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**Bailey Smith Resigns
Pastorate, To Enter Evangelism**

DEL CITY, Okla. (BP)--Bailey E. Smith, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church, Del City, Okla., since 1973, announced his resignation Sept. 15. It will be effective Sept. 29.

Smith is entering full-time evangelism. Two years ago Smith and John McKay, former singer from the James Robison Evangelistic Team, formed an evangelistic association. At that time rumors spread across the Southern Baptist Convention that Smith was about to resign to enter full-time evangelism.

Del City First Southern staff members put the rumor down saying Smith formed the association and asked the church to limit him to 12 Sunday-through-Wednesday revivals a year to help "put the quietus" on request for Smith to lead crusades. Smith later reduced the number of meetings to eight per year.

During a recent city wide crusade in Tulsa, Okla., Smith and McKay's Real Evangelism team received a love offering of \$34,594, which Tulsa Association director of missions Garnet Cole described as a record.

Two years ago, Smith was said to be receiving as many as 200 requests a day asking him to speak in a revival, a crusade or a special event.

Mike Clayton, program administrator, said Sept. 16 the decision was one with which Smith has struggled for a long time. "Bailey feels this is something God wants him to do."

The Smiths will remain in Del City for "some months" and after that their location is uncertain, Clayton said.

Del City First Southern is in the midst of a relocation project and has a 7,700 seat auditorium under construction on an 80 acre site just west of Tinker Air Force Base. The \$13 million structure is on schedule and will be ready for occupancy next Easter Sunday.

The church's weekly budget including the building program is \$106,185.73. Weekly receipts have been as much as \$48,000 below requirements recently. However, the members gave some \$450,000 during a "Rehoboth Rally" held in the unfinished facility Sept. 8. Clayton said the Rehoboth offering "catches us up for the year on giving."

Smith, 46, is a native Texan, a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University in Arkansas and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas. He moved to Del City First Southern from First Baptist Church, Hobbs, N.M. He has continued the record of the church leading the state in number of baptisms started by John Bisagno and carried on by James T. Draper Jr., as pastor of Del City. The church also has led the SBC in baptisms several years.

He was elected president of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma in 1979. In June 1980 he was chosen president of the Southern Baptist Convention and was reelected in Los Angeles in 1981.

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SOUTHERN BAPTIST HISTORICAL
LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES
Historical Commission, SBC
Nashville, Tennessee 9/17/85

Foreign Board's 'Wanted' List
Zeroes In Again On Preachers

By Marty Croll

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)--Southern Baptist foreign missionaries continued for the third straight year to narrow down their most urgent requests for co-workers, but still asked that three-fourths of them be preachers and church developers.

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The requests were outlined Sept. 12-13 in an annual meeting between staffers of the Foreign Mission Board's offices of human resources and overseas operations. The 1986 list includes 503 requests, down from 589 for this year, 657 for 1984 and 817 for 1983.

The steady decline reflects a shift by missionaries to pin down their requests for co-workers only to those who fit into the broader evangelism strategy in each country. Missionaries began this process at the suggestion of the eight area directors who oversee Southern Baptist foreign mission work.

Missionaries asked this year for 228 preachers to spearhead the thrust of starting new churches and 140 other seminary-trained co-workers in 1986. They asked for 23 educators, 48 health-care workers, 11 media workers, 17 business people and 36 community development workers and support staff.

During the meeting R. Keith Parks, the foreign board's president, suggested country-by-country evangelism plans need to evolve further into all-inclusive worldwide steps to accomplish Bold Mission Thrust. Bold Mission Thrust is the goal of Southern Baptists to work with others in telling every living person about Jesus Christ by the year 2000.

"We've never been willing to grapple with the painful, tough decisions of really looking at our work worldwide--and then looking at personnel requests and adjusting them in light of our higher priorities," Parks said. In the future missionaries might need to be assigned to countries on the basis of an overall plan of cooperation with others to reach the world, he said. Now they are assigned according to specific priorities within each of the world areas.

At present, area directors use the priority lists from missionaries in each country, or mission, to draw up their own priorities according to area needs. Six of the eight area directors listed for 1986 at least 12 of their top 15 needs as seminary-trained people, in line with the board's purpose of evangelism resulting in churches.

In eastern South America, 14 of 15 priority needs are for preachers and church developers. Nine are for church starters--seven in Brazil. Some would work in urban areas such as Sao Luis, Brazil, and others in isolated pioneer areas such as Pedro Juan Caballero, Paraguay. One priority need is for a mission office secretary in Argentina.

The east Asia area listed 13 priority needs as seminary-trained people. These include an English-language pastor near an American military base in Japan, a minister of music and education in Tokyo, Japan, two student evangelists and nine church starters. Also priorities for east Asia are a business manager in Taipei, Taiwan, and a social worker in Macao, off the coast of China.

