

(BP)**BAPTIST PRESS**

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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Nashville, Tennessee 37219
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August 8, 1980

80-127

Home Board Allocates**'81 Offering Funds**

By Marv Knox

ATLANTA (BP)—Allocation of a \$17.25 million Annie Armstrong Easter Offering goal for 1981 was approved by directors of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board during their summer meeting.

The allocation divides the offering into three basic categories: support of Home Mission Board missionaries and field ministries, \$12.8 million; support of special projects, \$2.1 million; and advance in critical areas, \$2.35 million.

Eight areas of work are included in the missionary and field ministries category. These are evangelism projects, \$955,000; church extension, \$2.73 million; Christian social ministries, \$1.95 million; language missions, \$4.22 million; interfaith witness, \$222,000; black church relations, \$634,000; chaplaincy ministries, \$129,000; and associational missions, \$1.96 million.

Funds set aside in the special projects category will be distributed to 26 areas of work. They range from financing the service of more than 1,000 summer missionaries to providing Woman's Missionary Union literature in foreign languages to increasing missionary salaries and funding leadership training for bivocational pastors.

All funds received in excess of the \$17.25 million goal will be used for Bold Mission Thrust efforts in evangelism and missions. Bold Mission Thrust is the convention goal of presenting the gospel to every person in the world by the year 2000.

"These allocations have not been taken lightly," said Howard Cockrum of Knoxville, Tenn., president of the board. "Each item has been taken seriously in light of what we're trying to do—spread the good news of Jesus Christ."

"It's obvious that these allocations will ultimately depend on the effectiveness of the offering," said William G. Tanner, Home Mission Board executive director-treasurer. "The fate of much of our mission work is dependent upon the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering."

Approximately one-half of the board's operating expenses are underwritten by the offering. The Southern Baptist Cooperative Program is the other primary source of revenue, and other gifts and related sources contribute a smaller amount.

Speaking to the directors before they approved the allocation, Tanner noted that the 1980 Annie Armstrong offering is less than \$50,000 from its goal of \$15.5 million. He said the offering is 16.6 percent ahead of the same time last year and added that projections indicate the offering will surpass its goal and reach \$16 million.

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"We realize how essential the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering is in this period of time when we are striving to reach the aims of Bold Mission Thrust," Tanner said. "I'm grateful Southern Baptists are responding so well to this offering. It's obvious that they have rallied behind this cause."

While praising the board's offering, Tanner also reaffirmed the value of the Cooperative Program, the convention's unified budget. "There's not a better lifeline to evangelism and missions," he said.

"The foundation of what Southern Baptists have done in the last 55 years can be directly linked to churches' participation in the Cooperative Program," he added. "That's because it has enabled us to do cooperatively what we could never, never do acting individually."

"The Cooperative Program means more to Southern Baptists than just dollars," he said. "It's the element which holds us together."

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New Law Could Change Way
Missionaries Enter Brazil

By Mike Livingston

Baptist Press
8/8/80

BRASILIA, Brazil (BP)—A new Brazilian immigration law—passed by congress but not yet signed by President Joao Baptista Figueiredo—may affect the ways missionaries will be able to enter the country.

If the new legislation becomes law all future immigrants would be issued temporary visas which would have to be renewed every two to five years. In the past, under Brazil's liberal immigration laws, many immigrants, including several Southern Baptist missionaries, have been granted permanent visas. Southern Baptists have more than 300 missionaries in Brazil, a larger number than in any other country.

The bill had a deadline date by which it had to be considered by congress or it would automatically become law. So a group—which was not a quorum—met at midnight Aug. 5, and voted to send the bill back to the president.

The president can now do two things: He can sign a decree by which the bill becomes law or he can return the measure to congress. Figueiredo has indicated that some modification will be made in the law.

Newspaper reports have stated that the bill was automatically enacted and went into effect Aug. 5, when a 40-day deadline passed for congress to act.

But an attorney for the Southern Baptist missionaries in Brazil was present when voting took place and has given different information.

According to Thurmon E. Bryant, area director for Southern Baptist missionaries in eastern South America, "Our lawyer said the president has not signed the measure and it will not become law until he does."

Diplomatic analysts have acknowledged that the bill, the so-called Foreigners Law, is a long-overdue measure signaling an end to the great wave of immigration that made the nation as culturally varied as the United States and more ethnically mixed.

Next year Southern Baptists will celebrate 100 years of ministry in Brazil, the first South American country entered by the denomination.

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-- FEATURES

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New Evangelistic Zeal
Wins Italians to Christ

By Martha Skelton

ROME, Italy (BP)—Pastors are elated. Church members are enthusiastic. Veteran missionaries can't recall anything like it for at least the past 20 years. An interest in reaching out, witnessing, evangelizing has taken root and budded among Italian Baptists.

