



## BAPTIST PRESS

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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Carrolls to Leave FMB;  
May Join Global Outreach

**RICHMOND, Va. (BP)**--Webster Carroll, Southern Baptist missionary known for his work in Uganda during and after Idi Amin's reign, and his wife, Betty, have resigned from Southern Baptist missionary service effective May 31.

Carroll plans to affiliate with Global Outreach, an organization based in Tupelo, Miss., which works primarily in hunger-related projects. Owen Cooper, former president of the SBC, is president of the group. If Carroll affiliates with the group, he will be responsible for raising his own support.

He and his wife were emotionally involved "in the death of our beloved Uganda under the savage rule of Idi Amin," he said. But "we have been just as emotionally involved in anticipating our Baptist Mission of Uganda's opportunity and responsibility to help rebirth Uganda in the compassionate love and 'cup of cold water' ministry of Jesus."

Carroll believes the Baptist mission in Uganda did not take advantage of some opportunities to help in that ministry. Feeling God was leading him and his wife to accept such opportunities, they decided to resign from Southern Baptist mission service. He stressed a feeling of love and respect for the Uganda missionaries and love and devotion to the Foreign Mission Board staff after 27 years of work fellowship.

Davis Saunders, the board's director for Eastern and Southern Africa, expressed sorrow over the Carrolls' decision, especially since they had worked together since 1956 when he, his wife and the Carrolls were missionaries in East Africa.

Saunders said he had met with the Carrolls several times in East Africa and in the United States to try to find a way they could continue their work within the fellowship of the Baptist Union of Uganda, the Baptist Mission of Uganda and the Foreign Mission Board.

With Global Outreach, Carroll anticipates spending much of his time overseas, initially in Uganda, where he hopes to help with projects such as a mass inoculation campaign, a cattle project and a Christian basketball team project in high schools during the summer of 1984.

Carroll said he believes their decision is in the best interest of the denomination and will strengthen the world mission enterprise and Bold Mission Thrust. "We know it is certainly quickening our concern and love for our beloved denomination," he said.

The Carrolls and one other missionary couple, Jim and Linda Rice, stayed in Uganda through Idi Amin's reign. Because of Carroll's ties, they were able to arrange for the first planeload of medical aid to enter the country following Amin's downfall.

The Foreign Mission Board began sending relief to Ugandan refugees in Kenya during the latter days of Amin's rule. Since 1979 it has allocated approximately \$500,000 for hunger and relief projects in the country.

Church Rates Set  
For Baptist TelNet

By Linda Lawson

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)--Baptist TelNet church subscription rates--ranging from a minimum monthly fee of \$33 to a maximum of \$175, based on resident church membership--have been announced by Grady Cothen, president of the Baptist Sunday School Board.

The satellite telecommunications network to churches will become operational in the spring of 1984. While the actual start-up date has not been set, Cothen said it would be no later than June 11-13, the date of the 1984 Southern Baptist Convention in Kansas City.

Earlier, prices for Broadman receiving earth stations were announced. A 10-dish, which will receive the BTN signal in most locations, costs \$2,795 installed or \$2,295 not installed.

A 500-member church can buy necessary equipment--an earth station, video cassette player/recorder, television set and one-year subscription to Baptist TelNet for less than \$5,000. Costs for succeeding years would be limited to the subscription fee and video supplies.

"By careful management, many thousands of churches can afford to purchase the equipment and receive the top-quality programs on Baptist TelNet," said Cothen. "The prices are much less than we originally thought they would be."

Church subscription rates include a monthly base rate of \$33 plus a fee of 8 cents per resident member per month for each member above 149. Payments can be made monthly, quarterly or yearly, with a five percent discount given for an annual payment in advance.

For example, a church of 300 resident members would pay a monthly subscription rate of \$45.08 (\$33 base fee plus \$12.08 for 151 members above 149). The quarterly charge would be \$135.24 or annual, \$540.96.

All churches with more than 1,920 resident members would pay the maximum monthly rate of \$175--\$524 quarterly or \$2,906, annually.

With a BTN subscription, a church will receive more than 400 hours of new programs to be broadcast the first year, program schedules, user's guides for each program and a board-owned decoder to unscramble the signal.

Cothen said the seven to eight hours of new programs to be broadcast each week will be the heart of Baptist TelNet. "The variety of programs designed to help various facets of church life will be endless," he noted.

Plans call for programs to be broadcast at least twice to accommodate time zone differences and to allow churches more than one opportunity to tape a program for later use.

