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April 2, 1986

86-47

**Seminary Couple Take On  
'Instant Family' Of Five**

By Susan Shaw

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)--When Warren and Camilla Huddleston first saw the five boys, they knew they didn't have enough money or sanity to more than triple the size of their family overnight.

But they just couldn't get those five little faces out of their minds.

Now, two years later, the Huddlestons couldn't imagine life without the "love, joy and sometimes mass confusion" their five sons bring.

Warren, a Christian education student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., and Camilla, a teacher at Southwestern Christian School, adopted the five brothers two years ago through the state of Kentucky's Special Needs Adoption Program.

The Huddlestons applied to the state in 1983 after seeing a segment of "Wednesday's Child," a series promoting the program by Louisville television station WLKY-32.

Special Needs Adoption Program--SNAP--is sponsored by the Kentucky Department of Human Resources, which handles children who are not in the mainstream of adoption, such as black children over the age of three, white children over the age of nine, groups of more than three children and children with physical, mental or emotional handicaps.

The Huddlestons first saw the brothers in "The SNAP Book," a collection of photos and information on eligible children compiled by the state staff. The state wanted to keep the five children together, and after six weeks of meetings, questioning and home visits by social workers, the Huddlestons were approved as one of the first families to adopt so many siblings.

Warren and Camilla at last met Rob, who then was 2 years old; Steve, 4; Earl, 6; Hank, 7; and Lewis, 8, at a Wednesday's Child picnic. The Huddlestons began regular visits with the boys at the end of April 1984, and on June 7 five little boys came home to stay.

Camilla says many people told them they were crazy, but they were so excited about getting children they didn't think a lot about what it would be like with five.

From the first, the boys called Warren and Camilla "Mom" and "Dad." Still, life with five instant sons did require adjustments from everyone, and Camilla realizes it means they'll have teen problems back-to-back for many years. Yet both of the Huddlestons agree God's hand was in the situation. "A lot of people were praying about it," Camilla recalls.

While the boys had been in a good foster home, Camilla says, they had not had a great deal of religious influence. But with a father who's a minister, the boys were quickly introduced to church life. Warren is outreach minister at Beechwood Baptist Church in Louisville. Camilla reports the boys have "taken it in stride like it's always been part of them."

The Huddlestons moved to Louisville from Griffin, Ga., in 1980 for Warren to attend Boyce Bible School, a division of Southern seminary for ministers who do not have college degrees. After he graduated from Boyce, Warren attended the University of Louisville for one year and then enrolled in Campbellsville College. He graduated only a week before the adoption was completed.

The Huddlestons see their family as a "real ministry." Still, Camilla says, "I don't feel we're so wonderful--the kids are. What they've done for us far outweighs what we could ever do for them."

Douglas Lee Chosen  
Stetson President-Elect

DELAND, Fla. (BP)--Stetson University trustees have named Executive Vice President H. Douglas Lee president-elect of the university.

He will succeed President Pope A. Duncan June 1, 1987, said Wendell N. Jarrard Jr., trustee chairman.

When Lee assumes the presidency, Duncan will become chancellor of the university, Jarrard said. Lee will continue as executive vice president, the second-highest administrative position at Stetson, until Duncan leaves office.

As chancellor, Duncan will serve as a goodwill ambassador for Stetson, which is the oldest university in the state of Florida. Duncan, 65, who in 1977 said he planned to be Stetson's president for 10 years, will be only the second chancellor in university history. The first was J. Ollie Edmunds in 1967.

The announcements came during a news conference March 27. Lee's appointment follows a search during which 60 people were screened by the trustee board's search committee.

"One of the things that most impressed the committee was not only Dr. Lee's personal qualifications but the full support he received from faculty, students, alumni and community leaders," said Jarrard. "This is not only a strong statement about his eight years at Stetson but it also suggests the strong leadership we can expect during Dr. Lee's presidency."

Lee earned bachelor's degrees in English and divinity, a master of theology and a doctorate in religion. He studied at the University of Richmond, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., and the University of Iowa.

As a professor of religion from 1971 to 1973, Lee taught ethics, politics and religion at Virginia Intermont College, where he also was director of educational development. From 1973 to 1978, he was director of university relations at Wake Forest University.