A combination of factors and their timing seem to have contributed to a visible stirring...an openness to the Holy Spirit's leading in reaching beyond the church walls to share the gospel with the millions of Italy's non-Christians.

Pastor Angelo Chiarelli of Via Urbana Baptist Church, Rome, recalls the individual responses and churchwide growth his congregation experienced after participating in evangelistic meetings last fall.

"One man in our church is a bank manager, very shy," he explains. "He took days of vacation, went into the streets giving out tracts and inviting people to come. All the people are interested in inviting. They say to me, 'Now, pastor, don't stop.' As a pastor it was a thing for which I prayed so long."

Much of the new vitality is expressed in congregations such as Chiarelli's. That is not an accident.

"The church is the agent of evangelism. We don't do evangelism as a department," says Saverio Guarna, pastor of the Baptist church in Isola del Liri and secretary for evangelism of the Baptist Evangelical Union of Italy. The department emphasizes outreach through church units.

"Revival starts in a single church when the Holy Spirit blows, and one, two, or three people are ready to hear him and open their lives to the newness of the Spirit," observes pastor Mario Marziale of the Baptist church in Florence, Italy.

Baptists are also using cooperative efforts through an association, other Protestant groups, and in jointly sponsored campaigns.

Five or six years ago, the nine churches in Piemonte Baptist Association began to discuss how to "get out of our eggshells to meet the public," says Michele Foligno, a pastor in Turin and president of the association. "We wanted to break the confining mentality in which we were living. We began to realize each church could do something, but together we might be able to do something better. The association took the idea of actual, direct, overt evangelism."

The effort has become "our reason for being," says Foligno.

Because Baptists and other evangelical groups--counted together--are a religious minority, they find joint efforts effective. "Protestant organizations together can speak better," says Marziale, who serve on a pastors' council in Florence.

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Earlier experiences with evangelistic campaigns had not been successful for Italian Baptists. The American-style meetings just didn't reach Italian non-Christians, they found. But renewed interest and enthusiasm is exhibited by churches which have participated in recent campaigns designed along the lines Italian Baptists themselves have worked out in conjunction with missionaries, other European Baptists, and Baptists from America.

Last fall teams from churches in England, France, Holland, and the United States came to Italy to undergird such a campaign. The meetings were coordinated by the World Evangelism Foundation, a Texas-based group. The results were decisions for Christ, and spiritually challenged churches.

With such a basis from which to build, Guarna foresees expanded evangelistic outreach on both individual and cooperative levels. But he will continue to emphasize the primary role of the local church in whatever efforts are made.

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Walker: Fall Campaign May See
Most Ever 'Religious' Emphasis

By Rex Hammock

Baptist Press
8/8/80

CLINTON, Miss. (BP)—"My candidate is a better Christian than your candidate" may well become a major campaign slogan during this year's U.S. presidential election, predicted Arthur L. Walker Jr., in a commencement address to summer graduates of Mississippi College.

If President Jimmy Carter wins the Democratic nomination, "there will likely be included in the campaigning this fall the most obvious use of religious commitment or conviction in modern times," said Walker, executive director-treasurer of the Education Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Walker recalled that fellow Southern Baptist Jimmy Carter brought the phrase "born-again Christian" into the language of the public media during his 1976 presidential bid. Already, supporters of Republican nominee Ronald Reagan are also describing him as "born-again," and he has the support of groups with such names as the "Christian Voice" and the "Moral Majority."

This development has thrust "a new kind of religion" into the political arena, Walker told the graduates.

Americans are accustomed to religious terminology being included in politics, but this year "there are individuals with definite religious beliefs who wish to be publicly identified with particular political positions," said Walker.

"More religious terminology is in use today than perhaps any other time in our history," Walker said. "There is a sense in which 'religion' has permeated our society."

Yet with all the talk, there is still a need for a deeper understanding of religion, he countered. "The events on both the domestic and the foreign scene have proven...that there is a new need for examining religious approaches."

Walker said "an adequate theology would save us from the energy sapping, time consuming, vacuous babblings of uninstructed, uninformed, uninspired religionists" that would save us from provincial approaches within Christianity that "attempt to force the doctrines of God and His Word into preconceived categories."

One good effect of religion becoming a major issue in the current political campaign may be the awareness to some "of the value of giving attention to theology in today's world," he said.

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MEMORANDUM

To: State Baptist Paper Personnel
 FROM: Baptist Press
 Re: Baptist Press Writers

This is a revision of the list of names and identifications of writers whose bylines have appeared, or may appear, in Baptist Press. The first list was sent in April 1978; the second in August 1979.

This list is not exhaustive. It does not include state paper personnel, all of whom are known to you. There may be others who are not listed. We plan to update this from time to time, but you will need to update your list as new bylines and stories concerning personnel changes appear in Baptist Press.

