



BAPTIST PRESS

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80-144

Board Approves Relief For Storm, Flood Victims

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)--Relief funds for persons suffering from hurricane, flood, war and unrest were approved by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board at its September meeting.

Directors appropriated \$193,366, of which \$84,400 already has been used to provide immediate relief following Hurricane Allen in the Caribbean islands and flooding in Bangladesh.

Of the total appropriation, some \$124,400 will supply food and repair homes, churches and a school in the Caribbean. Another \$40,000 will aid flood victims in Bangladesh.

Other appropriations were made for relief in the wake of war in Zimbabwe, unrest in El Salvador and a fire in the Philippines. Small appropriations were made for nutrition education materials for Haiti and for two disaster medical kits to be used by volunteer disaster teams.

Before Hurricane Allen hit, the Foreign Mission Board contacted most missions in its path, alerting them to its readiness to respond, said John R. Cheyne, relief ministries consultant for the board.

Immediately after Hurricane Allen hit, the Foreign Mission Board responded with \$10,000 in emergency food relief for Haiti and St. Lucia and \$34,400 for repair of chapels and homes on Martinique, Barbados and Jamaica and the Baptist Theological College in Barbados. The storm ripped off many roofs at the Baptist college, but volunteers from Ohio, Florida, Mississippi and Kansas completed enough repairs for classes to begin on schedule in early September with the school's largest enrolment ever.

The third of four teams coordinated by the Brotherhood department of the Florida Baptist Convention and of the St. Johns' River Baptist Association was in Jamaica repairing homes in early September.

Additional volunteers are needed, both in Jamaica and to build furniture at the Baptist College in Barbados.

Directors also approved another \$75,000 for Haiti, one of the countries hardest hit by the storm, and another \$5,000 for replacing the roof on the boys' dormitory at the theological college.

For Haiti, where Allen left 1,200 families homeless, the board appropriated \$65,000 to rebuild housing for 600 Baptist families whose homes were seriously damaged. Because 95 percent of the bananas and livestock were destroyed in the area hit by the storm, the board appropriated \$10,000 to provide goats and chickens for 600 families who lost their livestock.

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In Bangladesh, Southern Baptist missionaries requested hunger and general relief funds after major floods struck the country. The board appropriated \$35,000 for food and \$5,000 to assist flood victims in restoring their homes.

In addition, the board appropriated \$2,666 to help victims of a fire which destroyed the homes and possessions of 100 families in Marulas, Calocan City, Philippines.

An appropriation of \$10,000 was made for restoring churches and church property damaged during the seven-year guerrilla war which ended last spring in Zimbabwe. Another \$4,800 will be used to enable the Baptist hospital, Sanyati, to make surveys exploring the possibility of reopening clinics dealing especially with malnutrition in the Gokwe area. Although the hospital remained open throughout the war, only one of the 27 rural clinics open in 1978 was still open when the war ended.

Board members also appropriated \$5,000 for El Salvador refugees. The plight of refugees fleeing their homes because of political unrest in El Salvador prompted missionaries to request emergency food relief. News media, informed Christian social workers and pastors estimate the number of refugees at 10,000 and growing daily, said Hoyt Eudaly, Southern Baptist missionary to El Salvador.

The missionaries in El Salvador are working with the Comité Evangelico Salvadoreño de Ayuda y Desarrollo and evangelical churches to purchase the food. Under this program, they are feeding people for less than 20 cents each per day. Missionaries will also provide gospel tracts to the refugees.

Another \$2,500 was appropriated for a self-help project among Salvadorean refugees who have fled to nearby Honduras.

The \$3,000 appropriated for nutritional education in Haiti will assist in production of material to prevent disease related to malnutrition in the island nation.

The two medical disaster kits will be used by future volunteer medical teams who will carry kits with them when traveling to a disaster area. Each kit contains enough supplies for the team to provide medical aid for up to five days until more complete supplies can be flown in. Cheyne said teams in the past have relied on supplies team members squeezed into their suitcases until more aid could be flown in.

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Baptist Philanthropist
~~Maxie~~ Jarman, 76, Dies

Baptist Press
 9/11/80

Maxey
 NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)--W. Maxie Jarman, 76, a Southern Baptist layman and philanthropist, died in Nashville Sept. 9.