For 1984, weekly programs in the planning or production stages include preparation helps for Sunday school workers, a training magazine, a conference for pastors and a series on ministering to families.

Limited-duration series will address topics such as biblical discipleship, choral concepts for the minister of music and church drama. Church growth, reaching and baptizing college students, the small church and witnessing will also be the subjects of BTN programs.

"We expect the best training activities in Baptist life will be available through Baptist TelNet," said Cothen. He added programs regularly will be videotaped from Ridgecrest and Glorieta conference centers, meetings of the Southern Baptist Convention and Baptist World Alliance and from foreign and home mission fields.

He said response from other SBC agencies desiring to broadcast programs via Baptist TelNet has been excellent. "We anticipate most agencies will use the network and it will have widespread use among state conventions," said Cothen.

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"Missions Update," a quarterly news program produced since 1980 by the Foreign Mission Board and distributed through the SBC Video Tape Service and directors of missions will be broadcast over BTN.

The Video Tape Service, a cooperative venture of state conventions and Southern Baptist agencies to provide educational and informational videotapes to churches is expected to be gradually incorporated into Baptist TelNet.

Cothen said one important decision yet to be made is the subscription rate for associations, which will be able to make tapes of programs available to churches not subscribing to Baptist TelNet.

Should any problems develop with the launch of Spacenet 1 satellite in early 1984, Cothen said transponder time will be leased on another satellite to enable BTN broadcasts to begin on schedule. A book to assist church leaders, Making Baptist TelNet Work in Your Church, is being written by Morton Rose and Lue Bishop and will be released June 1, 1984.

Internally, Cothen said as the network has moved from planning to implementation stages, responsibility has been transferred from the office of planning to executive vice president James Clark, who has been named chairman of the Teleteam which coordinates BTN.

Programs are being developed within departments, according to their program assignments. Program production has been assigned to the Broadman division.

Cothen said he envisions many additional uses for Baptist TelNet "as we become fully aware of its potential." These include two-way communication, data communication, electronic mail, remote printing and computer conferencing.

With Baptist TelNet to churches and the American Christian Television System network into homes, "Southern Baptists are in an unparalleled position in communicating the gospel and its implications to both the secular and religious worlds," said Cothen.

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(Photo mailed to state Baptist newspapers by the Sunday School Board bureau of Baptist Press)

Southern Baptists, Barrett  
T Study Cities of World

By Bill Webb

Baptist Press  
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RICHMOND, Va. (BP)--Southern Baptist have teamed up with a prominent Anglican researcher to study the world's 2,200 largest cities, a project that could have far-reaching implications for evangelization in an increasingly urban world.

David B. Barrett, a missionary who serves as research officer for the Anglican Church in Kenya and the Anglican Communion worldwide, has agreed to serve as research director for the two-year Foreign Mission Board project, which also will involve Southern Baptists' Center for Urban Church Studies in Nashville, Tenn.

Barrett, based in Nairobi, Kenya, is best known as editor of the 1,010-page "World Christian Encyclopedia," published in 1982, a massive survey of world Christianity arranged country by country. From initial planning to finished publication, the project spanned 14 years.

The urban study will focus on the state of Christianity in the 2,200 cities with populations of at least 100,000, including the 270 cities with more than a million and the 500 with at least a half million. The Center for Urban Church Studies will coordinate studies of United States cities within those classifications.

Research is expected to yield accurate church membership statistics of each Christian group in a city, trends on rural Christians moving to cities and specifics on church-related institutions and ministries. Barrett says such data have never before been collected and compiled city by city.

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Foreign board strategist Clark Scanlon believes that with increasing urbanization, especially in Third World countries, the cooperative effort will yield fresh, accurate information that will give direction to strategies and plans for evangelizing cities.

"Nobody knows what the results are going to be," Barrett said in his precise British accent. But he predicts, "There are going to be some very big surprises." The study is expected to be complete by mid-1985 and the results will likely spawn position and strategy papers for a proposed Baptist consultation on world evangelization.

The timing of the study and the consultation is strategic because researchers predict the majority of the world's people will live in cities by 1995.

Up to now, Barrett said, the Christian mission has been largely a rural-or countryside-based mission and the church has mistakenly believed that the urban masses are thoroughly pagan.

However, many cities are swelling with Christians who move in from the countryside but fail to join churches, he has discovered. "They intend to link up but as the months pass by, the intent withers and finally dies and we hear no more from them again."

A realistic mission strategy for the cities needs to include a ministry to these transplanted Christians as well as a witness to the non-Christians, he maintains.

