



# -- BAPTIST PRESS

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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March 18, 1981

81-46

## SOUTHERN BAPTIST PASTORS' CONFERENCE

Los Angeles Convention Center

Los Angeles, CA

June 7-8, 1981

### Sunday Evening, June 7

Theme: "We Would See Jesus in Our Homes"

Jim Henry, Pastors' Conference president and pastor of First Baptist Church, Orlando, FL, presiding

- 6:00 "Let's Just Praise the Lord"--with Joe Ann Shelton and Loeen Bushman, Fort Worth, TX
- 6:15 Invocation--Kenneth Wayne Fields, First Baptist Church, Grand Bay, AL  
Welcome to California--Robert Hughes, executive secretary, California Baptist Convention, Fresno, CA
- 6:20 Congregational Singing--Ragan M. Vandegriff III, First Baptist Church, Orlando, FL
- 6:25 Special Music--Joe Ann Shelton
- 6:30 Message--Bill Bennett, First Baptist Church, Fort Smith, AR
- 6:55 Testimony--James Mahoney, First Baptist Church, Alvin, TX
- 7:05 Congregational Hymn and Offering
- 7:15 Message--Calvin Miller, Westside Baptist Church, Omaha, NE
- 7:40 Congregational Singing
- 7:45 Prayer Plan for the Convention--Jack Taylor, Fort Worth, TX
- 7:50 "I Promise to Love"--The Re'Generation, Nashville, TN
- 8:30 Congregational Hymn
- 8:35 Message--Adrian Rogers, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, TN  
Benediction--Tom Billings, First Baptist Church, Siloam Springs, AR

### Monday Morning, June 8

Theme: "We Would See Jesus in Our Ministry"

Jim Henry, presiding

- 8:45 "Let's Just Praise the Lord"--with Ron and Pat Owens, Fort Worth, TX
- 9:00 Invocation--Mark Pendleton, Richmond, CA  
Congregational Hymn--Ragan M. Vandegriff III, Orlando, FL
- 9:05 Testimony--Ras Robinson, Fort Worth, TX
- 9:20 Message--Junior Hill, evangelist, Hartselle, AL

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Monday Morning, June 8 (continued)

- 9:45 Congregational Singing  
 9:50 Solo--Bill Cox, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, TN  
 9:55 Message--Jess Moody, First Baptist Church, Van Nuys, CA  
 10:20 Congregational Hymn and Offering  
 Special Music--Ron and Pat Owens  
 10:35 Message--Sam Cathey, Hot Springs, AR  
 11:00 Solo--Kitty Henry, student, Samford University, Birmingham, AL  
 Special Music--Adult Choir, North Phoenix Baptist Church, Phoenix, AZ  
 11:15 Message--Richard Jackson, North Phoenix Baptist Church, Phoenix, AZ  
 Benediction--Don Kim, Los Angeles, CA

Monday Afternoon, June 8

Theme: "We Would See Jesus in Our Church:

Stanley Coffey, First Baptist Church, Albuquerque, NM, presiding

- 1:15 "Let's Just Praise the Lord"--with Jack Price, music evangelist, Garland, TX  
 1:30 Invocation  
 Congregational Hymn--Ragan M. Vandegriff III  
 1:35 Solo--Jennifer Till, Dallas, TX  
 1:40 Testimonies--Our Seminary Presidents  
 2:10 Message--Fred Wolfe, Cottage Hill Baptist Church, Mobile, AL  
 2:35 Congregational Singing  
 2:40 Testimony: "The Revival That Wouldn't Stop!"--Elvis Marcum, Graceland Baptist Church, New Albany, IN  
 2:55 Message--Vance Havner, Greensboro, NC  
 3:20 Congregational Hymn and Offering  
 Solo--Pat Vandegriff, First Baptist Church, Orlando, FL  
 3:30 Election of Officers  
 3:45 Solo--Beverly Terrell, Dallas, TX  
 3:50 Message--W.A. Criswell, First Baptist Church, Dallas, TX  
 Benediction--Don Bouldin, Carmel Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC

