



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 _____, Chief, 103 Baptist Building, Dallas, Tex. 75201, Telephone (214) 741-1996

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

NASHVILLE (Baptist Sunday School Board) Lloyd T. Householder, 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

May 2, 1980

80-72

Adrian Rogers Announces
SBC Committee on Committees

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP)--Jerry Glisson, pastor of Leawood Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn., has been named chairman of the Southern Baptist Convention's Committee on Committees by SBC President Adrian Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis.

Glisson is one of 52 persons, including 17 lay persons and 35 church or denominational persons, announced by Rogers. They come from 26 state Baptist conventions qualifying for SBC representation. The committee will meet in St. Louis just before the SBC meeting there, June 10-12, to name the SBC Committee on Boards.

That Committee on Boards, which will be listed in the bulletin at the SBC in St. Louis, will convene after the St. Louis meeting to compile a list of nominees for positions on boards of trustees of SBC agencies to be voted on at the 1981 SBC meeting in Los Angeles.

The Committee on Boards named in St. Louis will consist of 52 persons, equally divided between lay persons and church or denominational persons, with one lay person and one church or denominational person from each of the 26 state conventions qualifying for SBC representation.

The Committee on Committees announced by Rogers is as follows:

Alabama--Jimmy Jackson, pastor, Whitesburg Baptist Church, Huntsville, and James Gunn of Bessemer, lay member, Vineland Park Baptist Church, Hueytown; Arizona--Richard Jackson, pastor, North Phoenix (Ariz.) Church, and Harold Friend, lay member, First Southern Baptist Church, Scottsdale; Arkansas--Tommy Hinson, pastor, First Church, West Memphis, and Bill Bennett, pastor, First Church, Fort Smith; California--Glenn Paden, pastor, First Church, Sacramento, and Robert Zinn, pastor, Immanuel Church, San Bernardino; Colorado--Jim Henderson, pastor, Estes Park (Colo.) Church, and Bob Oxford, lay member, Applewood Church, Wheat Ridge; District of Columbia--C. Wade Freeman Jr., pastor, Capitol Hill Metropolitan Church, and Mrs. Worth Grant, lay member, Temple Church;

Also, Florida--Joe Boatwright, pastor, Aloma Church, Winter Park, and Doyle I. Carlton, lay member, First Church, Merritt Island; Georgia--A. B. Hatfield, pastor, Alpreta Church, Alpharetta; and Mrs. Grace Kinser, lay member, First Church, Atlanta; Illinois--John Thomason, pastor, Temple Church, Champaign, and Edmund Hill, pastor, Bayle Church, Ramsey; Indiana--Garland Morrison, pastor, Sunnycrest Church, Marion, and Elvis Marcum, pastor, Graceland Church, New Albany; Kansas-Nebraska--James Jeffrey of Overland Park, Kan., lay member, Leawood (Kan.) Church, and Gene Hawkins, pastor, First Church, Topeka, Kan.; Kentucky--John Hicks, lay member, Cedar Creek Church, Louisville, and Harold Cathey, pastor, Unity Church, Ashland;

Also, Louisiana--Ron Harrod, pastor, First Church, Keener, and Dick Quick, lay member, First Church, Baton Rouge; Maryland--Walter Agnor, director of missions, Susquehanna Baptist Association, Aberdeen, and Daniel Allen, pastor, Seabrook (Md.) Church; Michigan--Milton Wood, pastor, Gorham Church, Jackson, and David French, pastor, First Church, Swartz Creek; Mississippi--Dr. Russell Bush Sr., lay member, First Church, Columbia; and Joe McKeever, pastor, First Church, Columbus; Missouri--William Copeland, lay member, Kirkwood Church, Webster Grove, and Gary Robnett, pastor, First Church, Bethany; New Mexico--Tom Clayton Jr., pastor, First Church, Hobbs, and Stan Coffey, pastor, First Church, Albuquerque; North Carolina--Mark Corts, pastor, Calvary Church, Winston-Salem, and Mrs. Lavenia Blackburn, lay member, Pleasant Hill Church, Elkin;

Also, Northwest--William Peters, interim executive secretary and director of missions, Northwest Baptist Convention, Portland, Ore., and Don Clark, pastor, Orchards Church, Lewiston, Idaho; Ohio--J.W. Bearden Jr., of Cincinnati, lay member, First Church, Mt. Healthy; and Walter Davis, pastor, Dayton Avenue Church, Xenia; Oklahoma--Jerry Don Abernathy, director of evangelism for Oklahoma Baptists, Oklahoma City, and Robert Harris of Edmond, lay member, First Southern Baptist Church, Del City; South Carolina--Ira Craft, lay member, First Church, Columbia, and Alastair Walker, pastor, First Church, Spartanburg;

Also, Tennessee--Roland Maddox, lay member, Bellevue Church, Memphis, and Jerry Glisson, pastor, Leawood Church, Memphis; Texas--Fred Wolfe, pastor, First Church, Lubbock, and Mrs. Evelyn Linebery, lay member, First Church, Midland; Virginia--Wayne Poplin, pastor, First Church, Suffolk, and Dan Shirkey, pastor, Tabernacle Church, Newport News.

-30-

Care for Pre-schoolers
Set for SBC in St. Louis

Baptist Press
5/2/80

ST. LOUIS (BP)--Pre-school childcare will be provided at the Cervantes Convention Center for out-of-town messengers only during the general sessions of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 10-12, in St. Louis.

