



# - - BAPTIST PRESS

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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March 26, 1986

86-43

## WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION

Annual Meeting

June 8-9, 1986

Georgia World Congress Center, Atlanta

**THEME:** What We Yet May Be  
 (1 John 3:2)

### Sunday Afternoon, June 8, 1986

12:00--Luncheon for Women in Professional Ministry, Omni International Hotel

1:30--Pre-session Music--Florida Baptist Singing Men and Women

2:00--General Session

--Call to Order--Dorothy Sample, president, WMU, SBC, Flint, Mich.

--Recognition: Pastors

Distinguished WMU Directors and Pastors

--Hymn

--Theme Drama

--"We Shall Behold Him"--Terrie Head, Locust Grove Baptist Church, Smyrna, Ga.

--World Class Thinking--David Barrett, British missiologist, Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Va., and Minette Drumwright, special assistant to president of FMB, Richmond, Va.

--Prayer -- President's Keynote Address--Dorothy Sample

--Welcome by Local Arrangements Committee--Barbara Prater, chairman, Decatur, Ga.

--Feature: Missions Literature Centennial

--Hymn

--Special Music--Angela Cofer, instructor of voice and diction, University of Arizona School of Music, Tucson, Ariz.

--Address: "Growing in God's Image"--Paul Brand, chief of rehabilitation, Department of Health and Human Services, Carville, La.

--Theme Meditation

--Benediction

### Sunday Evening, June 8

5:00--Prayer Box Supper--Carolyn Weatherford, executive director, WMU, SBC, Birmingham, Ala.

7:15--Pre-session Music

Children's Choir, Romanian Baptist Missions, First Baptist Church, Atlanta

Directed by Claudia But and Mary Achim

7:30--General Session

Celebrating the Centennial of Missions Education for Children

--Hymn

--Theme Drama

--Recognition: Leaders and Members of Acteens

Leaders and Members of Girls in Action

Leaders of Mission Friends

--World Class Thinking--David Barrett and Minette Drumwright

--Prayer

--Special Music--Angela Cofer

--Children's Centennial Pageant--Written by Amelia Bishop, president, Texas WMU, Plainview  
 Directed by June Whitlow, associate executive director,

Missions coordination office, WMU, Birmingham  
 Performed by Baptist Children of Atlanta

--Hymn

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

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- Address: "Little Ones to Him Belong"—L'Nola Hall, director, Stewart Baptist Center,  
Christian social ministries department, Home Mission  
Board, Atlanta
- Music Feature: Children of Atlanta Baptist Centers
- What We Yet May Be: 1986 Acteens National Advisory Panel  
Holly Benzenhafer, Prentiss, Miss.  
Meridith Moorhead, Anderson, S.C.  
Susan Shell, Clinton, Ark.  
Sabrina Stephens, Reidsville, Ga.  
Jayme Tipton, Amarillo, Texas  
Christy Willenbrecht, Lander, Wyo.
- Theme Meditation
- Benediction

Monday Morning, June 9

- 7:00--WMU, SBC, Executive Board Reunion Breakfast, Omni International Hotel  
Baptist Nursing Fellowship Breakfast, Omni International Hotel  
Ethnic WMU Members Breakfast, Omni International Hotel
- 8:45--Pre-session Music  
Youth Choir, Laotian Baptist Mission, Columbia Drive Baptist Church, Atlanta,  
directed by Lareatha Moore and Libby Palmer
- 9:00--General Session
  - Theme Drama
  - Hymn
  - Recognition: Ministers' Wives
  - World Class Thinking--David Barrett and Minette Drumwright
  - Prayer
  - A Tribute to Marie Mathis--Helen Fling, former president, WMU, SBC, Birmingham, Ala.
  - Preview: "A Century to Celebrate, A Future to Fulfill"--Beatrice McRae, president, N.C.  
WMU; chairman, WMU Centennial Committee, Lumberton, N.C., and Staff
  - Business: Election of Officers
  - The State of the Union--Carolyn Weatherford
  - Hymn
  - Centennial Thank Offering
  - Special Music--Scott Bennett, instructor of organ, Union University, Jackson, Tenn.
  - Address: "Our Hope for World Evangelization"--R. Keith Parks, president, FMB, Richmond
  - Theme Meditation
  - Adjournment
- 11:30--Promotivational Luncheon, Georgia World Congress Center  
--Theme: "Alive from Atlanta"--News and Methods from WMU, SBC, Staff