Funeral services were conducted by H. Franklin Paschall, pastor of First Baptist Church, where Jarman was a Bible teacher and deacon.

Jarman, under whose leadership Genesco Inc. was at one time the largest apparel conglomerate in the world, was a shy and self-conscious man who set out to conquer his shyness by teaching Bible school and making speeches.

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Paschall, a former president of the Southern Baptist Convention, said of Jarman: "He was one of the best students of the Bible I ever knew. He was a genius."

Paschall added: "He was highly respected in the community and in the church as a faithful teacher and deacon. As a mission benefactor, he is almost unequalled. There are churches all over the world in existence because of his contributions."

Jarman was a trustee of the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago for almost 40 years and a member of the board of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association. He is a former director of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board and a former trustee of the Tennessee Baptist Foundation and Southern Baptist Foundation.

In 1949, he was a vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention. He also was a former vice president of the American Bible Society.

Graham credited Jarman with helping to save **Christianity Today**, a religious publication which had fallen into financial trouble, and said the layman served on the publication's board of directors.

Jarman was instrumental in founding the Christian Bible Society in 1977, and was chairman of the Overview Committee of Bible scholars who prepared the New King James Bible New Testament, published in 1979 by Thomas Nelson Company.

He also was author of two books.

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Washington Chapel
Won't Pray for Rain

Baptist Press
9/11/80

GRAHAM, Wash. (BP)--If help doesn't come soon, Mt. Ranier Baptist Chapel just might rust away.

Supplies for the steel-and-wood structure have been delivered, but without help, the tiny pastorless congregation cannot possibly complete construction before the November rainy season begins.

The problem started last spring when building permits got snarled in bureaucratic red tape, said Bill Young, former pastor and building project coordinator, who resigned as pastor and building contractor because of health problems.

"We made sure we had a loan available from the church loans division of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, secured interim financing through a local bank, ordered supplies and arranged for three volunteer construction crews to come erect the building," he explained.

"But when we couldn't get building permits until late July or early August, our chance to have the crews come out was shot down," he said.

Only about 40 persons currently attend the chapel, most of whom are women and children, he added. However, those who are able plan to work with a handful of volunteers from sponsoring First Baptist Church of Parkland, Wash., and two other volunteers.

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"None of us has ever done steel work before, but we don't have money to hire a steel foreman or trained laborers," Young said. "We don't have a choice but to do the job ourselves. It's certainly going to be interesting."

Persons or groups who can help Mt. Ranier Baptist Chapel should contact Young at (206) 847-9282 or Bill Wilson of the Home Mission Board at (404) 873-4041.

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Plan Set to Increase
Sunday School Enrollment

By Linda Lawson

Baptist Press
9/11/80

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)--There are no large churches in America today compared to the millions of persons who do not attend any church, Southern Baptist Convention President Bailey Smith said.

Smith spoke to 120 professionals in the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's Sunday School department during a meeting to launch a five-year plan to enlarge Sunday School enrollment to 8.5 million by 1985.

Smith, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church of Del City, Okla., said his 14,000-plus member congregation is small in comparison with the 500,000 persons in the county who do not attend any church.

He noted church leaders cannot afford to feel successful when their church is experiencing rapid growth because the number of persons not yet reached remains far greater. Earlier this year Smith's congregation held a three-week crusade in which 1,353 persons made professions of faith.

Sunday School department director Harry Piland said "the urgency of the goal to increase the denomination's Sunday School enrollment from 7.3 million to 8.5 million by 1985 lies in the fact that between 130 and 160 million persons in America are unsaved."

He noted that between 1880 and 1960 Southern Baptist Sunday School enrollment doubled every 20 years. Since 1960, however, it has remained virtually static at 7.3 million.

The 8.5 by '85 plan includes annual enrollment goals. The 1980-81 goal is to increase net enrollment by 100,000 persons, from 7.3 to 7.4 million.

Showing a new increase of 100,000 in one year looms large in light of the fact that approximately 1,195,000 persons must be enrolled to show a net gain of 100,000, Piland said, because of losses due to nationwide mobility.

While the denominational statistics show the scope of the task of reaching more people for Bible study, 8.5 by '85 will succeed or fail in local churches, Piland said.

"Neither the Sunday School Board nor any other agency can accomplish 8.5 by '85. The churches must achieve the goal or it will not be done," he said.

