

**(BP)****BAPTIST PRESS**

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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October 13, 1982

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**Bold Mission Thrust
Spurs CP Giving Record**

By Craig Bird

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—Southern Baptists responded to Bold Mission Thrust through their pocketbooks in record fashion during the SBC's just-completed fiscal year.

The Cooperative Program, the unified giving program through which the 36,000-plus affiliated churches support the worldwide missions, evangelism and educational efforts of the denomination, received \$93,344,356 from Oct. 1, 1981 through Sept. 30, 1982, an increase of 14.27 percent over fiscal 1980-81 and \$344,356 beyond budget requirements.

"To have reached this level of giving in the face of a challenging budget, especially when you consider what some of our people are going through economically, is really tremendous," Harold Bennett, executive secretary-treasurer of the SBC Executive Committee said.

"It also shows a great sense of commitment for Bold Mission Thrust (the SBC effort to tell everyone in the world about Christ by the year 2000) on the part of the state conventions since many of them made significant increases in the percentage of Cooperative Program gifts from the churches in their states that they sent on to the national agencies," he added.

Established, old-line states, such as Texas, Kentucky and Oklahoma, were leaders in dollar increase while newer state conventions, such as West Virginia and Alaska, were the percentage increase leaders.

"The commitment to fund the various programs of Bold Mission Thrust is evident across the convention," Tim Hedquist, assistant to the treasurer and director of financial planning for the SBC executive committee, said. "This is the biggest percentage increase for the convention since 1950." The overage will be divided among the 20 SBC national agencies on the same percentage the budget is divided, he said.

The numbers are impressive from any direction:

Ten states increased contributions by more than \$500,000 each—led by Texas' increase of more than \$3 million (\$17,300,466 from \$14,259,616). Florida increased by more than \$1 million (to \$6,456,862), while Kentucky, Georgia, Mississippi, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama and Louisiana rounded out the "half million club."

Twenty-eight of the conventions increased their contributions more than the estimated inflation of approximately 6 percent over the same 12 months. West Virginia led with an increase of 54.93 percent and Alaska was second at 33.73. Utah-Idaho was third (26.23), Kentucky was fourth (24.28) and Texas was fifth (21.32).

Despite rising unemployment and continued economic difficulties, 31 of the 34 conventions gave more through the Cooperative Program than the year before.

The 34 state conventions, with the amount they contributed through the Cooperative Program and the change from a year ago are: Alabama, \$6,135,580 (+15.5); Alaska, \$111,962 (+33.73); Arizona, \$428,522 (+17.67); Arkansas, \$3,435,029 (+13.34); California, \$1,082,164 (+16.62); Colorado, \$286,937 (+2.51); District of Columbia, \$89,341 (+1.24);

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Florida, \$6,456,862 (+18.52); Georgia, \$7,427,161 (+8.99); Hawaii, \$76,331 (+11.67); Illinois, \$1,396,065 (+6.58); Indiana, \$361,303 (+4.78); Kansas-Nebraska, \$292,737 (+21.05); Kentucky, \$4,654,783 (+24.28); Louisiana, \$4,419,484 (+13.42); Maryland, \$772,326 (+6.33); Michigan, \$183,583 (-9.76); Mississippi, \$4,497,355 (+12.94);

Missouri, \$3,792,387 (+7.07); Nevada, \$39,249 (+11.10); New Mexico, \$538,151 (+7.02); New York, \$54,580 (-2.00); North Carolina, \$6,526,654 (+7.86); Northern Plains, \$57,796 (-25.10); Northwest, \$397,527 (+8.13); Ohio, \$849,997 (+12.15); Oklahoma, \$6,211,810 (+18.19); Pennsylvania-South Jersey, \$88,579 (+8.64);

South Carolina, \$5,151,586 (+11.22); Tennessee, \$5,579,151 (+10.81); Texas, \$17,300,466 (+21.32); Utah-Idaho, \$56,140 (+26.23); Virginia, \$3,941,167, (+6.10) West Virginia, \$98,709 (+54.93). Puerto Rico, which is not a state convention and which did not contribute through the Cooperative Program last year, sent \$3,412 to the national programs.