Monday Afternoon, June 9

- 1:45--Pre-session Music--Margaret Liu, Chinese Baptist Mission, North Atlanta Baptist Church
- 2:00--General Session  
Celebrating the Sesquicentennial of Baptists in China
  - Hymn
  - Theme Drama
  - World Class Thinking--David Barrett and Minette Drumwright
  - Prayer
  - Feature: VISION 88, Staff
  - Recognition of Our Missionaries--Introduction of All Home and Foreign Missionaries
  - Our First Missionaries in China--Fred Anderson, executive director, Virginia Baptist  
Historical Society
  - Old China Hands--Eloise Glass Cauthen, former missionary to China, Richmond
  - Prayer
  - Special Music--Angela Cofer
  - Report: The China That Yet May Be--Lewis I. Myers Jr., director, consultant services,  
office of overseas operations, FMB, Richmond
  - Theme Meditation
- 3:30-5:00--Shuck Sesquicentennial Exhibit, coordinated by Fred Anderson in cooperation with the  
Foreign Mission Board and Woman's Missionary Union Archives
- Reception for Officers of Woman's Missionary Union in the Lobbies, Grand Ballroom, Georgia  
World Congress Center

Monday Evening, June 9

7:15--Pre-session Music--Angela Cofer, Scott Bennett, Janelle Ganey, student, foreign missions candidate, Louisville, Ky.

## 7:30--General Session

--Hymn

--Theme Drama

--World Class Thinking--David Barrett and Minette Drumwright

--Prayer

--Recognition: Associational Directors of Missions--greetings by Bob Lee Franklin, president of SBC Directors of Missions, Noonday Baptist Association, Marietta, Ga.

--Address: "Rebirth in the Mountains"--Grace Faulkenberry, home missionary, Clincho, Va.

--Address: "Rebirth in the City"--Everett Anthony, director of missions, Chicago Metro Baptist Association, Oak Park, Ill.

--Hymn

--Address: "What Our Convention Yet May Be"--Christine Gregory, former president, WMU, SBC, Danville, Va.

--Prayer for Our Convention--Dorothy Sample

--Testimony and Special Music--Janelle Ganey

--Special Music--"We Shall Behold Him"--Richard Sample and Angela Cofer

--Theme Meditation

--Benedictory Message--The New President of Woman's Missionary Union, SBC

--Adjournment

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Missions Milestones  
Focus Of WMU Session

Baptist Press  
3/26/86

ATLANTA (BP)--Celebrations of historic missions milestones will mark the 1986 Woman's Missionary Union national annual meeting June 8-9 in the Georgia World Congress Center, in Atlanta.

With the theme "What We Yet May Be," the meeting will focus on the future of missions in light of the past.

Various 100-year anniversaries will be featured, including the centennials of missions literature, missions work with children and Woman's Missionary Union itself.

WMU, the national missions education organization for women, girls and preschoolers, was founded in May 1888. Plans for upcoming centennial celebrations will be revealed at the annual meeting.

Baptist children from Atlanta will perform a special Children's Centennial Pageant in a meeting session designed to feature missions education for children.

An exhibit commemorating the sesquicentennial of work in China by missionary pioneer J. Lewis Shuck will conclude the historic celebrations.

Dorothy Sample of Flint, Mich., will give her last address as national WMU president, and new officers will be elected during the annual meeting. Recording Secretary Betty Gilreath also will go out of office.

SBC Peace Committee member Christine Gregory will speak on "What Our Convention Yet May Be." Gregory is a former national WMU president and SBC vice president.

Other featured speakers include Paul Brand, chief of rehabilitation at the National Hansen's Disease Center in Carville, La., and David Barrett, missions researcher and editor of World Christian Encyclopedia, who will discuss strategies for reaching for Christ a rapidly changing world of the future.

Pre-session music will have an international flavor with performances by Chinese, Laotian and Romanian choirs. The Florida Baptist Singing Men and Women also will perform.

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Other events connected with the WMU annual meeting include a luncheon for Women in Professional Ministry, a Prayer Box Supper, a Baptist Nursing Fellowship Breakfast and an Ethnic WMU Members Breakfast. Annual meeting sessions will be held at the Georgia World Congress Center and meal functions at the Omni International Hotel.

Music director for the meeting will be Angela Cofer of Tucson, Ariz. Scott Bennett of Jackson, Tenn., will be organist. Pianist will be Janelle Ganey of Louisville, Ky.

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Church Loses 'Privilege'  
Tax Appeal At High Court

By Stan Hastey

Baptist Press  
3/26/86

WASHINGTON (BP)--A non-denominational congregation in Knoxville, Tenn., that leases space from a motel for its worship and educational activities has lost its challenge to a state law imposing an occupancy--or "privilege"--tax on the rental of hotel and motel rooms in Knox County.