Children born in 1974 or later may be registered for care while parents attend the morning, afternoon and evening sessions of the SBC on Tuesday, June 10; the morning and evening sessions, Wednesday, June 11; and the morning, afternoon and evening sessions, Thursday, June 12. No afternoon session is scheduled on June 11. Cost is \$7 per child per session payable at the time of registration.

Children will be cared for under the following guidelines: Childcare facilities will open 30 minutes before opening of each session and close 15 to 20 minutes after the session. An additional \$5 will be charged for children picked up late. No food service will be available. Children will be registered by parents and picked up by parents and will be checked in by a registered nurse at the beginning of each session. In case of emergency, the SBC First Aid Committee will be contacted and parents notified.

-30-

Cuban Doctor Delivers Baby on Rescue Boat

MIAMI (BP)--Miami Baptists got an unexpected helping hand from the very group they're struggling feverishly to assist--a Cuban refugee.

A Cuban Baptist doctor, using a borrowed pocket knife and cologne, delivered a baby on one of the 2,000 small boats that have clogged the sea lanes between Key West and Cuba since Fidel Castro gave permission for Cubans to leave the island nation.

The baby, named No. 7 after the boat it was on, is one of at least two that have been born on the boats of all descriptions that hauled 1,800 refugees into Key West April 29 alone.

"Without faith in Christ, I could not have helped the woman because Christ moves your hand and helps you," said the doctor. "A Christian isn't a Christian without the faith that he can improve the human condition."

Six buses from Southern Baptist churches in Miami ferried 175 refugees from Key West. As drivers of two of the buses passed out tracts to their passengers, the passengers said, "We're Baptists too." It turned out that all but two or three of the nearly three dozen passengers on the buses were members of McCall Baptist Church in Cuba.

As the number of refugees has approached the 5,000 mark, the 38 Spanish-speaking churches in the Miami Baptist Association have formed three committees to handle the crisis. They are housing and transportation, food and clothing, and job search and resettlement, according to Daniel Rodriguez, pastor of Getsemani Baptist Church.

Rodriguez said the crisis has created a spirit of unity and cooperation in the Cuban community and has attracted increasing support of Anglo churches. Church people, Spanish and Anglo, have worked around the clock shifts to handle the influx.

The crisis has also created "a burning desire" on the part of many Cubans to get their friends and relatives out of Cuba at any cost and anyway they can, according to Everett Hullum of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board who visited the scene.

Besides financial contributions, a major need now, according to the Miami Baptist Association, is for people to loan trailers and campers for temporary housing for refugees. They will be located in the Miami Association's campgrounds in Florida City, about 35 miles from Miami. John Pistoni, language director for the association, is coordinating the relief effort.

Meanwhile, Miami Cubans continue to put boats in the water toward Cuba, although reports from returning boat captains indicate at least 1,500 boats were backed up in Mariel Harbor in Cuba awaiting assignment of refugees to bring back.

Discouraged boat captains reported it may be as long as a month before the boats now in harbor can be filled. They give lists of family members to Cuban officials for transportation back to the States and then wait. In the meantime, reports indicate Cubans there are capitalizing on the unpreparedness of boat captains from Miami and charging as much as \$25 for a bucket of ice and similarly high prices for food and fuel.

Roberto Lafita, a Baptist refugee on an early boat, said refugees are flooding out of Cuba because "no matter how much you work, you can't improve your family's welfare. There's no way you can get ahead. The government is always asking for more sacrifice from the people for the government. Religious people have a hard time getting a better job. You have to be political to get ahead, but religious people refuse to join the party."

Lafita, a member of Central Baptist Church in Havana where his wife and two children remain, said, "Castro is always talking about human rights. But the way I've been treated here (in the U.S.), I can see what human rights are. Human rights here are what human rights should be."

Would-be rescuers were not deterred by tornado winds that whipped and sank some of the 18-foot to 26-foot craft that filled the waters. The Coast Guard reported 211 emergency operations in the first four days of the rescue.

-30-

Hunger Funds Appropriated
For Cuban Refugees in Peru

Baptist Press
5/2/80

LIMA, Peru (BP)--Southern Baptist missionaries and Peruvian Baptists are using \$10,000 in hunger relief money from the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board to distribute food to a wave of Cuban refugees who are arriving in Peru to resettle.

Refugees were allowed to leave Cuba after some Cubans went to the Peruvian Embassy in Havana to seek political asylum. On learning of the desire of Cubans to come to Peru, missionaries requested hunger relief funds from the Foreign Mission Board to begin relief efforts.

Food is an immediate need of most refugees who had to leave everything they had in Cuba, according to J. Bryan Brasington, Foreign Mission Board secretary for eastern South America. He said that missionaries and national Baptist workers have been given passes to go into the refugee areas.

Besides hunger relief efforts, Baptist relief workers are giving refugees packets of Christian materials. Each packet contains a New Testament, a set of tracts, and a letter telling about Peru and introducing Baptists. The letter includes names and addresses of people in Baptist churches for refugees to contact if they need assistance.

Southern Baptist missionaries most directly involved are Rodolph Dixon, chairman of the Peru Baptist Mission, and Steve Diltmore, area missionary from Lima.

-30-