The areas of south and southeast Asia, middle America and the Caribbean, eastern and southern Africa, and western South America each listed 12 seminary-trained people in their 15 priority needs. A few of the other priorities in those areas include an agriculturist in the Philippines; a doctor in Indonesia; a data processor for the Baptist Spanish Publishing House in El Paso, Texas; a Chinese-language pastor in the Dominican Republic; a doctor in Ethiopia; an electronic maintenance engineer in Colombia, and a camp administrator in Peru.

Two dentists are priority needs for the west Africa area. One would work in The Gambia and the other in Benin, where government leaders say they welcome the help, said John Mills, area director. Both represent opportunities to provide Christian witness where otherwise it might be difficult, he added. Ten of the area's other priority requests are for preachers and church developers, two are for directors of urban social activity centers, and one is for a business manager in Mali.

In Europe and the Middle East a wide variety of specialties were listed as priority needs. These include seven seminary-trained people; an English teacher and specialist doctor in Jordan; a surgeon and operating room nurse in Yemen; a publishing administrator in Lebanon; a nurse educator in Gaza, and a print-shop technician in France. Four church starters are sought for the area.

Southern Baptists Dedicate
New \$8 Million Building

By Lonnie Wilkey

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)--The crowd overflowed the auditorium of the Southern Baptist Convention building during formal dedication of the \$8 million facility.

The Sept. 16 ceremony was in conjunction with a three-day meeting of the SBC Executive Committee.

David C. Maddox of Fullerton, Calif., chairman of the SBC Executive Committee, cited the building dedication as "a special day for Southern Baptists."

"The new headquarters for 14.4 million Southern Baptists will be used for the glory of God as we try to honor, glorify and magnify Christ," Maddox said.

Nashville Mayor Richard H. Fulton expressed appreciation to Southern Baptists for "your confidence in Nashville and the investment you have made to the city. You will get a good return on your investment."

Leaders of the seven SBC entities who occupy the building participated in the ceremony. Foy Valentine, executive director of the Christian Life Commission, expressed appreciation to all who had a role in the building. He especially cited the Baptist Sunday School Board for their "generous contribution of the land" and other items.

A.R. Fagan, president of the Stewardship Commission, called the new building "a special place" because "it serves as a constant reminder of the sacrificial giving of Southern Baptists."

Fagan also said the building is special because it is where much of the planning and work is done that attempts to bring people to God through Jesus Christ.

"This building is a special place because it is a symbol of who Southern Baptists are and what we are attempting to do together to proclaim the gospel and make disciples," Fagan said.

Lynn E. May Jr., executive director of the Historical Commission, traced the history of the various office sites occupied by agencies in the new building.

Other agency heads on the program included: Hollis E. Johnson III, Southern Baptist Foundation, invocation; Harold C. Bennett, Executive Committee, introduction of distinguished guests; Raymond M. Rigdon, Seminary External Education Division, scripture reading, and Arthur L. Walker Jr., Education Commission, litany of dedication.

Frank C. Ingraham of Nashville, a member of the Executive Committee, presided over the placing of the time capsule. Each agency placed items highlighting the work of their organization into the capsule which was buried in the plaza outside the building.

SBC President Charles F. Stanley, pastor of First Baptist Church, Atlanta, led the prayer of dedication.

The SBC building, with a construction cost of \$8 million, has been occupied since January.

The seven-story, 170,000 square foot structure houses the offices of the Christian Life Commission, the Education Commission, the Executive Committee, the Seminary External Education Division of the SBC seminaries, the Historical Commission, the Southern Baptist Commission on the American Baptist Theological Seminary, the Southern Baptist Foundation and the Stewardship Commission.

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(BP) photo mailed to state Baptist newspapers by Baptist Press

Baptist College Professor
Predicts Raising Of Titanic

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (BP)—The Titanic, the "unsinkable" luxury liner which has been in a watery grave for 73 years after striking an iceberg some 400 miles south of Newfoundland, eventually will be raised, Southern Baptist college oceanography expert feels.

Donald Lovejoy, professor of oceanography at Palm Beach Atlantic College in West Palm Beach, Fla., said the historic interest and the value of unknown treasures aboard will spark the salvage of the ocean liner discovered by scientists Sept. 1.

Lovejoy, who has spent years studying the undersea world, said present technology is not suitable to make the salvage operation feasible. He predicted, however, technology and funding will be found to undertake the task.

"We're right on the frontier of science," Lovejoy said. "Ultimately we will raise the ship, but I don't know how. It depends on whether it's intact or not." Lovejoy said if the ship has broken up, "a piece of it could be brought up as early as this year."

