



**BAPTIST PRESS**

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

**NATIONAL OFFICE**  
 SBC Executive Committee  
 460 James Robertson Parkway  
 Nashville, Tennessee 37219  
 (615) 244-2355  
 Wilmer C. Fields, Director  
 Dan Martin, News Editor  
 Craig Bird, Feature Editor

**BUREAUS**

**ATLANTA** Jim Newton, Chief, 1350 Spring St., N.W., Atlanta, Ga. 30367, Telephone (404) 873-4041  
**DALLAS** Thomas J. Brannon, Chief, 103 Baptist Building, Dallas, Texas 75201, Telephone (214) 741-1996  
**NASHVILLE** (Baptist Sunday School Board) Lloyd T. Householder, Chief, 127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn. 37234, Telephone (615) 251-2300  
**RICHMOND** (Foreign) Robert L. Stanley, Chief, 3806 Monument Ave., Richmond, Va. 23230, Telephone (804) 353-0151  
**WASHINGTON** Stan L. Haste, Chief, 200 Maryland Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002, Telephone (202) 544-4226

January 30, 1984

84-15

Former Carter Aide  
 Elected AU Chief

SILVER SPRING, Md. (BP)--Robert L. Maddox, speechwriter and religious liaison for former President Jimmy Carter, has been elected executive director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State.

Maddox, 46, currently pastor of Mayfield Road Baptist Church in Arlington, Texas, was elected Jan. 27, in a special called meeting of the Americans United national advisory committee in Silver Spring, Md., a suburb of Washington. He will assume his new post March 1.

Americans United, founded in 1947, is a non-profit, non-partisan, non-sectarian organization of individuals of every religious persuasion and others concerned about separation of church and state, according to AU officials.

According to AU publications, the organization "exists for only one purpose: to defend, protect and preserve religious liberty and its corollary, separation of church and state, as guaranteed in the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States."

During his White House years, Maddox--who was special assistant for religious liaison and speechwriter 1979-81--coordinated White House outreach to the American religious community. In 1979, he traveled to Thailand with Mrs. Carter and subsequently assumed much of the White House contact with voluntary relief agencies to help Cambodian refugees.

After leaving the White House, Maddox was administrative assistant to the president of Pitt Community College in Greenville, N.C., a visiting lecturer at East Carolina University in Greenville, and interim pastor of First Baptist Church of Washington, N.C.

Prior to joining the Carter White House, Maddox was pastor of First Baptist Church of Calhoun, Ga. He also has served churches in Atlanta and Vienna, Ga., Jacksonville, Fla., and Arlington, Texas.

Maddox holds degrees from Baylor University, Waco, Texas, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas and Candler School of Theology at Emory University, Atlanta. The 46-year-old minister is married to the former Linda Cook. They have three children.

Maddox succeeds R.G. (Gene) Puckett as executive director. Puckett, also a Southern Baptist, resigned a year and a half ago to become editor of the Biblical Recorder, newsjournal of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. Melvin Adams, a Seventh Day Adventist, has been interim executive director.

Maddox told Baptist Press the decision to leave the 850-member church he has served as pastor for the last 18 months was "very hard. I love the local church...the pastorate. I have enjoyed being pastor of Mayfield Road church."

He recounted that on leaving Calhoun to join the White House staff, he received a letter which expressed regret he was leaving the ministry. "I wrote back and said I was leaving the pastorate, but I hope not the ministry. I feel the same way now," Maddox said.

--more--

DARGAN-CARVER LIBRARY DARGAN-CARVER LIBRARY  
 S. B. C. HISTORICAL COMMISSION S. B. C. HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
 NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

Maddox said he believes "the major thing facing AU or the Baptist Joint Committee (on Public Affairs) or anyone in church-state relations is a creeping kind of apathy among the American people. We have assumed religious liberty for so long that we can lose sight of it and let it slip away from us, often at the hands of religious leaders, or in the name of nationalism or 'returning to old-fashioned values.'

"I plan a major thrust to address this. We will speak on specific issues, but I will talk as often as possible about this cherished principle," he added.

He noted the specific issues include the establishment of diplomatic relations with the Vatican, the school prayer issue, tuition tax credits, as well as "a myriad of lesser issues which grab fewer headlines."

--30--

Georgia Layman Plans  
Fall Great Wall Run

Baptist Press  
1/30/84

ATLANTA (BP)--Stan Cottrell of Tucker, Ga., has announced plans to run the Great Wall of China this fall, the first person to attempt the feat.

Cottrell, 40, is a member of Atlanta's First Baptist Church and has won numerous awards and set several records for long distance running.

The run will include 2,800 of the wall's 4,000 miles due to restrictions set by the Chinese government. The run is being supported by the government-supported China Sports Service which controls sporting events within that nation.

The run is expected to take 55 days, starting north of Beijing, China, in mid-September and finishing near Canton. A support team will travel with Cottrell for the run.

