houston, TX  
 11:00 Convention Sermon--Ed Young, Houston, TX  
 11:30 Business  
 --Committee on Resolutions (first report)  
 --Miscellaneous Business  
 12:30 Benediction--Lawana Roberts, Oklahoma City, OK  
 Adjourn

NO SESSION WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

Wednesday Night, June 11

Session Theme: Boldness in Reaching the Homeland

- 7:00 Inspirational Music--The Singing Illinoisans and the Illinois Baptist State Association Orchestra, Carl Sheppard, director  
 7:25 Congregational Singing--William J. Reynolds, Fort Worth, TX, director  
 7:35 Scripture (Acts 1: 1-8)--David Book, Lake Placid, NY  
 Prayer--Sara Ann Hobbs, Raleigh, NC  
 7:45 Theme Interpretation--Stan Coffey, Albuquerque, NM  
 7:55 Presentation of Past SBC Presidents  
 8:10 Home Mission Board Report--William G. Tanner, Atlanta, GA  
 8:45 Baptist Sunday School Board Report--Grady C. Cothen, Nashville, TN  
 9:05 Congregational Singing--William J. Reynolds, Fort Worth, TX, director  
 9:10 Music--The Singing Illinoisans and the Illinois Baptist State Association Orchestra, Carl Sheppard, director  
 9:15 Message--Stephen Olford, Wheaton, IL  
 9:40 Benediction--Phillip Lineberger, Wichita, KS  
 Adjourn

Thursday Morning, June 12

Session Theme: Boldness in Equipping the Saints

- 9:00 Inspirational Music--College Singers, Missouri Baptist College, St. Louis, MO, Marjorie Psalmonds, director  
 9:30 Congregational Singing--Bill H. Ichter, music missionary, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, director  
 Scripture (Eph. 4: 7-16)--Kenneth Stohner, Roswell, NM  
 Prayer--Norma Kennedy (Mrs. Lavonn) Brown, Norman, OK  
 9:45 Theme Interpretation--Huber Drumwright, Fort Worth, TX  
 9:55 Annuity Board Report--Darold H. Morgan, Dallas, TX  
 10:05 Woman's Missionary Union Report--Carolyn Weatherford, Birmingham, AL  
 10:15 Baptist World Alliance Report--Robert S. Denny, Washington, DC  
 10:25 Education Commission Report--Arthur L. Walker Jr., Nashville, TN  
 10:35 Southern Baptist Commission on the American Baptist Seminary Report--Arthur L. Walker Jr., Nashville, TN

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Thursday Morning, June 12 (continued)

- 10:40 Southern Baptist Foundation Report--Hollis E. Johnson III, Nashville, TN  
 10:50 Congregational Singing--Bill H. Ichter, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, director  
 11:00 Business  
 --Committee on Resolutions (final report)  
 --Miscellaneous Business  
 12:15 Benediction--Robert Kleinschmidt, Lemon Grove, CA  
 Adjourn

Thursday Afternoon, June 12

Session Theme: Boldness in Critical Times

- 2:00 Inspirational Music--Evangelistic Singers  
 3:00 Congregational Singing--Jim McNeil, St. Louis, MO, director  
 Scripture (Heb. 4: 12-16)--Ed Brown, Fresno, CA  
 Prayer--Charlotte Perkins (Mrs. J. T.) Weedman, Shawnee, OK  
 3:15 Theme Interpretation--Sarah Frances Anders, Pineville, LA  
 3:25 Historical Commission Report--Lynn E. May Jr., Nashville, TN  
 3:35 Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs Report--Porter W. Routh, Washington, DC  
 3:45 Christian Life Commission Report--Foy Valentine, Nashville, TN  
 3:55 Congregational Singing--Jim McNeil, St. Louis, MO, director  
 4:00 Business  
 --Committee on Baptist State Papers, H. Franklin Paschall, Nashville, TN, chairman  
 --Denominational Calendar Committee, Henry B. Huff, Louisville, KY, chairman  
 --Miscellaneous  
 5:00 Benediction--Joel B. Lucas, Denham Springs, LA  
 Adjourn

Thursday Night, June 12

Session Theme: Boldness in Christian Living

- 7:00 Music for Inspiration--Oklahoma Singing Churchmen, James Woodward, director  
 7:25 Congregational Singing--William J. Reynolds, Fort Worth, TX, director  
 7:35 Scripture (II Peter 3: 11-14)--T. Earl Ogg, Monroe, LA  
 7:40 Prayer--James Lamkin, Wisner, LA  
 7:45 Theme Interpretation--Grady and Eleanor Nutt, Louisville, KY  
 8:05 Music Presentation--Dean Wilder, Robert Hale and Ovid Young  
 8:20 Message--Carl Bates, Charlotte, NC  
 8:50 Benediction--Adrian Rogers, Memphis, TN  
 Adjourn

