

**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. Hastey, Chief, 200 Maryland Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002, Telephone (202) 544-4226

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**Taiwan Limits Number  
Of Foreign Missionaries**

TAIPEI, Taiwan (BP)—The government of Taiwan has set a limit on the number of foreign missionaries who can enter the country.

The limit, which government officials call temporary, freezes the number of missionaries any group can send to Taiwan at April 1984 levels. For Southern Baptists the ceiling is 108—the number of Southern Baptist missionaries, journeymen and volunteers living in Taiwan on resident visas at that time.

The government also is imposing increased requirements and delays on missionaries seeking entry visas, according to several mission groups.

Officials have given no explanation for the new rules. Some observers speculate the government became alarmed at the number of young people brought into Taiwan by the Mormon Church.

The personnel limit also applies to missionaries at home on furlough. The Southern Baptist mission office in Taipei recently had to certify that a journeyman and three long-term volunteers had left Taiwan before entry visas could be granted to two missionary couples returning from the United States.

On the plus side, career missionaries can replace departing long-term volunteers or journeymen. And when a missionary goes home on furlough, a new or returning missionary can fill his "slot." As long as Southern Baptists' total personnel count doesn't exceed 108, it can be adjusted for arrivals and departures.

Southern Baptist personnel working at Morrison Academy, a Baptist school in Taichung, won't be included in the total. Also exempt from the count are short-term volunteers, partnership mission groups and others who enter Taiwan for short periods with tourist visas.

"We hope it's a temporary thing," said George Hays, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's director for East Asia.

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**Children's Home Wins  
Lawsuit Against IRS**

By Al Shackelford

Baptist Press  
8/31/84

COOKEVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—The Tennessee Baptist Children's Home has won its civil lawsuit against the Internal Revenue Service, following a three-day trial in federal district court.

The six-member jury decided the children's home is not a "church", but determined that its "principal activity is exclusively religious," and therefore does not have to file Information Return Form 990 as required by the IRS.

The basic issue of the lawsuit, which has attracted national attention, is whether IRS has the power to decide if a church-related organization is not "exclusively religious" and therefore must report its financial arrangements to IRS.

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In 1977, IRS instructed TBCH to file Form 990, after determining that "principal activity" of the children's home was not "exclusively religious."

TBCH trustees declined to file the forms and penalties and interest were assessed. After exhausting administrative remedies, TBCH filed suit against IRS Feb. 15, 1983. The suit sought exemption from the Form 990 requirement, refund of penalties and interest paid, reimbursement for court costs and "other general and equitable relief."

Following the jury decision, L. Clure Morton, judge of the United States District Court for Middle Tennessee, instructed the IRS to refund penalties and interest of \$29,665.12 to the children's home. He also instructed the IRS to pay court costs.

Morton asked TBCH attorneys to submit an affidavit of their fees. He will rule later on whether the IRS must pay the costs.

Another part of the lawsuit asked "that all statutes or regulations which may require TBCH to file Information Return Form 990 be declared unconstitutional or otherwise invalid," was ruled a legal matter. Morton will issue a memorandum on the subject at a later date.

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'Backpack' Evangelism  
Wins Street People

By Mary Calvert

Baptist Press  
8/31/84

DALLAS (BP)—Through food, friendship and the gospel, the lives of street people are being changed in downtown Dallas' Inner-City Chapel.

Since October, the chapel, sponsored by First Baptist Church, Dallas, has baptized more than 550 homeless people and seen more than 1,200 professions of faith in Jesus.

"This is a ministry to the total person," said Bob Worthington, pastor of the chapel. "When you win someone to Christ, you must be willing to walk with them, be happy with them and cry with them."

Along with offering counseling, worship services and Bible classes, people serving at the chapel lead a backpack ministry in inner-city Dallas. They take backpacks of sandwiches and go out in groups of two or three to share the gospel with alcoholics, drug addicts and others living in the streets.

"Backpack evangelism is done in the image of Jesus," Worthington said. "The first thing Jesus did was feed the people--then he taught them. We are contemporizing what Jesus did.

"He came in our image to seek and to save men. We go in his image to seek and to win men," Worthington told street people assembled for worship at the chapel. "We must go in the image of the master soul-winner."

The chapel's ministry does not end when someone accepts Christ.