Monday Evening, June 8

Theme: "We Would See Jesus in Our World"

Jim Henry presiding

- 6:30 "Let's Just Praise the Lord"--North Phoenix Baptist Church Adult Choir, Phoenix, AZ  
 Forbes Woods, director  
 6:45 Invocation  
 Congregational Hymn--Ragan M. Vandegriff III  
 6:50 Solo--Earnest Alexander, Wichita, KS  
 6:55 Message--Harold O'Chester, Allandale Baptist Church, Austin, TX  
 7:20 Congregational Singing  
 7:25 Testimony--Don Miller, Fort Worth, TX  
 7:35 Mission Emphasis--Foreign Mission Board

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Monday Evening, June 8 (continued)

- 7:55 Congregational Hymn and Offering  
Special Music--North Phoenix Baptist Church Adult Choir
- 8:10 Message--John Bisagno, First Baptist Church, Houston, TX
- 8:35 Congregational Hymn  
Solo--John Shillington, Shawnee, OK
- 8:40 Message--Arthur Blessitt, West Hollywood, CA
- 9:05 Introduction of New Pastors' Conference Officers  
Welcome to Southern Baptist Convention--Bailey Smith, First Southern Baptist Church, Del City, OK  
Benediction

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Pastors' Conference Officers:

President: Jim Henry, First Baptist Church, Orlando, FL  
Vice President: Stanley Coffey, First Baptist Church, Albuquerque, NM  
Secretary-Treasurer: Kenneth Wayne Fields, First Baptist Church, Grand Bay, AL  
Music Coordinator: Ragan M. Vandegriff III, First Baptist Church, Orlando, FL

SBC Pastors' Conference  
To Hear Seminary Heads

Baptist Press  
3/18/81

LOS ANGELES (BP)--The presidents of the six Southern Baptist seminaries will speak during the 1981 meeting of the SBC Pastors' Conference in the Los Angeles Convention Center, June 7-8.

The Pastors' Conference is one of several meetings preliminary to the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, scheduled June 9-11, in the LA Convention Center.

Jim Henry, pastor of First Baptist Church of Orlando, Fla., and president of the Pastors' Conference, said he asked the presidents to appear together and to give short presentations during the Monday afternoon segment of the program.

"I asked them to give their testimonies," Henry said. "I want them to give a brief account of their conversion experience, their call to the ministry and to tell of the greatest revival they have ever been in."

The six presidents, who will share a 30-minute time slot, are Duke McCall, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; Landrum Leavell, New Orleans Seminary; Randall Lolley, Southeastern Seminary; Milton Ferguson, Midwestern Seminary; William Pinson, Golden Gate Seminary; and Russell Dilday, Southwestern Seminary.

Henry said the program theme is "We Would See Jesus," and is divided into segments emphasizing the pastor's home, his ministry, the church he serves and the world.

"I believe the pastor is the key to the convention, to the church, to the association, to his family and to the world. Our agenda is focused on encouraging him," Henry said.

Henry said he does not think the Pastors' Conference will "set the agenda for the convention," but added he "hopes our theme will make the convention a powerful week of encouragement."

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Bailey Smith, SBC president, will deliver a welcome to the SBC at the conclusion of the program, but will not preach. "I felt he had his hands so full with the president's message and trying to lead the convention that I did not ask him to preach; I did not want to put that burden on him," Henry said.

Two former SBC presidents—Adrian Rogers of Bellevue Baptist Church of Memphis, Tenn., and W.A. Criswell of First Baptist Church of Dallas—will preach major sermons.

Others scheduled to preach are Bill Bennett, First Baptist Church of Fort Smith, Ark.; Calvin Miller of Westside Baptist Church, Omaha, Neb.; Junior Hill, an evangelist from Hartselle, Ala.; Jess Moddy of First Baptist Church of Van Nuys, Calif.;

Also Richard Jackson of North Phoenix Baptist Church, Phoenix, Ariz.; Fred Wolfe of Cottage Hill Baptist Church in Mobile, Ala.; Harold O'Chester of Allandale Baptist Church in Austin, Texas; John Bisagno of First Baptist Church of Houston; and Arthur Blessitt, an evangelist from West Hollywood, Calif.

