



-- BAPTIST PRESS

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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HMB Appoints Eight To Mission Posts

ATLANTA (BP)--Four couples were appointed to mission posts in Colorado, Florida, Massachusetts and Virginia by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board in November.

Under bylaws passed a year ago, the personnel committee, acting in the absence of executive committee and board meetings, approved the candidates for mission service. The HMB did not meet in November.

Named missionaries were Daniel and Anne Rich McClintock of Charleston, S.C., and Harold and Janet Webb of San Juan, Puerto Rico. Appointed missionary associates were Peter and M. Luana Golinski of Miami, Fla., and An Minh and Nang Thi Vo Phan of McLean, Va.

The McClintocks assume responsibilities as campus ministers for Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and Harvard University in Boston, Mass., beginning in January. McClintock, a former associate Baptist Student Union director at Old Dominion University in Virginia, is a graduate of Furman University and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He also has served as minister to youth in Indiana and South Carolina. She is a graduate of Nyack College in New York.

The Webbs serve as catalytic missionaries in Trinidad, Colo., coordinating Hispanic ministries. Webb, was pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in San Juan and a professor at Baptist Seminary in San Juan before HMB appointment. He is a graduate of Mars Hill College and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, and also was pastor of churches in North Carolina and Virginia.

As national ethnic missionaries, the Golinski couple will remain in Miami, assisting Haitians throughout the country in forming congregations and securing pastors. Prior to appointment, he was a Haitian coordinator in Miami. A native Canadian, Golinski is a graduate of Briercrest Bible Institute in Caronport, Saskatchewan. She is a graduate of the University of Denver, and teaches school in Miami.

The Phans serve as Asian catalytic missionaries for the Baptist General Association of Virginia and will coordinate southeast Asian and Vietnamese ministries. He was pastor of churches in Vietnam before emigrating to the United States in 1976. He also was pastor of the Vietnamese Baptist Church in Fayetteville, N.C., and was minister to southeast Asians in northern Virginia prior to HMB appointment.

D.C. Delegates Elect
Third Woman President

GAITHERSBURG, Md. (BP)--Delegates to the District of Columbia Baptist Convention elected a woman president and passed resolutions on issues ranging from arms control to tuition tax credits during their 105th annual session.

Vivian Nielsen, a member of Washington's Calvary Baptist Church, became the third woman to be elected president of the D. C. Convention. Also elected were Mark Caldwell, pastor of University Baptist Church, College Park, Md., vice president; and Joan Personett, administrative assistant for the D. C. convention, as secretary.

Delegates adopted a 1982 budget of \$903,208, of which \$210,000 (23.25 percent) will go to worldwide missions causes through the Southern Baptist Convention unified budget. The percentage is a decrease from 24.7 percent last year.

Through resolutions, delegates urged D. C. Baptists to communicate to appropriate government officials their hope that "our nation will take the initiative in multilateral nuclear arms control," as well as their "opposition to tuition tax credits and other devices which directly or indirectly channel funds into church operated or religiously based schools."

In other resolutions activity, delegates:

--Expressed their objection to both "government involvement in religious exercises in public schools" and to "changing the religion clauses of the First Amendment by a constitutional amendment and/or denying federal judicial relief for infringements of religious liberty."

--Proclaimed "that women should have the right to equal access in all realms of human activity," but by a narrow margin deleted a statement expressing support for the Equal Rights Amendment from the same resolution.

--Urged support of churches ministering with "homosexuals, alcoholics, drug addicts, divorced or separated persons, single parent families and others outside the usual perception of family life."

--Tabled a resolution on abortion which recognized the "dignity and responsibility of choice-making under the guidance of the Holy Spirit."

In another action, the convention amended its bylaws to require the president to announce the appointment of the resolutions committee at the June executive board meeting instead of the October meeting to provide more time for consideration of proposed resolutions.

Next year's session will be Nov. 11 - 12 at Washington's Upper Room Baptist Church.

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Colorado Chairman
Elected President

Baptist Press
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COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (BP)--Colorado Baptists elected the chairman of their executive board as convention president, passed a \$2 million budget and learned membership in the state has passed 60,000.

Grant Adklsson, pastor of First Baptist Church, Woodland Park, and chairman of the Colorado Baptist executive board, was elected president. It is the second time since 1969 one person has held both jobs in Colorado.

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The \$2,147,976 budget anticipates \$1.2 million income from Colorado Southern Baptist churches, of which 27.5 percent, one-half percent more than last year, will be forwarded to world missions causes through the national Cooperative Program.

Other reports indicated Sunday School enrollment growth of 9.3 percent; a drop in baptisms of 128 to 3,266; and a budget shortfall of \$72,000.

Significant debate centered on a byproduct of a September executive board action that changed the convention fiscal year from October—September to January—December. As a result, the convention is operating essentially without a budget between Sept. 30 and Dec. 31, said Glen E. Braswell, executive director.

Pay increases for convention staff, scheduled for Oct. 1, were administratively delayed until the new budget begins Jan. 1. Rocky Mountain Baptist Editor James Lee Young editorialized that such a delay was unfair treatment of convention employees.

In budget debate, Benny King of First Southern Baptist Church, Northglenn, moved the 10 percent salary and benefit package be made retroactive to Oct. 1. Debate was extended at least three times and was tabled overnight so the finance committee could figure the cost if King's proposal passed.