"We help converts begin new lives in Christ instead of returning to their old ways," Worthington said. "Our task now is to train them to lead others to Christ. There is no better way to win people to Christ than to send people back out to witness to other street people."

Worthington came to know the Lord six years ago through a near fatal plane crash. Two weeks later he surrendered to the ministry and is now a student at the Criswell Center for Biblical Studies, affiliated with First Baptist Church, Dallas.

Three other Criswell Center students work part-time with Worthington. They each have a background involving drugs or living in the streets. One, Roy Teague, accepted Christ as a child, but became involved in drugs in the military. After being "busted" twice, he went AWOL and lived on the streets for seven months before turning himself in.

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While in prison Teague started doing Bible studies and made a full commitment to Christ when a gospel singing group had a Christmas party at the prison. He was released from jail two months later and surrendered to the ministry soon after.

"I think it's just natural that the Lord has led me into ministering to these street people because I can relate to them," Teague said. "I have seen many lives changed on the streets of Dallas. One man pulled a knife on me. A week later he came to the chapel to apologize and accepted Christ."

Craig Zachary is a young man from Austin who has had his life changed through the chapel. "I couldn't find any peace inside myself so I took all my money and left Austin," Zachary said.

At the Salvation Army a street person who recently had come to know Christ through the Inner-City Chapel witnessed to Zachary, who accepted Christ. "I now have a peace inside. Jesus Christ is real to me and his blessings are limitless," Zachary said.

The Inner-City Chapel began in an old YMCA building. It was moved into a garage at First Church, and had one service for the street people on Sunday. Worthington began working with th ministry at that time.

In February 1983, First Church acquired the building which now houses the chapel, and Worthington became chapel pastor. The Chapel now has two worship services Monday through Saturday and three on Sunday, with Bible classes and discipleship training offered daily. Those who are baptized become members of First Church, Dallas.

Worthington said there is a great need for a place to temporarily house those who accept Christ and are genuinely seeking new direction for their lives. "People such as alcoholics need to be taken out of their old environment and disciplined."

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RIVC Trims Staff  
By 35 Employees

By Greg Warner

Baptist Press  
8/31/84

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)--The staff of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission has been trimmed by 35 employees "in an effort to become more effective and efficient in the long haul," said President Jimmy R. Allen.

The layoffs involve only contract and seasonal workers, Allen said, most of which were hired since Spring to help start the American Christian Television System (ACTS) network.

"Because of the all-out effort to launch the network, we deliberately created a staff expansion by increasing contract workers," Allen said. "Experience is teaching us how to do our job better, and we are finding ways to do it with fewer people."

At the time of the launch of ACTS June 12, the commission had 261 people on the payroll, including 86 contract or seasonal workers. Allen said the payroll now has dropped from that peak to 226, including 51 contract workers.

Allen said the cuts will not affect the quality of ACTS programs, but will save the commission an estimated \$35,000 per month. Some workers are being reassigned to new duties elsewhere in the commission, Allen said.

"We are re-directing the energies of the total commission toward the ACTS network by reshaping some current activities," he said. "This is designed to shape us up for the long-term challenge of making ACTS the major religious network of the country."

Word of the cutbacks led to a news story by a Dallas-Fort Worth television station. Allen said the issue of the network's health was raised when former commission contract workers began looking for other communications jobs in the area.

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**Sakharov's Stepson Fears  
Parent's Harsh Treatment**

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)—If, as reported by the State Department, the wife of Soviet dissident Andrei Sakharov has been tried and exiled by the Soviet government, she may not survive the sentence, according to her son.

Yelena Bonner's health is so bad, "a harsh sentence of three years of hard labor would kill her," said Alexei Semyonov, Bonner's natural son and Sakharov's stepson. The U.S. State Department has received a report Bonner was recently sentenced to five years of internal exile for "slandering the Soviet state."

Appearing Aug. 30 on "Life Today," a talk show on the American Christian Television System (ACTS) network, Semyonov said three past heart attacks have left his mother "in mortal danger and in urgent need of treatment, probably a bypass operation." But Bonner has received no medical treatment for any of the heart attacks, he said.