Convention Officers

Adrian P. Rogers, SBC president; pastor, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, TN  
 Abner V. McCall, SBC first vice president; president, Baylor University, Waco, TX  
 Don Touchton, SBC second vice president; pastor, Central Baptist Church, Brandon, FL  
 Martin Bradley, SBC recording secretary; manager, research services department, Baptist  
 Sunday School Board, Nashville, TN  
 Lee Porter, SBC registration secretary; design editor, Sunday School department, Baptist  
 Sunday School Board, Nashville, TN

Convention Officers (continued)

Harold C. Bennett, SBC treasurer; executive secretary-treasurer, SBC Executive Committee, Nashville, TN  
 Wilmer C. Fields, SBC press representative; assistant to the executive secretary and director of public relations, SBC Executive Committee, Nashville, TN  
 William J. Reynolds, SBC music director; guest professor of music, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, TX

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SBC Will Emphasize Bold  
 Mission Thrust in St. Louis

Baptist Press  
 3/18/80

ST. LOUIS, Mo. (BP)--Southern Baptists will emphasize the Bold Mission Thrust goal to proclaim Christ's message to the world in this century and conduct a wide variety of business in sessions of the 1980 meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention here.

The sessions will run June 10-12 at the Cervantes Convention Center under the theme, "That We May Boldly Say," as SBC President Adrian Rogers presides over the 123rd annual running of the 135-year-old SBC.

Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn., will deliver the president's address at the opening session on Tuesday morning, June 10. Elected last year at the SBC in Houston, Rogers is expected to be elected to a traditional second one-year term.

But at the SBC in St. Louis, at which about 16,000 persons are expected to register as messengers, Southern Baptists will elect successors to Abner McCall, first vice president, and Don Touchton, second vice president, and hear a series of reports.

The reports, from the SBC Executive Committee and the national SBC agencies, will be heard throughout the three-day meeting, as will other items of business, resolutions and theme interpretations.

"The purpose of the program is to inspire us to carry through on the Bold Mission Thrust, but we also want to provide enough time to hear from messengers who want to have their say and to conduct the business of the convention," said James L. Pleitz of Dallas, chairman of the SBC Committee on Order of Business.

Theme interpreters are Landrum P. Leavell II, president of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; Albert McClellan, associate executive secretary, SBC Executive Committee, Nashville; Stan Coffey, pastor of First Baptist Church, Albuquerque, N.M.; Huber Drumwright, dean of the School of Theology, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth; Sarah Frances Anders, head of the sociology department, Louisiana College, Pineville; Grady Nutt, Baptist entertainer and comedian, and his wife, Eleanor, of Louisville, Ky.; and Harold C. Bennett, executive secretary-treasurer, SBC Executive Committee.

Bennett also will coordinate a Bold Mission Thrust goals report on Tuesday night and present the Executive Committee report in two sections. He is one of five SBC chief executives making their first report to the SBC in their new capacities.

Other new leadership reporting to the convention will be Jimmy R. Allen, the immediate past SBC president and new president of the SBC Radio and Television Commission;

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R. Keith Parks, executive director, SBC Foreign Mission Board; and James H. Smith, executive director, SBC Brotherhood Commission. Porter W. Routh, who retired last July after 28 years as chief executive of the Executive Committee, also will report to the convention as interim executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

Program personnel, besides agency heads reporting to the convention, will include Dr. Giles Fort and Dr. Wana Ann Fort, medical missionaries to Zimbabwe (Rhodesia), and their sons, Dr. David Fort, Baylor Medical Center, Dallas, and Gordon Fort, a student at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth. They will appear at the Tuesday evening session.

Besides the Forts, other speakers are Ed Young, pastor of Second Baptist Church, Houston, Texas, who will deliver the convention sermon; Stephen Olford, an evangelist from Wheaton, Ill.; former SBC President Carl Bates, pastor of First Baptist Church, Charlotte, N.C.; and Mayor James Conway of St. Louis, who will welcome the messengers.

Convention music, directed by William J. Reynolds, guest professor of music at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, will include a variety of soloists and musical groups.

They are the Sanctuary, Youth and Senior High-College Choirs of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn.; The Missouri Music Men; the Missouri Music Women; the Adult and Youth Choirs, Second Baptist Church, Houston, Texas; The Singing Illinoisians and the Illinois Baptist State Association Orchestra; the College Singers, Missouri Baptist College, St. Louis; the Oklahoma Singing Churchmen; music by opera stars and sacred music vocalists Robert Hale and Dean Wilder, accompanied by Ovid Young; and soloists Cynthia Clawson, Houston, Texas, and Joyce Rogers, wife of SBC President Adrian Rogers.

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Conference Tells Importance  
Of Bible Living Over Talking

Baptist Press  
3/18/80

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)--A bevy of high-powered speakers emphasized the authority and power of the Scriptures in a Bible conference at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, but told participants it's living the Bible that counts.

