



- - BAPTIST PRESS

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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March 24, 1986

86-41

SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION
GEORGIA WORLD CONGRESS CENTER, ATLANTA
 June 11-13, 1986

Theme: Love Never Fails
 Scripture: I Corinthians 13:8

Tuesday Morning, June 10, 1986

- 8:30 Music for Inspiration, First Baptist Church Choir, Atlanta; John Glover, minister of music
- 9:00 Call to Order
 Congregational Singing, Paul McCommon, Atlanta, retired music secretary, Baptist Convention of the State of Georgia
- 9:05 Prayer, Ted Traylor, pastor, First Baptist Church, Henrietta, Texas
- 9:10 Registration Report and Constitution of Convention, Lee Porter, registration secretary; design editor, Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.
- 9:15 Committee on Order of Business, Fred H. Wolfe, chairman; pastor, Cottage Hill Baptist Church, Mobile, Ala.
- 9:20 Welcome, Frank Harris, Governor of Georgia
- 9:25 Response, John H. Allen, executive director, Alaska Baptist Convention, Anchorage
- 9:30 Prayer Time
- 9:40 Announcement of Committee on Committees, Credentials, Resolutions and Tellers
- 9:45 Executive Committee Report (Part 1), Harold C. Bennett, president and treasurer, Nashville
- 10:40 Introduction of Business and Resolutions
- 11:10 Congregational Singing, Paul McCommon
- 11:15 Music, First Baptist Church Choir, Atlanta; John Glover, director
- 11:20 President's Address, Charles F. Stanley, pastor, First Baptist Church, Atlanta
- 12:00 Benediction, Andy Stanley, minister of youth, First Baptist Church, Atlanta
 Singing As We Go

Tuesday Afternoon, June 10

- 1:00 Evangelistic Singers, William J. Reynolds, convention music director; associate professor, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas
- 2:00 Congregational Singing, John Glover
- 2:05 Prayer, Roy Fish, professor, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth
- 2:10 Election of Officers (First)
- 2:20 Messenger Information Survey, Martin B. Bradley, recording secretary; manager, research services department, Sunday School Board, Nashville
- 2:30 Introduction of Business and Resolutions
- 2:40 Report of Nominations, Committee on Boards, Commissions and Standing Committees, Lee Roberts Sr., chairman; mortgage banker, Marietta, Ga.
- 2:55 Prayer Time
- 3:05 Congregational Singing, John Glover
- 3:10 Executive Committee Report (Part 2), Harold C. Bennett
- 3:55 Congregational Singing, John Glover
- 4:00 Business
 Election of Officers (Second); Report of Nominations, Committee on Committees; Miscellaneous Business
- 5:00 Benediction, Sandy Sandlin, pastor, Faith Baptist Church, Wichita Falls, Texas
 Singing As We Go

**SOUTHERN BAPTIST HISTORICAL
 LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES
 Historical Commission, SBC
 Nashville, Tennessee**

Tuesday Evening, June 10

- 6:30 Music for Inspiration, Florida Baptist Singing Men, Paul Bobbitt, director

- 7:00 Congregational Singing, William J. Reynolds
- 7:05 Prayer, William Rubley, sale manager, Mobile, Ala.
- 7:10 Report of the Peace Committee, Charles G. Fuller, chairman; pastor, First Baptist Church, Roanoke, Va.
- 7:30 Election of Officers (Third)
- 7:45 Sunday School Board Report, Lloyd Elder, president, Nashville
- 8:15 Congregational Singing, William J. Reynolds
- 8:20 Home Mission Board Report, William G. Tanner, president, Atlanta
- 9:20 Benediction
Singing As We Go

Wednesday Morning, June 11

- 8:30 Music for Inspiration, Combined Adult Choirs, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn.; Jim Whitmire, minister of music
- 9:00 Congregational Singing, Harry L. Cowan, minister of music, First Baptist Church, New Orleans, and 1985-86 president of the Southern Baptist Church Music Conference
- 9:05 Prayer, Freddie Gage, evangelist, Euless, Texas
- 9:10 Election of Officers (Fourth)
- 9:25 Southern Baptist Theological Seminary Report, Roy L. Honeycutt, president, Louisville, Ky.
- 9:35 Woman's Missionary Union Report, Carolyn Weatherford, executive director, Birmingham, Ala.
- 9:45 Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary Report, Russell H. Dilday Jr., president, Fort Worth
- 9:55 Historical Commission Report, Lynn E. May Jr., executive director-treasurer, Nashville
- 10:05 New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Report, Landrum P. Leavell II, president, New Orleans
- 10:15 Education Commission Report, Arthur L. Walker Jr., executive director-treasurer, Nashville
- 10:25 Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary Report
- 10:35 Brotherhood Commission Report, James H. Smith, president, Memphis.
- 10:45 Prayer Time
- 10:55 Radio and Television Commission Report, Jimmy R. Allen, president, Fort Worth
- 11:05 Annuity Board Report, Darold H. Morgan, president, Dallas
- 11:15 Business
Election of Officers (Fifth); Committee on Resolutions (First Report); Miscellaneous Business
- 11:55 Congregational Singing, Harry L. Cowan
- 12:00 Music, Combined Adult Choirs, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis
Convention Sermon, Adrian Rogers, pastor, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis
- 12:30 Benediction, Neal Jones, pastor, Columbia Baptist Church, Falls Church, Va.
Singing As We Go