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Participating churches will be urged to set up and maintain a Sunday School enrollment file and to set and report annual enrollment goals.

Also, nine basics of Sunday School growth will be emphasized through materials and conferences.

They include making a commitment to growth and enrolling prospects and starting new classes and departments. Others are enlisting and training workers, providing space and equipment, conducting weekly workers' meetings and visitation and teaching the Bible to win the lost and develop the saved.

"I don't know of any church that is doing these nine things that is not growing," Piland said.

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(BP) photo mailed to Baptist state newspapers by Sunday School Board bureau of Baptist Press.

'Lottie Moon Plus'
Offering Approved

Baptist Press
9/11/80

DALLAS (BP)--A special \$10 million "Lottie Moon Plus" offering was approved by the Executive Board of the Baptist General Convention of Texas during its fall meeting in Dallas.

The one-time offering includes an \$8 million goal for the regular Lottie Moon offering and an additional \$2 million goal to assist Brazilian efforts to double churches and membership by 1982, the centennial year for Baptist work in Brazil.

Texas Baptists have been involved in a mission to Brazil since 1978, helping Brazilian Baptists achieve their centennial goals. Since the campaign began, more than 600 persons from Texas have been to Brazil and have recorded more than 8,000 decisions for Christ.

James H. Landes, Texas Baptist executive director, said a precedent will not be set by the Lottie Moon Plus offering, and such "special offerings will not become commonplace."

Thurman Bryant, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's area director for eastern South America, congratulated Texas Baptists "in this bold endeavor."

"Without a doubt," he said, "a contribution of this magnitude will provide a tremendous impetus to the matching cities evangelism projects being attempted through this partnership relationship between Texas Baptists, Brazilian Baptists and the Foreign Mission Board."

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Common Heritage Links
Black, White Baptist Women

Baptist Press
9/11/80

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)--A common heritage links Baptist women in spite of color differences, Carolyn Weatherford told women of the largest black religious organization in the world.

Weatherford, executive director of the Woman's Missionary Union, auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention, and First Lady Rosalynn Carter were among Southern Baptists who addressed the Woman's Convention, part of the 100th anniversary meeting of the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. The denomination, which has 6.5 million members, has drawn more than 25,000 persons to its convention in Birmingham.

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"In early days of national organization, we were drawn together because we were women. And because, in spite of color differences, we were concerned for the spreading of the Good News of the Kingdom," Weatherford said.

"We have a common heritage in organization," Weatherford said, noting Annie Armstrong, first head of the SBC-WMU, played a prominent role in the early history of the Woman's Convention, helping to plan and implement the organization and speaking at the first meeting of the National Baptist women in 1901.

Weatherford told the women "there are common concerns we have today, because we are Christians, because we are Baptists, because we are women. We must find ways to ease the pain and suffering of people who are victimized by society. We must find ways to tell a lost world that Jesus, God's very son, loves them."

First Lady Rosalynn Carter told the women the "ultimate test in life is how you serve God and your fellow man."

Mrs. Carter noted the influence that Woman's Missionary Union has had on her life.

She said that as a young girl growing up in Plains, Ga., she belonged to Girls' Auxillary (now called Girls in Action), where she learned the scripture passage, "Go ye therefore and teach all nations."

She said the message is important to both denominations and that both of the women's organizations share a common goal in the support of missions.

"The missionary society was an important part of my mother's life," Mrs. Carter said. "And I tell people that before Jimmy's campaign in 1966, the only place I had ever made a speech was at the missionary society in Plains."

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Foreign Board Urged
To 'Seize the Moment'

Robert O'Brien

Baptist Press
9/11/80

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)--Changing world conditions may redefine the role of missionaries and missions, a missions analyst and strategist said.

Ted Ward suggested increased use of Christian technologists and others as bivocational missionaries in countries closed to traditional missionary activity.

"I'm not here to tell you what to do, but to urge you to see our moment in history as a moment demanding new vision," Ward declared in a four-hour session he led for staff and directors of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

Ward analyzed some world conditions which hinder missionaries and sometimes shut them out of countries, mentioning such things as anti-Americanism, anti-Christianity, nationalism, secularism, militarism, extremism, and widening gaps between rich and poor which he said cause problems but not absolute barriers.

