



**-- FEATURES**  
produced by Baptist Press

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April 20, 1982

82-61

Agency Head Series No. 16

New Orleans President

A Preacher's Preacher

By Don H. Stewart

Baptist Press

4/20/82

NEW ORLEANS (BP)--Landrum P. Leavell II is "a preacher's preacher."

Leavell, president of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, has been a student of the preaching art all his life in classrooms that resembled the corridors of a family reunion.

He is the son of Leonard O. Leavell, a member of the Leavell family of Southern Baptist leaders. His "Uncle Frank," was a long-time leader of the Baptist Student Union of the Sunday School Board. "Uncle Roland," was a pulpiteer of the first order and the aggressive, innovative president of New Orleans Seminary during its significant transition years.

Those uncles were two of Leavell's favorite people. Their examples as spiritual leaders, capable administrators, and effective spokesmen for the Lord provided a challenging goal. Joined with the examples of his father and an almost endless list of powerful pulpit personalities to which the young minister was exposed, he acquired a love of preaching and an unwavering commitment to its prominent position in the gospel ministry.

If there is one thing he enjoys more than being president of the fourth largest theological school in the world, it is preaching. A hunter by nature and the owner of a number of fine bird dogs, he thrills at the excitement of the hunt. A competitor, he carries the intensity of the hunt into his pulpit service. He is convinced that the Apostle Paul was "on target" when he wrote, "It pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe (I Corinthians 1:21)."

So, this exemplary preacher makes meticulous preparation for the "hunt." Each message is to the point, well balanced, vividly illustrated, theologically sound, and delivered with enthusiasm. Each is developed with decision as its goal.

Changed lives evidence his success. In the wake of over 25 years in pastoral ministry, a line of strong evangelistic churches bears testimony. Leavell is constantly sought to fill Southern Baptist pulpits today. He is an unusually popular speaker at state evangelistic conferences and associational, state convention, and SBC pastor's conferences.

Leavell is never happier than when he is on a "busman's holiday." His avocation is his vocation. For instance, the highlight of a recent tour to the Holy Land, one of a number he and Mrs. Leavell have led, was the additional opportunities to preach it provided. One of his greatest pleasures as president of New Orleans Seminary is the opportunity the position affords for more preaching.

Landrum Leavell is a long-time jogger. He is committed to stewardship of the body as well as stewardship of the spirit and of finances. He maintains good health physically and spiritually by rigid discipline in both areas.

An early riser for many years, Leavell's morning run is preceded only by a quiet time for prayer and Bible study. Time with the Lord is the one thing without which this SBC executive refuses to begin the day.

He learned the principle of "storehouse tithing" to support the local church and its extended ministries the Sunday after he had worked a week on his first job when he was 13. He never intended to break that first dollar; he was going to keep it forever. But his dad made him change it to get the dime required for his tithe.

Leavell is a proponent of disciplined living and he proclaims the virtues of moderation and hard work. He is an example of both. Every Saturday at home, weather permitting, the seminary "chief," as some call him, is seen washing his cars on the driveway of the president's home on campus. The car provided by the seminary for official business could logically be relegated to the seminary's maintenance crew for care. The vehicles also include a 1916 green Chevrolet truck, an antique of which the "good doctor" is very proud. It was a gift from his family two years ago and has become a part of the Leavell presence.

The Leavells, Landrum and JoAnn, have four children. The eldest, Landrum P. Leavell III, is a doctoral student at the seminary and pastor of Delcambre Baptist Church in the French country near New Iberia, La. Ann, the second child, is the wife of Finis Beauchamp, also a doctoral student at New Orleans and pastor of First Baptist Church of Port Allen, La.

Roland, the third child, named for former seminary president Roland Q. Leavell, and his wife Lisa, live on the seminary campus where he is director of auxiliary services. The oldest three Leavell children are graduates of Mississippi College. David, the youngest, is a senior and basketball star at Clifton L. Ganus High School in New Orleans. He hopes to play for a Baptist college next fall.

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(BP) photo mailed to state Baptist newspapers by New Orleans Seminary.

Shuttle Bus System  
Scheduled For SBC

Baptist Press  
4/20/82

NEW ORLEANS (BP) -- Parking will be very limited for the 1982 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in the Louisiana Superdome, according to local arrangements officials, who urge all messengers -- especially those staying downtown -- to use the New Orleans bus system.