Cottrell is from Munfordville, Ky., and has been recognized around the world for his running. He is former world record holder for running across America (48 days), and former world record holder for a five-day endurance run (405 miles) and a 24 hour run (167.25 miles).

Cottrell's Friendship Sports Association plans evangelistic rallies along the routes of his run where allowed.

He ran across Europe during the fall of 1982 and across the Dominican Republic last April, a feat he will attempt again in March of this year.

Cottrell is a graduate of Western Kentucky State University where he ran on nationally-ranked cross country teams. He also ran across the state of Georgia in 1979 and across the state of Kentucky in 1981.

He was honored last fall with a special award from the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

--30--

New Missionary Becomes Ill,  
Returns Home After Month On Field

Baptist Press  
1/30/84

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)--A Southern Baptist missionary stricken with Guillain-Barre syndrome in Bangladesh returned to the States last week after only a month on the field.

Randy Rains arrived at Baptist Medical Center in Birmingham, Ala., late Jan. 25. Two days later he asked for a grilled cheese sandwich and chocolate milkshake and began eating for the first time in 18 days. Rains, a native of Tennessee and former pastor in Kentucky and Indiana, has since been put on a soft diet.

--more--

At its peak the illness almost totally paralyzed Rains' legs and arms, caused his stomach muscles to malfunction and weakened his lungs. At one point he was too sick to talk and couldn't stand light or touch.

Now, however, he can feed himself, though somewhat clumsily due to partial inability to use his fingers. Doctors expect to transfer him to a rehabilitation center as soon as his stomach muscles start working normally again. He will stay there for about two months. "We feel like he's improving every day," said his wife, the former Betty Cope of Birmingham.

Medical authorities say about 90 percent of the victims of Gullain-Barre heal totally. A Southern Baptist mission volunteer, Roy Church, stricken in Ecuador about two years ago by the illness, is taking therapy and still improving. He is walking with crutches and braces and expects to begin driving again within the next three months, according to his wife, Ruth. She was with him in Quito, Ecuador, when paralysis began spreading into his chest, neck and shoulder muscles.

Rains was diagnosed as having a slipped disc Jan. 10 and was admitted to a private clinic in Dhaka, Bangladesh, with partial paralysis three days later. By Jan. 21, when plans were made for his flight home, his condition appeared stable but doctors feared he might develop convulsions or slip into a coma.

He arrived in Birmingham after a 33-hour flight to Washington, D.C., via London and a charter flight in a critical care transport plane from the University of Alabama-Birmingham.

His wife and their three children made the flight with him to Washington and joined him in Birmingham. Bangladesh Mission Chairman Jim McKinley and John Monweiler, a Presbyterian doctor who volunteered to help, also accompanied Rains.

The Rainses had arrived in Bangladesh Dec. 23, after being appointed foreign missionaries last May. Her father, Padgett C. Cope, is a Southern Baptist minister and former home missionary to New Jersey.

--30--

Home Mission Board Funds  
Assist Black Students

By Pat Yount

Baptist Press  
1/30/84

ATLANTA (BP)--Gwen Williams returned to New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary for her senior year completely without funds--or so she thought. Without her knowledge, she had been awarded a Home Mission Board black church relations scholarship which covered tuition.

"It was really a tremendous help," recalled Williams, now a home missionary serving as director of weekday ministries at Grace Baptist Church in New Orleans. "Most students apply for the scholarship, but mine kind of dropped in my lap. I found out later my state black church relations director had put in my name."

In 1968, Bill Perkins was a student at Morehouse School of Religion in Atlanta. Caught in the inflationary crunch, he was thankful for a small scholarship provided through the HMB black church relations department.

Today, Perkins is associate director of the black church relations department and coordinates the scholarship program. "It is an almost inexpressible blessing to administer the same program which helped me when I was a student," he said.

The fund, begun in 1952 with a \$5,000 grant from Woman's Missionary Union, increases each year through Cooperative Program gifts. So far, more than 3,000 students like Perkins and Williams have received scholarships.

Grants provide assistance to black Baptist students who are preparing for full-time Christian service, primarily in Southern Baptist churches. In 1983, 300 students from all over the country were awarded scholarships totaling \$95,000.

--more--

Individual grants are small--a maximum of \$850 per year for SBC seminary students and \$500 per year for students in accredited colleges.

For Perkins, this long-running ministry "means we're able to assist in the educational process of many Baptist students with abilities. And it helps them realize there are viable vocations in the church."

Larron Jackson, who received a master of divinity degree from Emory University's School of Theology in Atlanta, said his grant "came, most of the time, just when I needed it. It costs so much to go to school anyway and it just helped defray all my expenses."

National Baptist Ken Loggins, a scholarship recipient at New Orleans seminary, feels the program has made him more dedicated to Southern Baptists. He hopes to teach in joint relationship with National and Southern Baptists. He called the program "a blessing. Without it," he said, "my education wouldn't have been possible."