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When countries close, Christians should not just wring their hands and bemoan lost opportunities but redefine approaches and find ways "to penetrate inhospitable borders" in the best tradition of early Christian missionaries, added Ward, a Baptist layman and Michigan State University professor.

"Will we sit back and wait until a country wants missionaries?" he asked of countries such as China, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and others closed to the traditional missionary sent by a mission board.

"That type of situation calls for us to redefine missionaries, rethink how we deal. Great mission boards have an eye toward God's alternatives."

"I would not negate career missionaries," he said, "but they do arrive in many areas under suspicion because they have no overt, legitimate reason for being there in the minds of people in the country unsympathetic to missions."

Expertise in vocations needed by a given country is an acceptable reason for being there, he said. Nations may want to suppress Christianity, shun westernization, and spurn the United States, he continued, "but they want our technology."

"Bivocational abilities allow Christians to go anywhere in the world," he said. "There's a community of Americans overseas larger than the population of Birmingham. Many are southern and many of those are Southern Baptists. Southern Baptists live in such cities as Peking, Karachi and Damascus, but very few have any idea how to be effective witnesses for Jesus."

"The question is how can you mobilize that concerned number of Southern Baptists? It's not enough anymore just to see that the missionaries out there are supported. Be alert to what God is preparing. China is not open to missionaries, but it is open to the gospel."

"Wherever an American goes," he said, "natural opportunities exist for such things as Bible study groups. Southern Baptists could put dozens of such 'missionaries' in 'closed nations' as schoolteachers, oil workers or technologists."

Ward, putting his ideas in historical and biblical perspective, emphasized that history has shown that God will shake people loose from approaches which hinder the message of Jesus Christ.

"Things won't always be the same for us," he declared. "God has his plans unfolding right smack across our trail. Pray that he will give vision to our people to jolt them to realize they won't always do things the same way. The Foreign Mission Board faces a time when there are new ways in the plans of God."

Ward urged his listeners to examine combined statistics from all mission groups, which reveal shrinking commitment to world missions, even though Southern Baptist statistics continue to increase.

"Overall statistics are important" because they reveal information and trends which may eventually affect your own efforts, Ward said.

He warned that anxieties and confusion caused by the no-longer-predictable world will antagonize many American Christians and increase their tendency toward isolationism—especially when they see traditionally successful mission fields close down. "World consciousness is dropping back into the dark ages," he said.

Given the economic crunch and the world uncertainties, he said even Southern Baptists may experience an eroding commitment to missions. "It becomes more important for the Southern Baptist Convention to find ways to bring its people closer to missions, so it won't become remote. A sense of identity and closeness is important."

Touching a wide range of themes, Ward urged continued sensitivity in developing national Christians who are not dependent; planting institutions which mesh with the culture, not slavishly copy American styles; and re-thinking deployment of missions personnel to avoid missing huge chunks of the world's population.

In the midst of all that, he emphasized, the most important keys to world missions are prayer and the commitment of people who have been nurtured in the word of God.

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

Seminarian Employs
Calligraphy in Ministry

Baptist Press
9/11/80

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)—In the Middle Ages, before Gutenberg and his printing press, it was the only way to spread the Word. Now, with Bibles in paperback by the millions, calligraphy is a rare form of art and devotion.

"It's a good way to relax, to do something different. A lot of times when the studies get really hectic, if I can break away and work with my hands, it's very restful, although it's pretty intensive work," says Nancy Foil.

Foil, a third-year theology student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, does calligraphy, the art of fine handwriting and what one of her friends calls "Fancy Nancy writing."

A native of Alexandria, La., Foil finds calligraphy to be a big plus in her ministry. "It adds a graceful touch to things, a way of presenting meaningful words in a beautiful way," she says.

"The whole idea of adding something visual to worship is something which I think we've neglected. We hear a lot, but the visual arts are just as alive as a pretty song—and the music programs are usually well developed," she says.

Observers cannot be passive if visual aids are employed properly, according to the Louisiana College graduate. She says Roman Catholics use incense in worship, involving more of the senses and making worshippers more than spectators. Visual arts, she says, would have the same effect.

She recently won fourth place in the Kentucky State Fair for her entry in calligraphy competition. She also teaches calligraphy and believes anyone can learn it, though it is a "rigorous" experience.

"It gives you a lot of appreciation for what the monks must have had to go through with the biblical manuscripts," she says.

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