For the morning and afternoon sessions, all adjacent lots and two-thirds of the parking at the Superdome will be used by New Orleans residents who work in the downtown areas. The entire parking supply will be available only for the evening sessions.

Cost for the parking will vary. Daytime parking -- 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. -- will be \$2 in the Northwest Garage and \$2.50 in all other garages. Nighttime parking will be \$3 in all garages. The prices do not include in-out privileges.

Space will be available for 70 buses and 30 campers in the Superdome side lot at a cost of \$55 for Sunday-Thursday or \$35 for Tuesday-Thursday. Permits for bus and camper parking are available through the Baptist Association of Greater New Orleans, 2222 Lakeshore Drive, New Orleans, La. 70122, or by telephone at 504-282-1428.

The camper/bus permits provide in-out privileges, but overnight parking is prohibited. The permits, available first-come, first-serve, become valid at 5 p.m. Sunday, June 13.

According to local arrangements officials, messengers may use the shuttle bus system in the downtown area. A map of the routes will be included in messenger packets. Cost of the ride is 20 cents, and the buses run every eight minutes from 6:30 a.m. to 7:15 p.m.

A night shuttle service will be provided on Tuesday and Wednesday only, at a cost of 50 cents per ride. The buses will run from 9 to 10:30 p.m.

Regular bus service also is available to messengers, particularly those lodging on Tulane Ave. Buses run every 15 minutes from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. and cost 40 cents per ride.

For airport transportation, buses run on a variable schedule to the New Orleans airport at a cost of 65 cents one way.

Taxis are available for a 90-cent drop charge and 80 cents per mile. The charge airport to downtown is \$18.25 for up to three persons, or \$6 per person for four or more.

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Conference Of Evangelists  
To Honor Seventeen Veterans

NEW ORLEANS (BP) -- Seventeen veteran Southern Baptist evangelists will be honored during the annual meeting of the Conference of Southern Baptist Evangelists (CSBE) June 16.

The meeting is one of several scheduled in conjunction with the 1982 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention June 15-17 in the Louisiana Superdome.

The veteran evangelists, to be honored during a 6 p.m. banquet in the Hilton Hotel, include Sam Allen, Lubbock, Texas; Hyman Appleman, Kansas City, Mo.; Porter Barrington, Thousand Oaks, Calif.; Clifton Brannon, Longview, Texas; G. P. Comer, Dallas; E. J. Daniel, Orlando, Fla.; Eddie Lieberman, Greenville, S.C.;

Also, Eddie Martin, Lancaster, Pa.; Angel Martinez, Fort Smith, Ark.; Percy Ray, Myrtle, Miss.; Jack Stanton, Boliver, Mo.; Steve Taylor, Greenville, S.C.; John Tierney, Greenville, S.C.; J. Oscar Wells, Bethany, Okla., and Grady Wilson, Montreat, N.C.

The veterans will be presented with a plaque of appreciation and a color photograph of themselves and denominational leaders, including SBC President Bailey E. Smith.

Bobby Sunderland, director of mass evangelism at the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, and Stan Coffey, pastor of First Baptist Church of Albuquerque, N.M., will emcee the banquet.

The general session of the CSBE will be from 12:30 to 5:30 p.m., and will include addresses by evangelists Larry Taylor of San Antonio, Texas; Manley Beasley of Euless, Texas; James Robison of Hurst, Texas, and J. Harold Smith of Orlando, Fla.

Also to participate are Darrell Robinson, pastor of Dauphin Way Baptist Church of Mobile, Ala.; Adrian Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church of Memphis, Tenn., and past president of the SBC, and Paige Patterson, president of the Criswell Center for Biblical Studies in Dallas.

Music will be led by Chuck Kennedy of Florissant, Mo., music director for the conference and Lee Castro of Hermitage, Tenn., assistant music director. Participants include the McKay-Cole Heirborn group of Fort Worth, Texas; Rhonda Robison of Hurst; Pat Roper of Greenville, S.C.; Eddie and Alice Smith of Houston; Richard Vaughn of Lumberton, Texas, and Sandee Williams of Jacksonville, Fla.

Officers of the conference are Freddie Gage, of Fort, Worth, president; Ed Stalnecker of Jacksonville, Fla., vice president; Kennedy, music director; Castro, assistant music director, and Don Womack of Memphis, Tenn., executive director.