Also, you may check such sources as the SBC telephone directory (prepared every other year by W. C. Fields), the SBC Annual and the roster of the Baptist Public Relations Association.

We hope you find this information helpful.

Robert O'Brien

RO:fr
 Enclosure

DARGAN-CARVER LIBRARY
 S. B. C. HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

ALLEN, Catherine, director of public relations and assistant to executive director,
Woman's Missionary Union, Birmingham, AL

ARMSTRONG, Jerilynn W., news writer, Baptist General Convention of Texas,
Dallas, TX

BAKER, John, associate director in charge of research services and general counsel,
Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, Washington, DC

BARONE, Terry, information consultant, Baptist General Convention of Texas,
Dallas, TX

BILLINGER, Pat, missionary press representative, Liberia

BIRD, Craig, director, Public Relations Department, Hardin-Simmons University,
Abilene, TX

BLOSKAS, John, vice president and director of public relations, Annuity Board,
Dallas, TX

BOATWRIGHT, Bill, director of communications, North Carolina Baptist Convention,
Raleigh, NC

BOWDEN, Anita, news editor and staff writer, SBC Foreign Mission Board,
Richmond, VA

BRACKIN, John L., missionary publications worker, Manila, Philippines

BRANNON, Thomas J., director of public relations, Baptist General Convention of
Texas; chief, Dallas bureau of Baptist Press, Dallas, TX

BROWN, Linda, development coordinator, Baptist World Alliance,
Washington, DC

BRYANT, Cyril E., (title effective Oct. 1, 1980), assistant to the general secretary,
Baptist World Alliance, Washington, DC

BUSH, Harry T. Jr., missionary press representative, Indonesia

BYARD, Rod, assistant to president for communications, Southeastern Baptist
Seminary, Wake Forest, NC

CAMPBELL, Bracey, managing editor, Nashville Banner, Nashville, TN

CHESSER, Larry, assistant to the director of information, Baptist Joint Committee
on Public Affairs, Washington, DC

CRESWELL, Michael D., associate editor, The Commission magazine, SBC Foreign
Mission Board, Richmond, VA

CRISMAN, Larry, associate director of public relations, SBC Annuity Board,
Dallas, TX

DAVIS, Connie, managing editor, Crusader, SBC Brotherhood Commission, Memphis, TN

DAVIS, Mike, director, editorial services department, SBC Brotherhood Commission,
Memphis, TN

DENI, Laura, free lance writer, Las Vegas, NV

DESBIEN, Robert, director of public relations, Midwestern Baptist Seminary,
Kansas City, Mo

DEWEESE, Charles W., director of editorial services, SBC Historical Commission,
Nashville, TN

DUKE, Irma, information coordinator and assistant director of news and information,
SBC Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, VA

FIELDS, Tim, director of communications, SBC Christian Life Commission,
Nashville, TN

FIELDS, Wilmer C., assistant to the executive secretary, director of public relations
and director of Baptist Press, SBC Executive Committee, Nashville, TN

FRANKLIN, Carol, minister of education, First Baptist Church, Washington, DC
FULLER, Frances, missionary press representative, Lebanon

HAMMOCK, H. Rex, director of communications, SBC Education Commission,
Nashville, TN

HAMPTON, Roberta, missionary to Brazil

HASTEY, Stan, director in charge of news and information services, associate director,
Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs; and chief, Washington
bureau of Baptist Press, Washington, DC

HASTINGS, C. Brownlow, assistant director, Department of Interfaith Witness,
SBC Home Mission Board, Atlanta, GA

HEPBURN, Don, director of public relations and communications, Southern
Baptist General Convention of California, Fresno, CA

HILL, Leonard E., managing editor, Baptist Program, SBC Executive Committee,
Nashville, TN

HOLLAWAY, Lee, director of communications, SBC Seminary Extension Department,
Nashville, TN

HOUSEHOLDER, Lloyd, director, office of communications, and chief, Sunday School
Board bureau of Baptist Press, Nashville, TN

HULLUM, Everett, associate editor, Home Missions magazine, SBC Home Mission
Board, Atlanta, GA

JENNINGS, Roy, director, communications section, SBC Brotherhood Commission;
and chief, Memphis bureau of Baptist Press, Memphis, TN

KEITH, Bill, city editor, Shreveport Journal, LA

KERSTAN, Reinhold (title effective Oct. 1, 1980), associate secretary of communications,
Baptist World Alliance, Washington, DC

KING, Ben Jr., entertainment writer, San Antonio Express-News, San Antonio, TX

KNIGHT, Walker, editor, Home Missions magazine; director, editorial services

KNOX, Marv, assistant news editor, SBC Home Mission Board, Atlanta, GA

KUNG, Peter, director of Chinese church growth for Home Mission Board and language
missions consultant for the Sunday School Board and Seminary Extension
Department, Nashville, TN