Semyonov said he also fears for the life of his stepfather, who disappeared May 7, five days after beginning a hunger strike. According to Semyonov, the "very scarce reports" received on Sakharov say he is being held in an isolated ward of a hospital in Gorky. "Some kind of brainwashing technique is being used on him in order to force him to forego his hunger strike," Semyonov said.

A twenty-minute video tape, reportedly produced by the Soviet KGB, has recently surfaced in the west showing Sakharov and Bonner in and around their Gorky apartment, though the two were seldom pictured together. Letters from Bonner indicate she has not seen Sakharov since he disappeared almost four months ago, Semyonov said, hinting the video tape was concocted.

Although Sakharov is seen eating soup in the video tape, Semyonov said reports he has ended his hunger strike are false. "Our understanding of the situation is that my father is still on his hunger strike, that he is being force fed, and he is being brainwashed," he said.

Semyonov said he hopes and believes Sakharov is still alive. "But one should not think it is beyond the KGB's capacity for evil to actually be covering up his death," he added.

Sakharov has been under house arrest by Soviet officials for demanding the USSR give its citizens basic human rights. He began his hunger strike to protest the government's denial of medical treatment to his wife, who has served as Sakharov's contact to the outside world during his confinement.

Semyonov, a math lecturer at Northeastern University in Boston, was interviewed for "Life Today" by Jess Moody, pastor of First Baptist Church, Van Nuys, Calif.

ACTS is a satellite network of family and Christian entertainment programs sent 18 hours per day to cable TV systems and broadcast stations nationwide. It is operated by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission.

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Baptist Fellowship  
Influences E.V. King

By Jim Lowry

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NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—The recent election of E.V. King as vice-president for business and finance at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board can be traced directly to the caring and fellowship which began nearly six years ago in a local Baptist church.

King and his wife, DeeDee, had not been active in church for several years prior to the birth of their first child in 1975. Through the contact with church members at Brook Hollow Baptist Church, Nashville, particularly those in the day care program, the Kings began visiting the church and eventually became members.

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"The church members demonstrated a loving and caring spirit which is like the spirit of Christ as I understand it," King said. "Their attitude and actions caused us to seriously look at what Baptists believe."

The Kings attended Sunday school and church services for 18 months before joining the church in April of 1980. King, who had a background in the Church of Christ and his wife, from a Methodist church, were baptized together at Brook Hollow church, shortly after joining.

"Our baptism together was a very meaningful experience," King explained. "We have continued to grow as a couple and have been nurtured by the fellowship at Brook Hollow with our children, Meredith Hope, nine, and Bradley Vincent, six."

For the last year, King has been an associate teacher in a Sunday school class and will begin teaching a median adult couples class in October. He also has been a deacon in the church for approximately one year.

King said he has participated in Nashville association training sessions, and is anxious to become involved in SBC activities. He said, like many laymen, he has not been active in Tennessee Baptist or SBC events.

Of his move to the Sunday School Board, King said he thought it was an excellent opportunity professionally and personally. "I was able to see an opportunity to use my professional skills and experience to hopefully be supportive and helpful to the efforts of the board.

"When you stop maturing, learning and improving, you have decided to become less than you're capable of being," he said. "I saw an opportunity for growth at this point in my life."

"Because of the Holy Spirit working in my life, I decided not to stop growing, but do the opposite," he continued. "I want to continue to learn and grow and mature in favor with God."

In his position as vice-president of the office of business and finance, King will be responsible for the administration of programs related to the Sunday School Board's financial, physical, information and human resources. He will oversee the implementation of the board's \$156 million annual budget.

King moves to the board from the Tennessee Housing Development Association, an \$800 million corporation which he headed for five years. The THDA was created by the Tennessee legislature, but it is a public corporation, King said, which uses no state tax dollars for operation or any program. All funds come from the sale of tax-exempt mortgage revenue bonds.

Prior to becoming executive director of the THDA, King was deputy executive director and director of technical services for the same corporation. Before that, he was a consultant for the city of Cincinnati.

King holds a B.A. degree from David Lipscomb College, Nashville, and a master's degree in management-public administration from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

On a personal note, King said it is his hope that his new position at the board will call him to grow personally and professionally. "By an act of faith, I hope I can influence others to accept Christ through my relationship with the Lord, which is both personal and sacred."

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460 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, Tennessee 37219

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