He came to Stetson in 1978 as vice president of development and later was named vice president of planning and development. He was chosen Stetson's first executive vice president in 1984.

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Denton Named To Position  
At Southwestern Seminary

Baptist Press  
4/2/86

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)--R. Frank Denton has been named associate director of development at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, effective June 1.

Denton has been executive director/treasurer of the Missouri Baptist Foundation since 1979. Prior to that, he was director of development and public relations for Buckner Baptist Benevolences and secretary of the endowment and capital giving department of the Baptist General Convention of Texas. Denton and his wife, Dottie, have been at churches in Fort Worth and Quitman, Texas, and Ferguson, Mo.

At Southwestern, Denton will be responsible for coordinating development activities in Houston and southeastern Texas. He is one of three associate directors assisting James Holcomb, director of development.

Denton earned the bachelor of arts degree from Baylor University and the bachelor of divinity degree from Southwestern.

John Seelig, vice president for public affairs, cited Denton's experience with wills and trusts as an asset for Southwestern. "Frank's years of experience will enable him to help us meet the goals of Upward 90" development effort, Seelig said.

The Dentons have three children, Lowell, Laura and Lloyd.

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Redford To Take Missions  
Post In Texas Association

ATLANTA (BP)—R. Jack Redford, director of the church extension division of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board in Atlanta, has been named director of missions for the Cisco Baptist Association in Texas, effective July 1.

Redford, who will take early retirement following 26 years with the board, will return to the West Texas association where he was reared as a boy.

Redford attended Cisco public schools through the 10th grade. His parents lived in nearby Ranger, Texas, for 30 years before their deaths.

Redford has been pastor of churches in Texas, Arkansas and Colorado, and was a chaplain in the U.S. Army for six years.

In 1960 he began his career with the Home Mission Board as an area missionary to southeastern Indiana. He also has been director of missions for the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana, associate secretary of the Home Mission Board's department of pioneer missions and director of the agency's church extension efforts since 1971.

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Missionaries Challenge  
Students To Be Respons-able

By Leisa A. Hammett

Baptist Press  
4/2/86

HOUSTON (BP)—Princeton University chaplain and professor John Walsh challenged Houston Baptist University students to be "respons-able" for the world and allow God to cure "psychoscirrrosis—hardening of the spirit."

"People who contract this common disease which blocks new ideas and vulnerability are not dumb," he continued. "It's smart to fear the cure more than the illness. It may be hell to be guilty, but it is worse to be responsible."

Walsh and 12 other Southern Baptist home missionaries and agency representatives spoke during Home Missions Experience at Houston Baptist University, an annual event at Baptist colleges sponsored by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

When Christians endure or ignore interpersonal or world problems, Walsh said, they deny God's healing power.

Mildred McWhorter, a Christian social ministries missionary from Houston, told students they were not responsible for winning, but telling the whole world about Jesus Christ.

McWhorter, who supervises three Houston inner-city missions, added the students would be the nearest thing to God some people would ever see. She urged them not to be so preoccupied they did not have time for people.

Language missionary Aias de Souza of Mobile, Ala., told students they did not have to go overseas to see that people need Jesus, noting, three billion people need to hear about God.

Many of them, he said, are ordinary people living in America. More Spanish-speaking people live in California than in any Central American country. Chicago is the largest Polish city in the world, second to Warsaw, and the world's second-largest Chinese Baptist church is in California. The Home Mission Board also ministers in 84 languages and dialects, he added.

De Souza encouraged Houston Baptist University students to see people through the eyes of Jesus and get in touch with lonely people on ships, in jails and schools.

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Cooperative Program Makes Circle  
In Life Of Houston Pastor Cheung

By Terry Barone

DALLAS (BP)—The Cooperative Program has come full circle in the life of Lok-Tin Cheung, who became a Christian through the efforts of Southern Baptist missionaries in his native China.

Cheung, now pastor of Chinese Baptist Church in Houston, has led his congregation to become a leading ethnic congregation in gifts to Southern Baptist missions through the convention's Cooperative Program budget.

In 1985, the church gave \$34,640, or 12 percent of its gifts, to missions through the Cooperative Program. According to records of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, the congregation increased its gifts by almost 16 percent over the 1984 total of \$29,898.

The church also is a supporter of associational missions, special mission offerings and special mission projects through its missions committee.

In 1985, Chinese church also gave 5 percent to Union Baptist Association and Trinity Pines Conference Center and 7 percent to other mission projects of the church. Members gave more than \$10,500 to foreign, home and state mission offerings in 1985.

Pastor Cheung says it has taken 27 years of work to reach this point in missions giving since he came to lead the "struggling congregation."

"But," he says, "the Lord has blessed us and we feel it is the only thing we can do."

Cheung and his wife, Lydia, came to the United States from China and were home missionaries in El Paso, Texas, in 1959 when the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board asked them to go to the new church in Houston.

When the Cheungs first arrived, the congregation was giving \$60 a month to missions through the Cooperative Program and \$30 a month to associational missions. Cheung says the church continued to increase its gifts to missions, even while still struggling.

Then in 1967, Cheung challenged the church to begin giving to missions on a percentage basis instead of a specified dollar amount. "This greatly enhanced our mission gifts," Cheung recalls. By 1981, the church was giving 10 percent to missions through the Cooperative Program, 5 percent to associational missions and Trinity Pines and 6 percent for special mission projects.

In October 1981, the church voted to increase mission gifts 1 percent per year until 1990, when it will be giving 30 percent to missions. In 1990, the church plans to give 15 percent to missions through the Cooperative Program, 5 percent to associational missions and Trinity Pines and 10 percent to special mission projects.

Cheung credits a process of educating members to the needs of people and the ministries that are performed through cooperative missions for the giving increase.

Probably one of the greatest mission examples to the congregation has been Cheung and his wife, who became Christians as a direct result of Southern Baptist missionary work in China. Both attended Baptist schools in China, and Cheung came to the United States after World War II to attend Baylor University. Both are graduates of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

"We are products of Southern Baptist generosity," Cheung says. "That speaks loudly to the congregation. But that is not the only reason we give to missions."

Cheung has a burden for Chinese people to come to know the Christ. "There are a large number of Chinese people in the world, but a very small percentage of them are Christian," he says. As an example, Cheung notes about 60,000 Chinese people live in Houston and less than 3,000 of them attend any church.

"Because we are Asian," he says, "we feel a special responsibility to reach other Asians, and we are willing to do that by whatever means."

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Missions education has helped the Chinese congregation see the benefits of their gifts, Cheung notes. The church has active Woman's Missionary Union and Brotherhood organizations and the pastor preaches on missions several times a year. The church also has made it a practice to have "missionary speakers" to help raise the "missions consciousness" of the people.

"We all are on a mission pilgrimage," Cheung says. "Our people have a sense of calling to share the gospel, and cooperative missions is one way they can do this."

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CORRECTION:

In Baptist Press story "Appeals Court Throws Out Challenge To Vatican Envoy," mailed 3/31/86, please substitute the following for the story's last two graphs:

Although the Southern Baptist Convention is not a plaintiff in the case, it is listed as a friend-of-the-court party in a brief opposing the appointment of an ambassador filed by the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs. Action authorizing joining the Baptist Joint Committee brief was taken by the SBC Executive Committee in February 1985.

At the 1984 meeting of the convention in Kansas City, Mo., messengers took two actions protesting restoration of diplomatic relations with the Vatican. A resolution pledged "support of actions which challenge diplomatic relations with the Holy See." And in a motion referred to the Executive Committee, the convention requested that body "to see that this convention's position against a U.S. Ambassador to the Holy See...comes properly before any court adjudicating a lawsuit challenging the constitutionality thereof, in whatever manner legal counsel recommends as most effective to serve Southern Baptists' interests, it being understood that the Executive Committee may work in concert with other interested parties."

During its September 1984 meeting following the June convention, the full Executive Committee adopted without debate a recommendation from its administrative and convention arrangements subcommittee that a decision on joining the lawsuit be delayed until the following February. The recommendation to delay originated in the by-laws workgroup, where discussion focused on refraining from any action that might embarrass President Reagan during his bid for re-election in November 1984.

Thanks,  
Baptist Press

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NEWS SERVICE OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION