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News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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August 7, 1980

80-126

Record Budget, Outreach Project  
Approved by Sunday School Board

By Linda Lawson

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)--Trustees of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board approved a record 1980-81 operating budget of \$107.6 million and authorized a two-year test project for reaching unchurched persons in densely populated areas.

The project will test a strategy for reaching people that does not demand the usual amount of church land, buildings and centralized meetings.

In a wide-ranging report in which he characterized the state of the agency as "healthy," board President Grady Cothen said the monthly circulation for the board's home Bible study program has reached 185,000.

"This is a great ministry," Cothen said. "We have concluded it will never pay for itself, but the ministry must continue as one of the non-profit services provided through sales of literature and other products."

The 1980-81 budget represents an increase of \$12 million over the projected 1979-80 income of \$95.6 million and is the first budget of any Southern Baptist Convention agency to exceed \$100 million.

Trustees approved an increase in the church literature pricing formula which will result in an average increase in literature prices of 8.9 percent, a rate Cothen noted is 5.3 percent below the 14.2 percent inflation rate for the fiscal year ending June 30.

"We're happy about the real growth we're experiencing," Cothen said. He said the board is exploring ways to market materials through new distribution channels in the United States and several foreign countries.

However, he said, "For us to stay financially well in the present circumstances requires daily attention."

Trustees also approved an increase in the conference services fee and the food services fees at Glorieta and Ridgecrest, effective in the summer of 1981. There will be no increase in housing rates.

For persons in the seventh grade and above, the conference services fee will be increased from \$22 to \$24 and the weekly food services rate will be increased from \$49.50 to \$54.90.

The experimental outreach project approved by the trustees will be conducted by the board in cooperation with West Memorial Baptist Church in Houston, Texas, and 60 other Southern Baptist churches in highly populated areas. Trustees appropriated \$40,000 toward the project.

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Ralph Neighbour Jr., pastor of the Houston church, will direct the two-year West Memorial Project to begin in October 1980.

Morton Rose, vice president of church programs and services, said the strategy represents "an innovation in methods for performing the tasks of the church." Sunday School and morning worship are conducted at the church but training, missions, ministries, prayer, and personal evangelism efforts take place at a variety of locations and times.

Rose emphasized the project is a test and said, "We are not at this time recommending the West Memorial strategy to Southern Baptist churches."

Cothen reported that several attendance records have been set during summer conference weeks at Glorieta and Ridgecrest Conference Centers.

Because the Centrifuge youth camp conducted by the church recreation department at each center was filled each week, he announced the addition in 1981 of camps at Mobile (Ala.) College and Hannibal-LaGrange (Mo.) College.

Also approved were the addition of a quarterly Young Musicians Resource Kit and a quarterly publication for church organists and pianists, "Pedalpoint," both beginning in October 1981.

Changes approved in existing church literature products, effective October 1982, included:

- changing "Collegiate Bible Study" in title and focus to "Single Adult Bible Study;"
- combining "Sunday School Youth A" and "Sunday School Youth B" into one periodical, "Sunday School Youth;"
- changing the titles of "Exploring A" and "Exploring C" church training children's products to "Exploring I" and "Exploring II."

The trustees authorized a study of the salary scale for professional employees at the board.

Ted Sisk, pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church, Lexington, Ky., was elected chairman of the trustees. Other officers elected were Robert Taylor, a Nashville attorney, as vice-chairman and chairman of the executive committee, and Henry Love, minister of church administration at First Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn., recording secretary.

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Padilla to Join Board  
As Language Consultant

Baptist Press  
8/7/80

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)--Concepcion (Chuck) Padilla will join the Baptist Sunday School Board as general field services consultant in the church programs and services language unit Sept. 1. Padilla is currently on the staff of the Southern Baptist General Convention of California.

The language unit is responsible for editing adult Sunday School materials in Spanish and other languages.

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Padilla will organize and implement a field service program utilizing Spanish materials available to Southern Baptist churches on the Spanish church literature order form, according to Alcides Guajardo, supervisor of the language unit.

Padilla also will assist churches in developing strategies for reaching the more than 20 million Hispanics living in the United States. In statistics compiled by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board it is estimated that the Hispanic birthrate of 1.8 percent plus the influx of legal and illegal persons from Latin America will add one million people a year to the population of the United States during the 1980s.

Padilla has worked on the California staff since 1969—as church growth consultant 1969–1976 and, since 1976, as associate director of the Sunday School department.

A Texas native, Padilla is a graduate of Texas A & M University and Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary.

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Home Board Appoints 48,  
Adds Muslim Consultant

Baptist Press  
8/7/80

ATLANTA (BP)—Directors of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board approved five personnel moves and appointed 48 persons to mission service during their summer meeting.

George W. Braswell Jr., professor of missions and world religions at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C., was named sabbatical consultant for Baptist-Muslim relations.

A former missionary to Iran, Braswell will spend the next year collecting data, teaching, writing, attending meetings and working on projects which will increase Baptists' understanding of the Muslim world.

"Braswell's work will be important because of the increased interest Americans and Southern Baptists have shown in the Muslim world in recent months," said Glenn Igleheart, director of the Home Mission Board interfaith witness department.

Braswell is a graduate of Wake Forest University, Yale University Divinity School, the University of North Carolina and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

While in Iran, he was associate director of Armaghan Institute in Tehran and professor at the University of Tehran and Damavand College in Tehran.

Wayne M. Grinstead of Atlanta, formerly a producer in the board's audiovisuals department, was promoted to staff level and named director of audiovisual production services.

David D. Benham of Atlanta, formerly associate director of the board's church extension division, was named associate director and administrative assistant of the division.