LITTLE, Barbara, supervisor of news and information, Midwestern Baptist Seminary,
Kansas City, MO

LIVINGSTON, Mike, senior staff writer, SBC Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, VA

LONG, Gwen, promotion assistant, SBC Home Mission Board, Atlanta, GA

LOUCKS, Celeste, book editor, SBC Home Mission Board, Atlanta, GA

LOWRY, Jim, program interpretation specialist, Office of Communications, Sunday
School Board, Nashville, TN

McDONALD, Erwin L., religion editor, Arkansas Democrat; editor emeritus, Arkansas
Baptist Newsmagazine, Little Rock, AR

MEEKER, Frances, church news editor, Nashville Banner, TN

MOORE, Louis A., religion editor, Houston Chronicle, Houston, TX

MYERS, Vern, editorial assistant, Baptist Press, SBC Executive Committee, Nashville, TN

NASH, Stanton, vice president for development, Golden Gate Seminary, Mill Valley, CA

NEWTON, Jim, editor, World Mission Journal, SBC Brotherhood Commission,
Memphis, TN

O'BRIEN, Robert, overseas news coordinator, SBC Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, VA

OWEN, Jennifer Bryon, communications specialist, Book Store Division, SBC Sunday
School Board, Nashville, TN

- PARMLEY, Helen, religion editor, Dallas Morning News, Dallas, TX
- PATILLO, Wesley M. (Pat), vice president for development, Southern Baptist Seminary, Louisville, KY
- PEIRONNETT, Mary Jane, religion and people editor, Dispatch newspapers, Kansas City, MO
- POOLE, Philip, associate director of public relations, Southwestern Baptist Seminary, Fort Worth, TX
- POOR, Wally, missionary press representative, Uruguay

- REED, W. A. (Bill), religion news editor, Nashville Tennessean, Nashville, TN
- ROBERTS, Sharon, assistant editor, Outreach, SBC Sunday School Board, Nashville, TN
- ROTHWELL, Gail, reporter, Office of Communications, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, TN
- RUSSELL, Faye, editorial assistant, Baptist Press, SBC Executive Committee, Nashville, TN

- SCOFIELD, Johnni Johnson, vice president of communications, SBC Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, VA
- SCOTT, Orville L., director of news and information, Baptist General Convention of Texas, Dallas, TX
- SEELIG, John Earl, vice president for administrative affairs, Southwestern Baptist Seminary, Fort Worth, TX
- SHERIDAN, George, northeast regional director of interfaith witness, SBC Home Mission Board, Atlanta, GA
- SKELTON, Martha, associate editor, Commission, SBC Foreign Mission Board,
- SMITH, Elizabeth F., missionary press representative, Israel
- SMITH, Mark, news director, Golden Gate Seminary, Mill Valley, CA
- SPARROW, Bonita, vice president in charge of promotion, SBC Radio and Television Commission, Fort Worth, TX
- STAMPS, Stanley, missionary press representative, Nicaragua
- STANLEY, Robert L. (Bob), director of news and information services, SBC Foreign Mission Board; and chief, Richmond bureau of Baptist Press, Richmond, VA
- STEWART, Don H., executive vice president, New Orleans Baptist Seminary, New Orleans, LA
- STEWART, Laura Lee, missionary press representative, Kenya
- STEWART, Maxine, missionary press representative, Thailand

- TAFT, Adon, religion editor, Miami Herald, Miami, FL
- THOMPSON, Phyllis, assistant editor, Home Missions, SBC Home Mission Board, Atlanta, GA
- TRUSTY, Jan, editorial assistant-books, SBC Home Mission Board, Atlanta, GA
- TUPITZA, Victor, associate director in charge of denominational services, Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, Washington, DC

- WATTIER, Debbie Stewart, writer, Birmingham, AL
- WARD, Mary Ann, editor, Contempo, WMU, Birmingham, AL
- WASH, Renee, news coordinator, Radio and Television Commission, Fort Worth, TX
- WEBB, Leland F., editor, The Commission, SBC Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, VA
- WELCH, Mary Jane, staff writer, SBC Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, VA
- WILKES, John, director, European Baptist Press Service, Ruschlikon, Switzerland
- WILKINSON, David R., associate editor, World Mission Journal, SBC Brotherhood Commission, Memphis, TN
- WILLIS, Charles, news media coordinator, Office of Communications, SBC Sunday School Board, Nashville, TN
- WILDES, Beth Sayers, public information director, Woman's Missionary Union, Birmingham, AL
- WOMACK, Elba, missionary press representative, Barbados
- WOOD, Darrell W., director of communications, Southern Baptist Seminary Louisville, KY