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Southern Selects Thompson  
As Professor Of Preaching

Baptist Press  
4/20/82

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP) -- Luther Joe Thompson, pastor of First Baptist Church of Richmond, Va., has been appointed professor of preaching at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Thompson, 63, announced his resignation as pastor of the 3,800 member church April 18. He will join the seminary this summer.

Walter B. Shurden, dean of Southern's School of Theology, said Thompson's appointment gives the seminary the largest preaching department in its history.

Shurden noted the Richmond church has close ties to the seminary. Basil Manly Jr., sixth pastor of the church, was one of Southern's four founding professors. Jeremiah Bell Jeter, the church's fifth pastor, was the first president of the seminary's board of trustees, and John A. Broadus, another founding professor and the second seminary president, was interim pastor of the church in 1873.

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Thompson also has close ties to the seminary. He received a ThM degree from Southern in 1945, has been national alumni president and currently is a seminary trustee. He is a graduate of Carson-Newman College and received a doctorate from the University of Edinburgh.

Thompson, a native of Tennessee, became pastor of the Richmond church in 1968. Previously, he was pastor of First Baptist Church of Chattanooga, Tenn., and churches in Tennessee, Oklahoma and Mississippi.

He presently is the trustee of the University of Richmond, and has been trustee of Carson-Newman and of Midwestern and of Golden Gate Baptist Seminaries. He is active in community and civic affairs, serving on the Virginia Governor's Bi-Racial Advisory Committee.

His wife, the former Mary Evelyn Wingo, is an historian and author of a biography on Baptist missionary, Luther Rice. The Thompson's have two sons, Joseph Mark, a medical doctor, and Luther Kent, artistic director of the Virginia Shakespeare Festival.

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Church Money Gone  
Visiting Trio Suspect

Baptist Press  
4/20/82

LAFAYETTE, Colo. (BP)--A man, woman and small child are suspected of robbing Mountain View Baptist church of \$1,000 in cash and checks just before the worship service April 18.

A church member spotted the adults enter the church office between Sunday School and church, then exit the building and drive away before the worship service started.

Several minutes later, the church treasurer discovered the Sunday School collection money missing. Church pastor Paul Logue said they will use a more secure method of money storage in the future.

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High Court Won't Review  
Two Church-State Cases

By Larry Chesser

Baptist Press  
4/20/82

WASHINGTON (BP)--Returning to the bench after a two-week recess, the U.S. Supreme Court declined to review lower court rulings in a pair of church-state cases.

In one case, the high court's action left standing a ruling by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia which upheld the constitutionality of the FBI's 1977 search of the Washington, D.C. offices of the founding Church of Scientology.

The Scientologists had sought the return of all documents taken during that search, contending that the warrant used by federal agents was unconstitutionally general.

The U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia agreed with that contention, but the Court of Appeals reversed, holding that neither the warrant for the FBI's execution of it were "impermissably general."

Evidence gathered from simultaneous searches of two Hollywood, Calif. Scientology offices was used in the subsequent convictions of Scientology members of conspiracy to burglarize and steal documents from government offices. Documents from the Washington office were not used in the criminal proceedings.

In a second dispute, the Supreme Court left undisturbed a ruling by the Minnesota Supreme Court upholding the denial of a state income tax exemption to a resident who assigned all his income to his "personal church" but drew from that income to pay personal debts and living expenses.

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Sidney R. Baldwin, who earned more than \$21,000 as an electrician in 1977, claimed his entire income was deductible as a contribution to his personal church after obtaining a certificate of ordination in the Basic Bible Church of America from Jerome Daly. He also received a church charter and set of by-laws establishing him as an auxiliary church known as The Order of Almighty God, Chapter 7909.

Minnesota's commissioner of revenue disallowed the claim and Baldwin's subsequent appeals to the Minnesota tax court and the Minnesota Supreme Court were unsuccessful.

Baldwin cited federal tax exemption statutes in his brief asking the high court to determine whether there was sufficient evidence that his organization was operated exclusively for religious purposes and therefore exempt from personal income taxes.

In an opposing brief, the Minnesota attorney general countered that state law—not federal law—is at issue in the case. The brief further declared that references to federal statutes are irrelevant since those laws do not restrict the states' power to enact their own income tax exemption statutes.

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CORRECTION: In BP story mailed 4/19 entitled "Convention Child Care Director Asks Children Be Pre-enrolled" please drop last paragraph and substitute; Child care is limited to children who have not entered first grade. There will be no child care provided during sessions of the Pastors' Conference.

Thanks, Baptist Press