Committee chairman Harold Blackwell of Salida said a retroactive benefits increase would cost approximately \$23,000 over three months. The amendment eventually passed, making the pay increase retroactive to Oct. 1.

Messengers expressed appreciation to Doris and Phil Card, who retire Dec. 31, from convention staff positions after more than 50 years combined service. Card is director of church training and recreation media. Mrs. Card is secretary to the director of cooperative missions.

Charles E. Sharp, director of church training and music for the Northern Plains Baptist Convention, will assume Card's position about Feb. 1, 1982.

Other resolutions encouraged churches to do the "very best possible for their pastors and staff" in retirement plans; denounced racism, hatred and other bigotry "being perpetrated often under the guise of masquerading under the Christian flag;" urged churches to adopt goals within the Bold Mission Thrust SBC goals; and supported a statement by John R. Cheyne, SBC Foreign Mission Board hunger consultant, that relief ministries are good, but "relief alone without spiritual followup is incomplete."

The 1982 convention meeting will be Nov. 9 - 11 at Applewood Baptist Church in Wheat Ridge.

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Maryland Executive
Announces Retirement

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11/17/81

LUTHERVILLE, Md. (BP)--Roy D. Gresham, executive director of the Baptist Convention of Maryland, since Jan. 1, 1958, has announced his intention to retire Dec. 31, 1982.

In a statement to the Nov. 16 meeting of the Maryland state mission board, Gresham noted his retirement will come upon completion of 25 years in the position.

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Born July 15, 1916, Gresham has served longer as chief executive of the Maryland convention than any of his four full-time predecessors. Before joining the state convention staff, he was pastor (1946-58) of Maryland's largest Southern Baptist congregation, Middle River Baptist Church in Baltimore.

During his tenure, the Baptist Convention of Maryland has grown from 150 cooperating congregations to 295. Cooperative Program gifts to world missions have increased from \$366,000 to more than \$2 million as approved by the state convention for its 1982 budget. Numerically, Southern Baptists in the state have increased from 46,000 to 106,000.

As a direct result of work by Maryland Baptists, conventions have been established in New York and Pennsylvania. Within the next two years Southern Baptists in New England will leave their close association with the Maryland Convention to begin their own state convention.

During his time of service, Maryland Baptists also expanded their state staff in every area, purchased land in Lutherville and constructed a Baptist building, and developed Skycroft, Maryland Baptist camping, conference and retreat center near Frederick, Md.

A native of Greenville, S.C., Gresham is a graduate of Furman University, was first vice-president of the SBC in 1964 and has been president of the Association of State Executive Secretaries.

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Campaign's Successes
Start Out as Problems

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JATIVA, Spain (BP)--Pranksters removed the evangelistic campaign's theme banner, "I Found Life Here," and put it up over the municipal cemetery entrance.

The lights went out twice when evangelists were ready to speak. Special music was interrupted when the performer experienced a stabbing pain in her neck.

But none of these mishaps was related to harassment or threats to religious liberty. They were simply minor distractions for leaders of Jativa Baptist Church who organized a 23-day evangelistic campaign in Spain's Valencia province. And by the time the effort ended, 35 had made professions of faith in Christ.

Church leaders said the campaign helped unite the church's 225 members and reached out to many new people. The inconveniences, for the most part, were turned to their advantage.

The banner over the cemetery attracted some attention to the campaign theme. And when the lights went out, evangelists used the opportunity to speak of Jesus as the light of the world. Maruja Gomez had to sit down in the middle of her solo because of the pain in her neck, but her husband, Antonio, pastor of Cordoba Baptist Church, went right on to preach a powerful message despite his concern for his wife.

Many of the campaign arrangements would not have been possible a few years ago when the Spanish government held tight rein over the religious liberties of all but the state-sanctioned Catholic church.

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Chirping crickets kept awake the men who remained with the tent each night, but a few years ago it would not have been possible for them to be there--on a vacant lot, rented to them by the city government for a nominal fee of \$50, and using 200 of the city's folding chairs.

Only in recent years have all denominations been able to freely express their faith and be open publicly with manifestations of that faith. The Jativa church campaign displayed its theme banner and had continuous activities, including music, films and preaching services.

Because restrictions had been eased, the Jativa church was free to put up posters at the fairgrounds and distribute some 15,000 invitations to the campaign (the Spanish Baptist Union has only slightly more than 7,000 members). Church members sold books and cassettes and distributed all 500 copies of a small hymnal of Christian choruses.

Daily attendance at the campaign averaged 150.

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Tart Customer Tests
Seminarian's Patience

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LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)--Steven Gibson was quite conscientious in his job at a convenience store in Louisville, Ky., but one customer really stretched his patience.

The store had just been robbed by a young man who shot Gibson once with a .22-caliber pistol on his way out the door. The bullet went through Gibson's arm and lodged in his hip.

While he was telephoning an ambulance service and the store owners, a woman entered the store and demanded prompt service.

Gibson lost a sale but not his cool.

"Lady," he replied firmly but politely, "we've just been robbed and I've been shot and I don't think I can help you."

Gibson, who had worked at the store only two weeks, returned to classes at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary after a few days in the hospital. But the first-year theology student from Fort Collins, Colo., will be finding another way to support his education.

"My mother was insistent that I not work there anymore," he explained.

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