Designated giving, primarily the Christmas offering for foreign missions and the Easter offering for home missions, showed a healthy increase of 12.65 percent. In fact, five states ranked in the top ten for percentage increased in both Cooperative Program and designated giving. Alaska, second in CP increase, was the leader in designated increase (37.74); West Virginia, the CP leader, was fourth in designated increase (22.97); Texas was fifth and seventh (14.62), Oklahoma was eighth (18.19) in CP and third in designated (29.39), and California was 10th (16.62) and sixth (14.67).

Designated gifts to the national level were: \$80,578,473--an increase of 12.65 percent over last fiscal year.

A.R. Fagan, executive director of the SBC Stewardship Commission, welcomed the response from across the 13.8-million-member denomination. "With Cooperative Program receipts increasing at a more rapid rate than they have in 32 years, and with the Consumer Price Index dropping, the financial possibility of Bold Mission Thrust becomes more feasible," he said.

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First Missionaries Assigned
To French Guiana, Norway

By Mary Jane Welch

Baptist Press
10/13/82

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board has assigned its first missionaries to French Guiana and Norway, but has removed Nicaragua and Libya from the list of countries where missionaries serve.

The changes, all effective Nov. 1, keep the number of countries with assigned Southern Baptist missionaries at 96. With the addition of French Guiana, Southern Baptist missionaries will be assigned to every country in South America.

Missionaries James and Jerri Darnell of Oklahoma and Georgia will transfer from Ivory Coast to begin work in French Guiana, a thinly populated country between Surinam and Brazil on the northeast coast of South America. David and Martha Hause of Florida will transfer from Greece to Norway to work with the English-language church in Stavanger.

The Darnells will be doing pioneer work, establishing the first Baptist churches in French Guiana, says Don Kammerdiener, the board's director for Middle America and the Caribbean. The country is an overseas department of France and populated mostly by Creole people, those with a mixed descent from Europe, Africa, Asia and South America. Roman Catholics outnumber Protestant Christians in the country.

The Hauses will be the first permanent Southern Baptist missionary personnel assigned to Norway, but volunteers, a journeyman and other temporary personnel have worked there. The Foreign Mission Board also has participated in partnership evangelism projects with the Baptist Union of Norway, most recently in early October.

Norwegian Baptists number about 6,500 in a country where about 95 percent of the population belong to the state Lutheran church, says Per Midteide, general secretary of the Baptist Union. Norwegian Baptists began sending missionaries in 1920 to Zaire, where there are now about 20,000 Baptists, he added.

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Parkes and Martha Ellen Marler of Mississippi will transfer to Greece to replace the Hauses, who have been the only Southern Baptist missionaries in the country. They will continue work with an English speaking church in Athens.

Removal of Nicaragua and Libya from the list of countries with missionaries comes with the official transfer of Ed and Kathy Steele from Nicaragua to Panama and of Harold and Dot Blankenship from Libya to Morocco.

The Steeles of Oklahoma left Nicaragua earlier this year after the Baptist convention there advised the Foreign Mission Board not to send missionaries until political tensions in the country eased. The other couple assigned to Nicaragua, Stanley and Glenna Stamps, from Mississippi and Texas, were on furlough at that time, but have since transferred to Honduras.

Kammerdiener, who oversees work in Nicaragua, said Southern Baptists are maintaining relations with Nicaraguan Baptists although they cannot send missionaries there now. Nicaraguan representatives participated in a recent evangelism conference sponsored by the Foreign Mission Board in Panama, and the Foreign Mission Board continues to send relief funds for Nicaraguan Baptists to use with refugees there.