NO AFTERNOON SESSION

Wednesday Evening, June 11

- 6:30 Music for Inspiration, Sons of Jubal and Jubalheirs, Georgia Baptist Ministers of Music; Warren C. Fields, director, Atlanta
- 7:00 Congregational Singing, William J. Reynolds
- 7:05 Prayer, Carl Garrett, Emmanuel Baptist Church, Overland Park, Kan.
- 7:10 Business
Election of Convention Sermon Preacher and Alternate, and Music Director, 1987
- 7:40 Introduction of Local Arrangements Committee
- 7:45 Presentation of Past Presidents
- 7:50 Presentation of Newly Elected SBC Officers
- 7:55 Bold Mission Thrust Report, Harold C. Bennett
- 8:05 Planned Growth in Giving Report, Cecil Ray, national director, Georgetown, Texas
- 8:15 Congregational Singing, William J. Reynolds
- 8:20 Foreign Mission Board Report, R. Keith Parks, president, Richmond, Va.
- 9:20 Benediction, N.N. Antonson, pastor, Tyler Road Baptist Church, Wichita, Kan.
Singing As We Go

Thursday Morning, June 12

- 8:30 Music for Inspiration, Brewton-Parker College Choir, Mt. Vernon, Ga.; Hildegard Stanley, director

- 9:00 Congregational Singing, John Condra, Atlanta; minister of music, Second-Ponce de Leon Baptist Church
- 9:05 Prayer, Norman A. Wiggins, president, Campbell University, Buies Creek, N.C.
- 9:10 Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary Report, W. Randall Lolley, president, Wake Forest, N.C.
- 9:20 Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs Report, James M. Dunn, executive director, Washington
- 9:30 Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary Report, Milton Ferguson, president, Kansas City, Mo.
- 9:40 Southern Baptist Foundation Report, Hollis E. Johnson III, executive secretary-treasurer, Nashville
- 9:50 Congregational Singing, John Condra
- 9:55 Stewardship Commission Report, A.R. Fagan, president, Nashville
- 10:05 Christian Life Commission Report, Foy Valentine, executive director, Nashville
- 10:15 Prayer Time
- 10:20 Baptist World Alliance Report, Gerhard Claas, general secretary, McLean, Va.
- 10:30 Report of Southern Baptist Convention Canada Planning Group, William G. Tanner
- 10:40 Business
Resolutions Committee (Final Report)
- 12:30 Benediction, Sam Cathey, evangelist, Oklahoma City
Singing As We Go

Thursday Afternoon, June 12

- 2:00 Music for Inspiration, Jack Price, music evangelist, Garland, Texas
- 2:25 Congregational Singing, Jack Price
- 2:30 Prayer, Dwight Reighard, pastor, New Hope Baptist Church, Fayetteville, Ga.
- 2:35 Introduction of Fraternal Representatives
- 2:40 American Bible Society Report
- 2:50 American Baptist Theological Seminary Report, Arthur L. Walker Jr.
- 3:00 Prayer Time
- 3:10 Committee on Denominational Calendar Report, Fred Powell, chairman, senior associate pastor, First Baptist Church, Atlanta
- 3:20 Denominational Press Report, Wilmer C. Fields, vice president for public relations, SBC Executive Committee, Nashville
- 3:30 Business
- 4:30 Benediction, Richard Lee, pastor, Rehoboth Baptist Church, Tucker, Ga.
Singing As We Go

Convention Officers

- Charles Stanley, president; pastor, First Baptist Church, Atlanta
- W. Winfred Moore, first vice president; pastor, First Baptist Church, Amarillo, Texas
- Henry Huff, second vice president; attorney, Louisville, Ky.
- Martin B. Bradley, recording secretary; manager, research services department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.
- Lee Porter, registration secretary; design editor, Sunday school department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.
- Harold C. Bennett, treasurer; president, SBC Executive Committee, Nashville, Tenn.
- Wilmer C. Fields, press representative; vice president for public relations, SBC Executive Committee, Nashville, Tenn.
- William J. Reynolds, music director; associate professor of music, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas

Committee On Order Of Business

- Fred H. Wolfe, chairman; pastor, Cottage Hill Baptist Church, Mobile, Ala.
- Morris H. Chapman, vice chairman; pastor, First Baptist Church, Wichita Falls, Texas
- Stan Coffey, pastor, San Jacinto Baptist Church, Amarillo, Texas
- Reed Larson, organization executive, Annandale, Va.
- W. A. Patterson, savings and loan officer, Overland Park, Kan.
- Charles F. Stanley, SBC president; pastor, First Baptist Church, Atlanta
- Jay Strack, evangelist, Ft. Myers, Fla.

'Love Never Fails'
Annual SBC Theme

By Dan Martin

ATLANTA (BP)--"Love never fails," a Scripture reference from I Corinthians 13:8, will be the theme of the 1986 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, scheduled June 10-12 in the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta.