Covenant Community Church, described in papers filed with the U.S. Supreme Court as an "independent Bible church," lost its third and final effort to have the statute struck down for violating both the establishment and free exercise of religion clauses of the First Amendment.

At issue was a Tennessee statute known as a "state law of local application," meaning it applied only to Knox County, and was designed to produce revenues for the promotion of tourism and the construction and maintenance of tourist facilities in and around Knoxville, the largest city in eastern Tennessee. After the management of a Howard Johnson's motel imposed the 5 percent tax on the congregation for rooms leased for Sunday morning worship services and Sunday school classes, the church sued the state.

But the chancery court of Knox County issued a decree in October 1984 upholding the application of the tax to Covenant Church, a decision upheld a year later by the Supreme Court of Tennessee. By declining to hear the church's appeal from that ruling, the nation's high court left standing the lower decisions.

Covenant Church was organized in 1978 in a southern Knoxville home and subsequently met in the Knoxville Community Center. Three years ago, however, the congregation contracted with the motel for use of a conference room and guest rooms for its Sunday activities, only to learn the occupancy tax was added to its charges. The church, consisting of some 40 worshippers, was organized by Mitchell Mundy, a former Southern Baptist minister in Knoxville.

In appealing to the Supreme Court, an attorney for the church argued the law violated the constitutional ban on an establishment of religion in that it "constitutes an impermissible preference in favor of churches which own their places of worship." In addition, he argued, the statute violated the church's free exercise of religion by "taxing its tithes and offerings."

But an attorney for Knox County countered in his brief, "While it is clear that the free exercise clause...prevents government regulation of religious beliefs or interference with the dissemination of religious ideas...it cannot be asserted as authority to relieve religious groups from all the financial burdens of government."

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Retreat Participants Encouraged  
To Affirm Christian Heritage

By Frank Wm. White

Baptist Press  
3/26/86

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP)--More than 1,600 participants in the 41st National Baptist Student Union retreat were urged to affirm their Christian heritage.

"Our heritage begins in a new birth with the gift of God." Harold T. Branch, pastor of St. John Baptist Church in Corpus Christi, Texas, said in a keynote message. "We have no future without the new birth, and God's challenge is that we live in the example of Christ."

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The four-day retreat at the Memphis (Tenn.) Convention Center Complex, sponsored by national student ministries of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board and the department of black church relations of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, addressed the theme, "Our Christian Heritage: God's Challenge—Our Future."

During the Sunday morning worship service, 65 students made professions of faith and 42 made commitments to full-time Christian service.

Registration for the retreat totaled 1,614, with delegations from 142 college campuses and 10 churches.

For only the second time in more than 15 years, a woman has been elected National Baptist Student Union president. Nancy Jones, a junior from Howard University in Washington, was elected president.

Other officers elected were Michael F. Wright, Savannah State College, Savannah, Ga., vice president; Vianne Jennings, Armstrong State College, Savannah, Ga., secretary; Doris A. Briggs, Norfolk State University, Norfolk, Va., treasurer; Reginald K. Collins, Southern University, Baton Rouge, La., music director; and Terrence G. Howard, Southern University at New Orleans, organist/pianist.

In the annual Miss BSU pageant, Gaye Arbuckle of Dallas, a junior from Prairie View A and M University in Prairie View, Texas, was crowned Miss BSU from a field of 22 contestants.

Andrea Deese, a Houston junior at Texas Southern University, was named first runner-up.

Choirs from Southern University in Baton Rouge, La.; Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas; and Memphis State University in Memphis, won the small, medium and large divisions in the choir concert competition.

William J. Harvey III challenged the students to commit themselves to involvement in missions.

Harvey, executive secretary of the Foreign Mission Board of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc., said being a missionary requires a concern for the lives and souls of individuals.

While National Baptist missionaries are involved in preaching the gospel, they also are involved in saving lives, he said, detailing some of the work of the denomination's missionaries in hunger relief in Ethiopia, prenatal education and care in western Africa and skills training programs throughout Africa and the Bahamas.

Molly Marshall-Green, assistant professor of theology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., urged the students to use their abilities in Christian servanthood.

Marshall-Green, who led three Bible study sessions, said God has embraced humanity and empowered people for servanthood. "We are earthen vessels but God can fill earthen vessels to do his work. If we are too full of ourselves, there will not be room for Christ to shine through," she said.

God empowers each person with special gifts, she said, noting, "Our responsibility is to use those gifts. Refusing to use our gifts is disobeying God."

The retreat is the only national convention for black Christian college students, said John Corbitt, national student ministries consultant and retreat coordinator.

The 1987 retreat will be held in Birmingham, Ala., March 19-22.

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



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NEWS SERVICE OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION