



-- BAPTIST PRESS

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Judy Rice Named
Editor in Alaska

SOLDOTNA, Alaska (BP)--Judy Rice was named editor of the Alaska Baptist Messenger during the 36th annual meeting of the Alaska Baptist Convention, Aug. 11-13.

Rice, who has been interim editor since May 1980, is the second woman named to edit one of the 34 state Baptist newspapers. The first was Sue Saito Nishikawa, named in 1979, and retired in 1981.

Rice, who will continue to be director of the Woman's Missionary Union, was interim editor on one other occasion, from April to August of 1971.

She is a native of Birmingham, Ala., and a graduate of Samford University and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. She has been an employee of the Alaska convention since December 1968.

Alaska messengers also adopted their first \$1 million-plus budget, voting a 1982 budget of \$1,039,044. They will send 30 percent to SBC causes, the same percentage as last year.

Messengers also re-elected by acclamation the 1981 officers. They are Ferrell Mills, pastor of Faith Baptist Church, Anchorage, president; Al Allen, pastor of Moose Creek Baptist Church, Fairbanks, first vice president; and Roy Williams, pastor of First Baptist Church, Kenai, second vice president.

In other action, messengers voted to discontinue church loans, using the funds instead to purchase land for building sites. Responsibility for the fund was given to John Allen, director of state missions.

Messengers also voted to continue holding the annual meeting in August, and set the 1982 convention for Aug. 10-12, at Moose Creek Baptist Church, Fairbanks.

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(BP) photo mailed to state Baptist newspapers by Woman's Missionary Union.

Tennessee Agency Declines To Pay Penalties To IRS

BRENTWOOD, Tenn. (BP)--The Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes has declined to pay \$14,160 in penalties assessed by Internal Revenue Service for failure to file Form 990.

Earlier this month IRS issued a demand for payment of that amount based on TBCH's failure to file the report forms. On Aug. 21, the children's homes responded to IRS that payment would not be made nor Form 990 filed, since to do so would involve "excessive entanglement" of a government agency in a church function.

The penalty demanded is \$5,000 for failure to file the 1977 Form 990; \$5,000 for 1978; and \$4,160 for 1979. Interest would be added to these amounts.

Form 990 is a comprehensive financial report—which includes revenues, expenses, balance sheet, trustees and other data—allegedly used by the Internal Revenue Service to determine if nonprofit organizations have unrelated business income on which they must pay taxes.

According to the IRS Code, churches, associations and conventions of churches and their "integrated auxiliaries" are exempt from filing Form 990.

According to E.B. Bowen, executive director-treasurer of the children's homes, the basic question is whether TBCH is an "integrated auxiliary" of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Bowen said the IRS has used the Tax Reform Act of 1976 to create a new regulation that all charitable organizations except those "exclusively religious" must file Form 990 as a "nonintegrated auxiliary."

The TBCH contends that the congressional act did not require that such a form be filed, that the children's homes are an integrated auxiliary of the Tennessee Baptist Convention churches, and that to comply with this regulation involves the government in unconstitutional "excessive entanglements" in the practice of religion.

TBCH trustees voted to "respectfully refuse" to file the form each year on the grounds that it does not receive any funds from federal or state governments and that all information requested is available from other sources.

Bowen commented that "all information that goes on Form 990 is public information provided by the audit that is done annually."

Frank Ingraham of Franklin, Tenn., who with Glenn Stophel of Chattanooga is representing the TBCH, said that he expects an IRS administrative review of the refusal to pay the penalties.

Ingraham suggested that concerned Tennessee Baptists might wish to discuss this situation with their congressmen who are home for the August recess.

In May the executive board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention voted to support the Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes in their refusal to comply with the Form 990 regulation.

Clyde Francisco
Dies in Georgia

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)--Clyde T. Francisco, Southern Baptist theologian and Bible teacher, died Aug. 21 of an apparent heart attack while delivering a revival sermon in Helena, Ga.

Francisco, who was 65, has been the John R. Sampey professor of Old Testament interpretation at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., since 1944. He is the author of the current Adult Bible Teacher quarterly for the Life and Work Sunday School series.

Funeral services were Aug. 25 on the seminary campus. During his ministerial career, Francisco was pastor or taught at seminaries in Kentucky, Virginia, West Virginia, England, Malaysia and the Philippines.

A native of Virginia, Francisco graduated from the University of Richmond in 1939 with a perfect grade point average.

He received a masters degree in theology from Southern Seminary in 1942 and a doctorate in theology from the school two years later. He also pursued advanced studies at Stanford University and Harvard Divinity School, and at Oxford and Cambridge universities in England.

Francisco is survived by his wife, the former Nancy Lee Anderson, who is on the faculty of Boyce Bible School, a division of Southern Seminary.

Other survivors include a son, Don R. Francisco of Atlanta; a daughter, Carol Lee Perkins of Louisville; two sisters, Verna Sohn of West Palm Beach, Fla., and Claudia Francisco of San Diego; and two grandsons.

The family requests any contributions be made to the Clyde T. Francisco Preaching Awards fund at Southern Seminary.

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'Political Foes'
To Hold Revival

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8/25/81

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. (BP)--Following through on a conversation on the podium at the 1981 Southern Baptist Convention, "political foes" Bailey Smith and Ralph Langley are planning to hold a revival together.

Langley, pastor of First Baptist Church of Huntsville, who led a challenge to Smith's presidency of the SBC, said Smith will hold a revival in the Alabama church Feb. 28-March 5, 1982.

When Langley nominated Abner McCall, chancellor of Baylor University, to oppose Smith for the presidency of the 13.6 million-member denomination, he noted his action was "not personal nor vindictive" and that he would welcome the opportunity for Smith to hold a revival in First Baptist Church, Huntsville.

"I have great admiration for him as a pastor and a preacher and especially as a revivalist," Langley said. "He is top notch. I have no animosity toward him. The challenge in Los Angeles concerned the leadership and the image of the SBC."

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Smith, who led his congregation, First Southern Baptist Church of Del City, Okla., to more than 2,000 baptisms last year, said he holds no grudges over Langley's action.

He told messengers in Los Angeles he "just might squeeze in" a revival at Langley's church.

"I have more meetings than I need, but I felt it (the Huntsville revival) was a priority for me," Smith said, adding he has pledged his presidency to be one of reconciliation and unity.

"I felt this meeting (at Huntsville) was important. It will be healing and will help bring some new forces together," Smith said. "That made it imperative, plus the fact we will have a lot of people saved."

At First Southern, the deacon body passed a resolution encouraging Smith to "take as many meetings and preaching engagements" as possible during the final year of his presidency of the SBC.

According to Chairman Bob Peck, the deacons "feel that our preacher will have more opportunities this year because of his position in the convention, because of the powerful personal example he sets and because of the Holy Spirit-led results which he gets when he preaches, to preach at different churches and in more circumstances than he will have at any time during the remainder of his career."

Peck added: "We believe that many people never hear the kind of preaching which our church hears many times each week."

He said the church encourages Smith to speak as much as possible "regardless of the number of times he must be gone" from First Southern. "We are sure that Bailey Smith can have a direct influence on thousands, and perhaps tens of thousands of individuals, as he has the freedom and the opportunity to preach to them," Peck said.

He concluded that the ministry of Smith, First Southern and "those who have an opportunity to hear the preaching of Dr. Smith will be blessed..." by the church sharing their pastor as much as possible with the churches and people of the SBC.

Smith is, the deacons said, "acknowledged to be one of the most powerful, spirit-filled evangelistic preachers in the world today."

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Singer Pat Boone Speaks
To Seminarians in Chile

Baptist Press
8/25/81

SANTIAGO, Chile (BP)--A Christian, just like an airplane pilot, can get off course by making small changes in his life, singer Pat Boone told students at the Baptist Theological Seminary at Santiago, Chile.

Squeezing the chapel appearance and lunch with the students into a busy schedule of interviews and television appearances, Boone spoke to the seminary students through an interpreter, Southern Baptist missionary Frank Coy.

Boone recalled an experience when he sat in the pilot's seat of a large aircraft and was shown by the copilot how a slight movement in the controls could throw the plane off course by several hundred miles.

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Likewise in life, he said. Little changes make enormous differences in direction. And as the pilot takes many with him, so the person who gets sidetracked from God's course leads many others with him.

"God is beside us just as the copilot of the plane was beside me to keep me on the right course," he said. "Jesus should be our copilot in life and the Holy Spirit our navigator."

Boone told how only a miracle of God was able to hold his family together after he entered the entertainment world. Through the dedication of his wife, he said, the whole Boone family found the difference between "religion" and "relation" to Jesus.

The Boone home now is used for Bible studies, he said, and since the number of churches that baptize by immersion is limited in Southern California, the family swimming pool has been the site of about 350 baptisms.

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Surprise Meeting Reveals
Baptists' Attitude Change

Baptist Press
8/25/81

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP)--A surprise visit from an unknown "grandson" demonstrated to retired missionary Josephine Scaggs healthy attitude changes in America's Southern Baptist churches.

Twenty years ago, Scaggs, home on furlough from Nigeria, was asked to speak on African missions at a large Southern Baptist church. When she suggested bringing with her a Nigerian Christian, a product of Baptist missions, her invitation was withdrawn.

A few weeks later, she spoke at the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in St. Louis.

"I didn't speak on the subject I was given," she says ruefully. "I pled with our Southern Baptists, 'Don't just give your millions to send your missionaries with the gospel to the black men in Africa with the message of the same Savior who died for them as died for us and then not be willing to worship with them the same Savior in your church in America.'"

This August at the Foreign Missions Conference at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center, a young Nigerian who was just a boy when Scaggs started work in his village in 1955, introduced himself to her.

She had not known Fells Sorgwe then and had never met him. He had become a Christian and joined the church Scaggs helped start, then had come to the United States to study chemistry.

Unlike the 1961 experience Scaggs related, First Baptist Church of Bothell, Wash., had taken Sorgwe in and under their ministry, he acknowledged a call from God to the gospel ministry.

The church ordained him and continues to give him "consistent help" while he studies at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

Sorgwe lost his government scholarship when he changed from chemistry to theological education.

"I give thanks to God for the great change of attitudes in our Baptist churches in America," she said. "When he shared with me how that church took him in as one of theirs, licensed him when he felt the call to preach—and through their ministry he felt the call to preach—how we thank God."

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