The three-day Bible conference originally was to have been jointly sponsored by the seminary and planners of a series of Heart of America Bible Conferences initiated last fall by Evangelist James Robison and W. A. Criswell, pastor of First Baptist Church, Dallas, to affirm the authority of the Scripture and call for spiritual renewal.

But seminary President Russell Dilday Jr., citing "programming conflicts" with Robison, dropped him from the program and announced in February that the seminary would take over sole sponsorship of the event.

Criswell, who had a recent heart attack and who is under current doctor's advice to curtail activities not directly related to his pastorate, didn't attend the conference. Another invited speaker, Southern Baptist Convention President Adrian Rogers, was still recovering from gall bladder surgery and did not attend.

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The speakers, all Southwestern Seminary graduates, who took the podium before packed audiences of 1,200 to 1,400 in the seminary's Truett Auditorium, focused on the theme "Communicating the Message of the Bible in the '80s."

Bailey Smith, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church in Del City, Okla., described the role of the minister as a paradox. Though a man of limited abilities, the minister is tapped into an unlimited source, he said.

Smith challenged the audience, composed almost exclusively of seminary faculty, students and family members, to capitalize on those things which God has to offer by facing the confrontations of the new decade. "If you want more of the blessings of God, you will have to increase the battle," he said.

James T. Draper Jr., pastor of First Baptist Church, Euless, Texas, said the challenge of the '80s is for God to build great "evangelistic lighthouses" and to use the Bible as the blueprint.

"Preaching the authority of the Bible does not build evangelistic churches. We must believe it, but also live it," Draper said.

William M. Pinson Jr., president of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, emphasized that there's no discrimination between proclaiming the gospel and applying the gospel. Although some call application of the Christian message "the social gospel" or "liberal," it is just as important as evangelism in the life of the believer, he said.

Jimmy Allen, president of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, said he sees a new spiritual hunger and awakening in the world. While modern man may reject the witness at his door, he's constantly turning his television dial, Allen said. He feels the church should use the media as an electronic arm to reach those it could not otherwise reach.

Joel Gregory, pastor of Gambrell Street Baptist Church, Fort Worth, said institutionalized religion wears on the vitality of the church. The way to avoid this institutionalization is to engage in a healthy self-criticism of ourselves and our churches, he said.

W. Oscar Thompson, assistant professor of evangelism at Southwestern, said the No. 1 priority in a Christian life is to bear fruit. Distinguishing between leaves and fruit, Thompson said man will have to account for his fruit, not his leaves. He said baptisms, budgets and buildings are leaves. They can be used for evaluation and measurement, but fruitfulness in the Christian life is achieved by reproducing the character of Christ.

"Fruit is nothing more than the life and ministry of Christ," Thompson said.

Dilday did not formally address the conference but moderated all sessions.

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Goulding Named President  
Of Ruschlikon Seminary

Baptist Press  
3/18/80

RUSCHLIKON, Switzerland (BP)--C. Ronald Goulding of Great Britain has been elected interim president of the International Baptist Theological Seminary in Ruschlikon, Switzerland, effective Sept. 1.

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Goulding, who will be 65 in July, has been associate secretary in the Baptist World Alliance's Washington office since 1976. He is past president of the European Baptist Federation and was secretary-treasurer of the federation and associate secretary of the BWA in London, 1965-76.

Gerhard Claas of Hamburg, West Germany, secretary-treasurer of the European Baptist Federation and chairman of the seminary executive board, announced Goulding's election to the post for a period of up to three years. Goulding will replace Southern Baptist missionary Isam E. Ballenger, who is resigning to devote more time to his post as the Foreign Mission Board's field representative for Europe.

Goulding will be the first European to hold the presidency of the seminary, founded by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board in 1949. The mission board transferred administrative responsibility for the seminary to a European board of trustees, under direction of the European Baptist Federation, in October 1978.

In recent years the seminary has had financial problems stemming from devaluation of the American dollar, coupled with inflation. Though financial problems continue, seminary officials said the school operated on a balanced budget in 1979. Southern Baptists will contribute \$305,000 to operating costs this year and have pledged to continue support on a similar level.

At the Foreign Mission Board's March meeting, J.D. Hughey, the board's secretary for Europe and the Middle East, said Goulding is being asked to "continue the buildup of Ruschlikon as a Baptist center for Europe, with emphasis on evangelism, education, church growth and a correspondence course for laymen."

The school has 52 students representing 19 countries around the world. All space is reserved for the September 1980 term. In addition, the seminary sponsors a summer institute of theological education, providing special courses for European pastors and laity.

Goulding has directed two major BWA programs during his past four years in Washington-- a worldwide emphasis on evangelism and education and a million dollar annual goal for relief and development.

A native of Earlsfield, England, he was educated in both law and theology at Spurgeon's College in London. He was a pilot with the Royal Air Force during World War II and has served as pastor of several British Baptist churches. Mrs. Goulding is the former Freda Jarry, daughter of Baptist missionaries to India.

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(BP) photo mailed to Baptist state newspapers by Richmond bureau of Baptist Press.