Lovejoy said there is continuing interest in the Titanic which sank in April 1912 taking with it 1,522 lives, the greatest peacetime maritime disaster in the 20th century.

He cited the lure of treasure as one reason numerous attempts have been made to locate the site of the wreckage. The Titanic was reportedly carrying more than \$300 million in diamonds and valuables, Lovejoy said.

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Arizona SBC Church Dismantles,
Moves ABC Building 90 Miles

By Sherri Anthony Brown

Baptist Press
9/17/85

MESA, Ariz. (BP)--The 22 members of Star Valley Baptist Church, Star Valley, Ariz., have dismantled 15,000 square feet of buildings used for 35 years by First Baptist Church (American Baptist), Mesa, Ariz., and moved them--brick by-brick, beam-by-beam--90 miles.

The Mesa church buildings and lot had been purchased by the city which planned to build a senior citizens center on the land. The city was going to demolish the church buildings.

H.C. Reynolds, pastor of the one-year-old Star Valley church which now meets at a fire station in Star Valley, originally looked at the American Baptist building with intentions of purchasing doors, partitions, stoves and other parts for a future church building on land Star Valley had recently purchased.

"I arrived with church member Lee McClanahan, our 'minister of construction,' to purchase usable stuff for future use," remembered Reynolds. "But, when I saw the gleam in his eyes, I had a feeling he was thinking of taking more than just hinges."

On that trip they did purchase 44 doors, 7 bathrooms, a glass entryway, folding oak partitions and a commercial stove. The materials cost \$1,016. Once they returned to Star Valley, however, McClanahan suggested they buy the whole building.

"I didn't know if it was possible," said Reynolds. "But I believe in Lee. He's built 30 church buildings on mission trips."

Reynolds requested the city allow them to dismantle and take the building, with no fees. "They required a permit and a lot of paper work," he said. "But it turned out the permit was free, and the city even agreed to do the clean-up after we finished," said Reynolds.

Church members began the work during the 115 degree June heat with a three week deadline. "But it took four weeks," admitted Reynolds. "In our church we have a trucker, plumber, landscaper, electrician and building supervisor," said Reynolds--enough talent in the membership to do the job professionally.

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Members of neighboring churches—including First Church, Mesa—offered help in dismantling the church. Four semi-truck loads of materials were hauled to the resort town and stored in warehouses. Star Valley members who were not able to help in Mesa came during cool early morning hours to pull out nails and clean mortar off bricks.

Vertielee Floyd, charter member of the Star Valley church, helped with the clean-up. "A lot of people were married and saw their children baptized in this church. It's special and they didn't want it bulldozed away. I'm glad I'm part of saving it," she said.

Construction begins in September for the new church building. "We've given ourselves a break. We're tired," admitted Reynolds. They estimate six months till completion.

Star Valley is the only church of any denomination in the resort area which serves as a cool oasis from the heat of Phoenix and other near-by areas. The city also boasts the longest running annual rodeo: it just celebrated its 101st year.

"Because we see the reality of the church building, we've been able to dream big dreams," said Reynolds.

They plan to build two small apartments into the church structure. "We would like vacationing missionaries to stay in the apartments, free of charge, and, in return, tell of their work during a worship service," explained Reynolds.

The church also would provide weekend housing for Grand Canyon College ministerial students while they work with the church in community ministry activities.

"This has been quite a commitment for our little church to make," said Reynolds. "It's hard work. But it's a time of fellowship where even the elderly and handicapped can help out.

"Everybody can do something," he concluded. "God called us to more than just Sunday participation. He called us all to give all of ourselves."

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

Czechoslovakians Lend A Hand
For Church's 100th Anniversary

Baptist Press
9/17/85

PRAGUE, Czechoslovakia (BP)—Baptists throughout Czechoslovakia helped the First Baptist Church of Prague prepare for its 100th anniversary celebration.

A two-year renovation by the first Baptist congregation in what is now Czechoslovakia has included an expansion of its auditorium from 240 to 400 seats and addition of closed-circuit video equipment for adjacent rooms.

Volunteer teams from the 26 churches and 76 missions of the Baptist Union of Czechoslovakia helped renovate the Prague church, which was built from 1913 to 1915 under then-renowned architect Bonumir Kozak. The teams tallied more than 15,000 work hours. Special offerings for the renovation also were taken in the union's churches and missions.

Preceding the congregation's anniversary celebration Sept. 21-22 was a seminar at the church on "The History and Mission of the Baptists in the World," sponsored by the Baptist Union of Czechoslovakia. The annual meetings of the European Baptist Federation Council were scheduled to be held at the church Sept. 25-29.

The congregation began in 1885 in a house at Nelahozavec, now a suburb of Prague, in what was then the nation of Bohemia.

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