Thomas F. Thrailkill of Atlanta, formerly assistant director of the board's church loans division, was named associate director of the division.

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Joseph A. Gatlin of Atlanta, formerly director of purchasing services, was named director of purchasing and building services. His job responsibilities have not changed, but the title shift was made to reflect his present responsibilities.

Persons approved for missions were four missionaries, 10 missionary associates, four mission pastor interns and 30 persons who will receive church or language pastoral assistance.

Named missionaries were Charles and Daisy Joyner of Lacey, Wash., and Santos and Josie Martinez of Beeville, Texas.

Appointed missionary associates were Wayland and Ida Boyd of Eunice, N.M.; Noe and Carmen Ortiz of Kingsville, Texas; Boyd and Ruby Rayburn of Moore, Okla., Cecil and Gail Wetherholt of Beckley, W.Va.; and Ernesto and Virginia Yhanes of Hialeah, Fla.

The Joyners will remain in Lacey, where he will be a church starter. He has been a pastor of churches in Tennessee, Louisiana and Washington and has been a church starter in Seattle, Wash., since 1976. He is a graduate of Union University and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

The Martinez couple will move to Trinidad, Colo., where he will be a catalytic language missionary. He has been a pastor and minister of education for churches in Texas and has been a Home Mission Board missionary associate in language work. He is a graduate of the University of Corpus Christi and Southwestern Seminary.

The Boyds will remain in New Mexico, where he will be director of missions for Southeastern New Mexico Baptist Association. He is a graduate of Hardin-Simmons University and has been pastor of churches in Texas and New Mexico.

The Ortiz couple will move to Beeville, Texas, where he will be a catalytic language missionary to the Hispanics in the Blanco Bend Baptist Association. He has been a pastor and Home Mission Board missionary associate in language work in Texas. He is a graduate of Rio Grande Bible Institute and Texas A & I University.

The Rayburns will serve in Norman, Okla., where he will be a church planter. A graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University and Southwestern Seminary, he has been pastor of churches in Oklahoma.

The Wetherholts will remain in Beckley, where he will be a church starter. He has been a pastor of churches in Texas and West Virginia and is a graduate of Southwestern Seminary.

The Yhanes couple will move to Miami, Fla., where he will be a language pastoral missionary at South Miami Heights Baptist Church. He has been a pastor in Cuba and was imprisoned there from 1965 to 1968 because of his Christian faith. He is a graduate of Seminario Teologico Bautista.

Named mission pastor interns were Bill and Becky Read of Durango, Colo., and James Darrell and Carol Suzanne Rivers of Cascilla, Miss.

Approved to receive church pastoral assistance were William Barclay Jr. and Beverly Barclay of Summit, Ill.; Bob and Oakie Lea Blevins of Reynoldsburg, Ohio; Keith and Joann Oliver of Memphis, Tenn.; John and Anne Greenway of Sheboygan Falls, Wis.; Ken and Donna Beth Jones of Sarasota, Fla.; Terrence and Deborah Ruth New of Blanchester, Ohio; Roger Dean and Sara Stacy of Crystal Springs, Miss.

Granted language pastoral assistance were Ramon and Ildelisa Aleman of Guymon, Okla.; Simon Suhkul and Esther Cho of Fresno, Calif.; Bernardino and Raquel Hernandez of Dexter, N.M.; Llipre Eduardo and Milca Hernandez of Hialeah, Fla.; Daniel Jai-Kyu and Jung Sook Lee of Canoga Park, Calif.; May Van and Khanh Tuyet Nguyen of Oklahoma City, Okla.; Van Van and Hong Thi Nguyen of Orlando, Fla.; and An Minh and Nan Thi Phan of Fayetteville, N.C.

In other measures, directors approved a resolution which moved the board's office of Mission Service Corps coordination from the services section to the missions section and attached to the office of the director of that section.

"This move places Mission Service Corps in a direct relation to the part of the Home Mission Board which has the largest involvement with the program—the missions section," said Missions Section Director Gerald Palmer.

"The move will not decrease the involvement of Mission Service Corps with other sections of the board. MSC will continue to have a major involvement in the area of evangelism," he added.

Directors also approved a resolution which changed the name of the department of cooperative ministries with National Baptists to the black church relations department.

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Film Crews Dispatched  
To Catch Allen in Action

Baptist Press  
8/7/80

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)--The Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission dispatched two film crews to catch Hurricane Allen in its fury as it threatened the United States gulf coast and to film Baptist relief follow-up.

Allen, the largest hurricane to enter the Caribbean in this century, was expected to hit somewhere along the Texas coast and Southern Baptist disaster relief teams from Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas were standing by to aid victims immediately.

"By placing crews at both points, we can get the full scope of the storm and the damage as well as the efforts of relief teams in caring for those hit the worst," said Bob Taylor, director of the commission's broadcast division. "We also plan to encompass the underlying Christian witness occurring as people provide first aid, food, clothing, shelter, and whatever else is needed."

After the hurricane is over, camera crews will film the rebuilding projects in which SBC disaster teams will be involved to show how Baptist state conventions work together with more than 30 other organizations to help people of all faiths in crisis situations.

The Radio and Television Commission plans to use the film footage either as part of the documentary co-produced with NBC-TV or as a separate special produced entirely by the Radio and Television Commission. Either way, the program should be released sometime around the first of 1981, Taylor said.

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CORRECTION: In (BP) story mailed Aug. 6 entitled "Smith's 'Starlite Crusade' Success in Del City Field," the reference to Second Baptist Church in Houston in paragraph five should read First Baptist Church. The year was 1971.

Thanks, Baptist Press