The Blankenships, who are from Tennessee and Alabama, left Libya for Morocco Feb. 7 after the U.S. government urged all Americans to leave as relations with the Libyan government deteriorated. Blankenship had been pastor of the English-language Baptist church in Tripoli, Libya, since missionary appointment 16 years earlier. He is now English-language pastor in Rabat, Morocco.

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Former Attorney General
Urges Return 'To Bedrock'

Baptist Press
10/13/82

ATLANTA (BP)—Former U.S. Attorney General Griffin Bell, helping celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's move from Marion, Ala., to Atlanta, urged churches to "bring this country back to the bedrock" of fundamental social values.

Bell, attorney general during the Carter administration, called for a return to the fundamentals of "truth, justice, honor, country, pity and shame."

The former judge said organized religion and the "arms of the church" such as the Home Mission Board have the highest responsibility in America to bring about such a return.

Although he praised the development of a sense of social responsibility in government, Bell decried the evolution of a system in which a person can receive more in welfare than by working at minimum wage.

"We are rapidly developing an underclass in our country" which refuses to work, Bell charged. He added that 70 million taxpayers support 81 million people who pay no taxes.

"Where has our sense of shame gone?" Bell lamented. If America is to cure some of its problems, the nation must develop a corporate sense of pity and shame, he said.

No organization in America can help more than the church in bringing about a return to fundamental values, Bell said.

A Southern Baptist layman and active member of Second-Ponce de Leon Baptist Church where the anniversary celebration lunch was held, Bell shared the platform with SBC President Jimmy Draper.

Draper praised the Home Mission Board, saying the agency is "the cutting edge of what we are doing as Southern Baptists" because it offers a way for Baptists to be involved in missions in tough, unglamorous places in America. "Foreign missions has always had our support, because that's an intriguing, romantic, mystical thing," Draper said. "Home missions is more difficult because it lacks the romance of far-away places."

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Draper, pastor of First Baptist Church, Euless, Texas, pointed out 1,000 of the 4,000 students now enrolled at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, plan to go into missions, many of them through the Home Mission Board. "You'd better gear up your budget to support these folks, for they're ready to go," he said.

During the luncheon, a multimedia presentation traced the history of the Home Mission Board, and the decision to move the then destitute agency from Marion, Ala., to Atlanta in 1882.

One hundred years ago, when the Home Mission Board was 37 years old, the board received financial support totalling almost \$30,000 which could support only 40 missionaries. Today, the HMB operates on a budget of \$40.5 million, supporting more than 3,000 missionaries in all 50 states, American Samoa and the Virgin Islands.

About 250 HMB directors, staff, and guests, including representatives of 46 businesses, churches and other Atlanta organizations founded more than 100 years ago, attended the celebration.

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Missionary Recognition
Service Has China Flavor

By Bill Webb

Baptist Press
10/13/82

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—This year's Foreign Mission Board recognition service for 27 retiring Southern Baptist missionaries had a definite Chinese flavor.

Oswald Quick, who with his wife, Mary, was among six emeritus missionaries who had served briefly in China, recalled a visit they made last year to Kweilin, China. They had been missionaries there 32 year earlier until advancing Communists forced them out.

"We went to church and found people who had known us and had prayed for my wife and daughter (who had left Kweilin ahead of him for medical reasons) through these years," Quick marveled.

In Shanghi, Quick found men who had lived with him as students for about five weeks during the Communist advance. He discovered "they had been embarrassed and ridiculed but they had kept their faith."

The only note of sadness in the reunion came when Quick asked about a young man named Gregory. "Poor Greg," they responded, "he has left the faith."

The Quicks served 36 years in China, the Philippines and Taiwan. Four years before their marriage, Quick was appointed to Japan then reassigned to China. An appendicitis attack in December 1941, brought him to Hong Kong for surgery. While he recuperated, Hong Kong fell to the Japanese and Quick was interned for five months.

Thirty-nine-year veteran Fay Taylor, who worked in China, Indonesia and Hong Kong, presented the board with rubbings from the Nestorian Tablet, the only record that Christianity entered China via Nestorian priests in the sixth century.