Music will be coordinated by Ragan Vandegriff III, minister of music at the Orlando church.

Performing will be Joe Ann Shelton of Fort Worth; the Re'Generation from Nashville, Tenn.; Ron and Pat Owens of Fort Worth; Kitty Henry, a student at Samford University in Birmingham, Ala.; Jennifer Till and Beverly Terrell of Dallas; Pat Vandegriff of Orlando; Earnest Alexander of Wichita, Kan.; John Shillington of Shawnee, Okla.; and the North Phoenix Baptist Church adult choir under direction of Forbes Woods.

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Respond To Cutbacks,  
Tanner Urges Churches

By Jim Newton

Baptist Press  
3/18/81

ATLANTA (BP)--Churches must fill the void if and when government programs to feed hungry people in America are cut back because of Reagan administration budget proposals, the president of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board says.

"The time has come for the local church to re-establish its leadership role in meeting the needs of hungry people in America," William G. Tanner said during the board's annual meeting.

"As government programs may be cut back, there are voids that are going to be created that the local church and the association not only should, but will, be able to meet," Tanner said.

He called for other SBC agencies to join the effort to develop plans and programs to help the local church and associations of churches respond to domestic hunger needs in their own communities and commented that although the Home Mission Board has the "lead program assignment" in the SBC in the area of domestic hunger, he does not want the board to act unilaterally.

Tanner named Paul Adkins, director of the board's Christian social ministries department, to coordinate the effort, to convene interested SBC agency personnel and to develop a preliminary report to be presented at the next board meeting in July.

Even though Baptists may have different reactions to the budget cuts proposed by the Reagan administration to deter inflation, said Tanner, "I do feel these proposed budget cuts are saying something to us at the Home Mission Board and to all Christians in America."

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Tanner pointed out that throughout history, the church was involved in meeting needs of hungry people long before the government, but after government became heavily involved, many churches discontinued their programs to feed hungry and needy people in their communities.

"As these proposed government cutbacks are made, it appears to me God may be giving Southern Baptists and local churches another opportunity to get more directly involved in meeting the needs of hungry people in the name of Christ," Tanner said.

He observed that some churches may have been out of the business of meeting the needs of hungry people for so long that they may not know how to get started or how to develop programs that will meet the needs effectively.

"Some churches will probably feel they do not have the resources to do very much, but by joining together with other churches through the association, they can make a significant contribution," he said.

The first step, Tanner suggested, is for churches to discover the needs in the local community. He pointed out that government cutbacks will differ in almost every state, and thus needs will be different in each community.

He commended the work being done by Nathan Porter, the Home Mission Board's national consultant on domestic hunger, who is developing a local hunger survey to help churches discover needs in their own communities.

Even though Tanner did not call for board approval of his proposal, members of the board voted unanimously to approve in principle his plea for helping churches feed hungry people in America.

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Mission Conferences  
Score High Attendance

Baptist Press  
3/18/81

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP)--Southern Baptist world missions conferences (schools of missions) attracted 1,146,109, an increase of 64,049, during 1980, a Brotherhood Commission survey revealed.

James Hatley, director of world missions conferences for the commission, said 178 Baptist associations and 3,699 churches took part in the conferences, which resulted in 626 professions of faith.

Receipts were \$758,027, an increase of \$132,204 over 1979, and 447 persons volunteered for mission service. Hatley said 2,365 home, foreign, state and associational missionaries took part.

Georgia led in participating associations with 19, followed by North Carolina, 14; Tennessee, 13; Kentucky, 12; Alabama and Missouri-Iowa, 11; and Louisiana, 10.

World missions conferences in Tennessee attracted the largest attendance with 163,734, followed by Georgia, 155,569; Alabama, 104,113; and North Carolina, 101,305.

The largest number of volunteers for mission service came from Georgia with 103, followed by Tennessee, 85; Louisiana, 42; Ohio, 34; and Alabama, 32.

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