In the future, government cutbacks in scholarship aid will increase the need for black Baptist student support. Black church growth within the Southern Baptist Convention has been accompanied by demands for additional staff. This means, according to Perkins, the black church relations department has to be a good administrator "so we can respond to the greatest number of students in the most responsible way."

Perkins sees the program as more than dollars and cents. "The Bible suggests Christians are called to ministry and discipleship," he said. "As a denomination which gets its marching orders from the Bible, the Southern Baptist Convention needs to be supportive of those called out to minister."

--30--

(Adapted from the September-October issue of MissionsUSA, the Home Mission Board's magazine.)  
(BP) photo mailed to state Baptist newspapers by the Atlanta bureau of Baptist Press

New Orientation Manager  
For Missionaries Named

Baptist Press  
1/30/84

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)--Timothy T. Brendle, a hunger-relief planner for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, has been named to manage orientation of Southern Baptist foreign missionaries, beginning March 15.

The position was left open when Frank S. Wells resigned Jan. 15 to become a pastor in Atlanta. Wells had held the post since May 1982.

Brendle will set up the first program for missionary orientation in the new Missionary Learning Center in Rockville, Va. The first group of missionaries to be trained there will begin an eight-week session April 9.

Brendle comes to the center not only as it moves facilities from Callaway Gardens, Ga., but as the board shifts its emphasis on how new missionaries are prepared for the field.

"Our idea is to make the resources available to new missionaries and assist them in using them," said Samuel M. James, director of the board's Orientation and Furlough Department. He said the board is moving toward facilitating learning rather than emphasizing just providing information.

Through his work in Human Needs Ministries Brendle has spent time in many areas where Southern Baptists maintain missionary presence. This background, coupled with pastoral, counseling and missionary experience, gives him the sensitivity to oversee missionary orientation, James added.

"We have in Tim a person who has been exposed to the world at large and to the human problems of the world at large," he said.

--more--

One of Brendle's responsibilities will be overseeing a new children's education and orientation program for missionary children.

Under the direction of former missionary Corella Ricketson, the children's program will help MKs from kindergarten through grade seven learn about the areas where they will live.

Brendle and his wife, Ava, were appointed missionaries in 1978 and served in Haiti before coming to the home office in 1981. Since then his primary work in human needs has been developing projects for long-term hunger relief with missionaries and national leaders.

Brendle and his wife, both of North Carolina, have two children.

--30--

(BP) photo mailed to state Baptist newspapers by Richmond bureau of Baptist Press

Oldham To Direct  
Seminary Communications

Baptist Press  
1/30/84

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)--Robin Oldham has been named director of communications at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary effective Feb. 1.

Oldham joins the seminary staff after working on the staff of Georgetown (Kentucky) for more than 10 years. He was admissions counselor at the Baptist college, 1970-71 and 1973-74; coordinator of communications, 1974-80, and assistant to the president, 1980-84.

The Georgetown native has B.A. and M.A. degrees from Georgetown College. He succeeds David Wilkinson and Marv Knox, who shared the position for the past two and one-half years. Wilkinson now is news director for the SBC Christian Life Commission, and Knox is associate editor of the Baptist Message, weekly newspaper for Baptists in Louisiana.

--30--

Southern Baptist Named  
To National Council Staff

Baptist Press  
1/30/84

NEW YORK (BP)--Charles A. Kimball, a Southern Baptist expert on middle eastern affairs, has been elected to the staff of the National Council of Churches of Christ as director of the Middle East office for the NCC's Overseas Division.

Kimball, previously interfaith director for the Fellowship of Reconciliation in Nyack, N.Y., assumed the highest level staff position at the National Council ever held by a Southern Baptist, effective Jan. 1.

In the position, he will work closely with the Middle East Council of Churches in developing NCC programs in the Middle East, and will deal with issues such as peace and reconciliation, rehabilitation, reconstruction and refugees in Lebanon and other countries of the Middle East.

Kimball was one of several Southern Baptists, including former SBC President Jimmy Allen, who became involved in the 1980 Iranian hostage crisis. Kimball was invited to Iran with a group of ministers because of his academic background in Christian-Muslim relations.

A candidate for the doctor of theology degree in Islamic studies and Jewish-Christian-Muslim relations from Harvard Divinity School, Kimball is a graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., and Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Okla. He has also attended American University in Cairo, Egypt.

The Tulsa, Okla., native is former pastor of McHenry Baptist Church, McHenry, Ky., and former youth director for Sequoyah Hills Baptist Church, Tulsa, Okla.

--30--



**BAPTIST PRESS**

460 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, Tennessee 37219

*Handwritten notes:*  
200  
05  
RHH-  
Jm

LYNN MAY BO  
HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
127 9TH AVE NO  
NASHVILLE TN 37234