The tissue-thin rubbings had been presented to her by a pastor when she was a young missionary in Changhai. Not fully realizing the value and importance of the gift, she "folded it up and it's been in my trunk for 30 years."

She had the rubbings mounted on a large scroll for the board, she said, "to remind us that if we're going to have a Bold Mission Thrust that will reach the peoples of the world, we must not forget a fourth of the world's population, the people who belong to the Chinese race."

Frances (Mrs. Sidney) Goldfinch, with her husband a 42-year veteran of Uruguay, Paraguay and Costa Rica, admitted her own Chinese connection.

"I am the reincarnation of Lottie Moon," she said with mock seriousness. "I was born the week she died." The audience of friends, board members and Foreign Mission Board staff roared with laughter.

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The night was a recognition of 891 years of combined missionary service. An evening of testimonies to the power of prayer and the love of God and of memories of years and years on foreign soil.

Theresa Anderson, who worked for 35 years in China and the Philippines, expressed her appreciation for the influence of missionary grandparents and parents, and the mother who reared her after her natural mother died in childbirth.

Anderson said if she could, she would tell that second mother, now deceased, "Thank you, Mother, for the times that you have just embarrassed me to death by witnessing to people when I thought it was entirely out of line."

Cornelia Leavell, with 40 years in China, Hawaii and Hong Kong, expressed thanks for the prayers of a grandmother she never knew. "She had a prayer room and she prayed for her children...her grandchildren, her great-grandchildren, her great-great-grandchildren and on down through the generations," Leavell, also the daughter of missionaries, recalled. "And though I never knew that grandmother, I have felt those prayers."

Frances Roberts, 36 years in Paraguay and Argentina and a veteran of the Malvinas (Falkland) Islands crisis, told how she had discovered a ministry to people in hospitals after she found herself hospitalized for three weeks.

"Through that experience I became identified with people who did not know the Lord and some who did not live very far from me," she explained. "Through suffering we have an identity."

Anne (Mrs. Lloyd) Neil, who with her husband logged 27 years in Nigeria and Ghana, seemed to sum up the feelings for all the missionaries being recognized: "Tonight I stand before you as an emeritus missionary. My status with the Foreign Mission Board changes but my status on mission for God in the world will never change in this life."

Other retirees present for the service were Ed and Jean Engstrom, 14 years, Philippines; Jenell Greer, 39 years, China and Thailand; Thelma Moorehead (whose husband Marion is recovering from a heart attack and was not present), 36 years, Japan; Tom and Marceille Hollingsworth, 32 years, Mexico, Baptist Spanish Publishing House, Nicaragua and El Salvador; and Wayne and Dorothy Logan, 30 years, Nigeria.

James and Frances Watson, 31 years in Argentina, Paraguay and the Philippines; and Edith Rose Weller, 21 years in Brazil, could not attend.

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(BP) photos to be mailed to state papers by Richmond Bureau of Baptist Press.

Moody Challenges Students To Lead Worldwide Revival

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)—California pastor Jess Moody predicts "a great spiritual awakening" is on the verge of "jarring this whole world."

Moody, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church of Van Nuys, told a capacity audience at a revival service at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary he is convinced revival will begin "not in the churches, but on the campuses of this country."

Alluding to student revival movements of the past, he challenged the students to pray that God would make the Louisville campus the hub of a worldwide spiritual awakening. "A great awakening at this seminary, with students from all over the globe, could electrify this world," he said. He urged students to pray that "God will call out young people in America to lead the churches" in revival.

Moody admitted that such a revival would reverse the current trend. He lamented that "the only place on this earth where there is not a great movement of the Holy Spirit is America." The 1955 graduate of Southern Seminary, warned students against "believer's burnout," which cripples church staff members as well as laypersons. Too many Christians, he said, are "trying to run on carnal fuel," rather than the power of the Holy Spirit.

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