Both Barrett and Scanlon agree that Southern Baptist missionaries in about 100 overseas countries will be natural allies in completing a 150-question survey form which Barrett describes as similar to a Gallup poll. "Missionaries tend to know more about cities than anyone else," Barrett maintains. "If you are a foreigner, you become a more impartial observer after a time than a national."

In a dialogue session with Foreign Mission Board members at their May meeting, Barrett said he favored overwhelmingly the idea of a consultation on world evangelization, a concept approved at the board's April meeting. He called it unique, timely and essential. "No one else is able to do what you're proposing," he asserted. "Whether you do it is up to you."

The proposal calls for Southern Baptists to consult with all interested Baptist unions and conventions with which Southern Baptists work overseas to discover better strategies for jointly presenting the gospel to everyone in the world before the end of the century.

Barrett told board members and staffers one concern he had with the plan is that it is called a Baptist proposal and that the proposed participants in the meeting represent just a tenth of one percent of the Christian world.

He cited William Carey's "An Enquiry Into the Obligation of Christians to Use Means for the Conversion of the Heathen" (1792), which doesn't use the title "Baptist" and speaks of Christians rather than Baptists. "As a result of that, this book has had enormous influence throughout the world and throughout the missionary world the past 200 years," he explained.

He suggested the consultation would have broader impact by dropping "Baptist" from the title and splitting the consultation into two parts. The first should deal with "the whole world, the whole of Christianity" and the second with Baptist applications and the Baptist community's role in world evangelization.

The Anglican researcher called on the board to consider designating at least a half percent of its budget to Christian research projects, particularly on world evangelization and the church's mission. He admitted he was amazed that within the Southern Baptist Convention there are large numbers of talented secular researchers who would be willing to research "the kingdom of God" but have never been asked.

The Foreign Mission Board is budgeting \$50,000 for the study. Barrett, whose missionary salary is paid by Anglicans, will receive no fee from the board.

Before the consultation a series of research papers should be commissioned on evangelization and related matters such as eschatology (the theology of last things) and a history of past consultations, he suggested.

In addition to a bibliography on evangelization and a carefully prepared study of semantics to define key terms beforehand, Barrett recommended a paper dealing with the dangers of ministering in the modern world, such as the dangers of relating too closely to governments or of disruption by terrorism.

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(Photo mailed to state Baptist newspapers by Richmond bureau of Baptist Press.)

Single Adults  
Untapped Resource

By Gail Rothwell

Baptist Press  
5/27/83

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP)--Single adults can make significant leadership and financial contributions to Southern Baptist churches but they remain the greatest untapped resource in the Southern Baptist Convention.

John C. Howell, professor of ethics and family life at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo., and Dan Crawford, national evangelism consultant with singles, Home Mission Board, Atlanta, Ga., addressed 65 participants attending the second national conference for single adult special consultants. The conference is a project of the family ministry department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

Crawford said 34 percent of the United States adult population are single adults and "while we sit around talking about Bold Mission Thrust and evangelism the world is literally going to hell because we have failed to utilize one-third of our resources." Non-Christian singles are also one of the greatest mission fields available to Southern Baptists, he said.

Howell believes churches are "slowly realizing single adults can make significant contributions through time, money, energy and talents."

According to Howell, many churches are reluctant to minister to singles because they hold negative views regarding the single lifestyle. "Churches are afraid that when they put singles together in the same room they are in some way promoting sexual relationships between them," he explained. Churches need to realize that single adults can relate to each other as fellow believers and not as objects of lust, Howell said.

The most important thing a church can do for singles is "create a climate of acceptance that includes them in the fellowship of the church," Howell said.

Because a ministry to singles includes never marrieds, widowed, single parents and single again persons, Howell believes churches are going to have to come to grips with the reality of divorce. "Divorce is a violation of God's creative purpose for marriage, but it is not the unpardonable sin," he stressed. "I would hope a person's marital failure would not get in the way of his potential for service within a church," he said.

Southern Baptist churches need to take an in-depth look at Jesus' teachings and be more willing to follow his example, noted Howell. "Jesus did not condone past failure, neither did he condemn the person. Jesus accepted people as they were and helped them to grow to what they were capable of becoming," he said.

Howell stressed that while churches need to minister to singles, they should be careful not to over-emphasize the single lifestyle. "Marriage is still a wholesome, healthy state and in no way do we wish to convey that singleness is always preferable to marriage. It is my hope churches can get to a point where they can identify individuals according to their relationship in Jesus Christ and not their marital status," Howell said.

Consultants attending the workshop are available to help churches, associations and state conventions and may be contacted through state conventions of the Sunday School Board.

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