"Our hope is that love will be the prevailing atmosphere of our convention," said Fred Wolfe, chairman of the 1986 SBC Order of Business Committee, which is responsible for planning the meeting.

"We do have honest differences," said Wolfe, pastor of Cottage Hill Baptist Church in Mobile, Ala. "But with the convention theme we are saying we can walk together in love."

The 1986 meeting--similar to the 1985 convention in Dallas--faces the possibility of a record number of messengers, logistical problems and the likelihood of controversy.

Wolfe said the six-member Order of Business Committee "is committed to assisting the president and the messengers to have as easy a time as possible. We want the messengers to be able to express themselves and to feel they have had an ample opportunity to participate."

Wolfe estimated there will be more than 50,000 messengers at the convention, topping the record 45,519 registered in Dallas. Prior to Dallas, the record was set in 1978 in Atlanta, when 22,872 persons registered.

"I believe we can handle 50,000," Wolfe said, "although it will push us. Some predict we may have 60,000, but if we reach that it will really surprise me."

The chairman noted the Georgia World Congress Center--a sprawling facility in downtown Atlanta--"is adequate to handle us, but moving 50,000 or 60,000 people into the meeting hall is going to be difficult and time consuming."

Convention planners estimate it will take two hours to move that many people from the entrance down two escalators and into the large halls. It will not take an individual messenger that long, but from start to finish, two hours will be required to fill the hall.

It was pointed out it took 90 minutes to fill the Dallas Convention Center with 45,000 people, and that was all on the same level and did not require travel down stairs and escalators.

"This is going to require a lot of patience on the part of the messengers," Wolfe said, urging people to be "courteous, kind and Christian" in their behavior toward one another and toward ushers and others responsible for assisting them in getting into the convention.

Wolfe said the convention center will be open Sunday afternoon and all day Monday for preliminary meetings--Woman's Missionary Union annual meeting and the Pastors' Conference--and to allow messengers to register.

At 7 a.m. Tuesday, the convention center will open, but admittance will be limited to those who are registered messengers, program personalities and the news media. Persons wishing to register also will be allowed to go to the registration area on the main floor.

"Persons who are not in one of those categories should not even come to the World Congress Center," Wolfe said. He added there is expected to be no overflow space for the seating of non-messengers, particularly Tuesday and Wednesday morning. Wolfe said non-messengers may be admitted Wednesday night.

Wolfe said getting to the convention center through downtown Atlanta will present additional problems, particularly since the opening times of the SBC coincide with traditional rush hour.

"Messengers should give themselves plenty of time and come prepared," he said.

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On Tuesday and Wednesday, the convention will have seating space for 45,000 persons, and standing room for another 20,000. On Thursday, 11,000 seats will be eliminated, leaving only 34,000 seats.

Wolfe said the "interest level in the convention is the highest it has ever been. That is good; I just hate it that controversy had to bring us here."

He noted Atlanta is perhaps the most accessible city for the majority of Southern Baptists and said: "I believe people have strong, strong feelings about what is going on in the convention. It is genuine concern and a desire that we come together and get on about the work God has called us to do."

"Both sides have strong convictions and both love the convention and want to see it be what God wants it to be."

Wolfe said the Order of Business Committee has taken several steps to help ensure the meeting is conducted properly.

Basic parliamentary procedure will be printed in the first Convention Bulletin, helping messengers "understand the proper way to go about making motions, resolutions, points of order."

Some 30 laymen from across the nation have been appointed "microphone monitors" for the 13 microphones on the floor. In addition, a special device has been designed, allowing the monitors to indicate whether a person is for a motion, against it, raising a point of order or a point of personal privilege. The device will allow the presiding officer to determine the order of appearance and whether a person at a microphone is for or against an action.

"The monitors will find out who is for and who is against and line them up in that order," Wolfe said. "We have had situations in the past that were not good and we came up with this method of recognition that we think will assure fairness," he added.

The monitors were "recommended by the state Brotherhood directors," Wolfe said. Their numbers were augmented by laypersons from five churches in Atlanta, which Wolfe said "were selected right down the middle to assure their fairness."

Wolfe said six other persons were appointed to assist the Order of Business Committee in the three overflow halls, to help in seating people, recognizing messengers at the microphones and taking the vote, whether it is by ballot or by voice or hand.

The assistants were selected by members of the Order of Business Committee, Wolfe said.

Much of the business of the convention will be conducted during the first day's session, including election of a president, deliberating on a proposed change of controversial Bylaw 16, and receiving the reports of the Committee on Boards, Commissions and Standing Committees and the Committee on Committees.

"We wanted a maximum participation of the messengers, and we felt we would have far more people present Tuesday than any of the other days. That is why we put so much business on that day. We felt if we wanted maximum participation, that was the day we would get it," Wolfe said.

Wolfe noted other highlights of the program include Home Missions night on Tuesday and Foreign Missions night on Wednesday, as well as the convention sermon by Adrian Rogers of Memphis, Tenn., on Wednesday morning.

"We also have set aside a time for prayer at the request of SBC President Charles Stanley," Wolfe said.



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