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May 1, 1987

87-67

Rogers Appoints  
SBC Committees

By Dan Martin

ST. LOUIS (BP)—Four committees to serve during the 1987 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention have been appointed by SBC President Adrian P. Rogers of Memphis, Tenn.

Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church, announced his nominations to the Committee on Committees and the Resolutions Committee April 30, in keeping with SBC bylaws requiring the president to release the appointments to Baptist Press, the denominational news service, "no later than 45 days in advance of the annual meeting" scheduled June 16-18 in St. Louis.

The president also released the appointments to the Credentials and Tellers Committees, although he is not required by bylaw to do so.

"I think these are great people," Rogers told Baptist Press. "I think they are good, solid Southern Baptists who have good records of cooperation and longevity and have not been highly identified, by and large, with any overt political activity.

"I am particularly pleased that of the 122 appointments, the average pastoral tenure in the respective churches is 11 years. Also, the average of all Cooperative Program percentages of the churches represented is more than 12 percent. I believe this clearly indicates that these appointments represent long-standing Southern Baptists and that the respective churches are solidly involved in the Cooperative Program of this convention," he added.

Last year, Rogers pledged to appoint the "very best Baptists" to the convention committees and said he "did not intend to make appointments that are overtly political."

He did, however, say the section on Scripture in the Baptist Faith and Message Statement of 1963 was central to the appointments.

"I did not appoint anybody who did not subscribe to the Baptist Faith and Message Statement on Scripture," he said. "I am trying to adhere to our standard, which I think the SBC president ought to do. I have said before I would not appoint anyone who does not subscribe to the Baptist Faith and Message, and, in particular, the article on Scripture."

That section says the Bible has "truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter."

"We didn't doctrinally interrogate anybody," he said. "We just kind of figured their stance out by their reputation. I don't believe we had a doctrinal statement on the questionnaire we filled out on everybody. We did not ask about their (doctrinal) position, but we did have a place where the person making the recommendation could supply other pertinent information."

Rogers said he "met from time to time" with the two vice presidents — Jack Stanton, first vice president from Bolivar, Mo., and Ray Roberts, second vice president from Asheville, N.C.

Under the bylaws, the SBC president is required to appoint the Committee on Committees and the Resolutions Committee "in conference with" the vice presidents. He appoints the Credentials Committee "in consultation with" the vice presidents and the Tellers Committee "in consultation with" the registration secretary.

"I asked them to submit any names they wished to submit and from that list tried to analyze and distill. I gave that (refined) list back to the vice presidents for them to review and from the final list made the appointments," Rogers said.

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Roberts told Baptist Press he had met with Rogers and Stanton about the appointments and "agreed on the list of information we wanted" on the recommendations.

Although he said he had not seen the final list, Roberts said he had gone over the names. "Adrian seemed very considerate and fair of any suggestions Jack and I had," he said.

"There were a great host of people I did not know, but those I did know, I agreed on. I feel there are some very good nominations," he added.

Stanton was traveling and could not be reached by Baptist Press.

Rogers said he also had contacted Registration Secretary Lee Porter of Nashville for suggestions on the Credentials and Tellers Committees. Porter works with each group during the three days of the annual meeting.

"I asked Lee Porter if he had any persons he would like to suggest. He suggested one person and that person was named to the Credentials Committee," Rogers said.

Rogers said he received "more than 500" recommendations from which he made the appointments, adding those came "from the rank and file of Southern Baptists, state paper editors, seminary presidents, executive directors of state conventions, other denominational employees, presidents of state conventions and the vice presidents."

"We have seriously and prayerfully considered these recommendations. A fact of interest is that 18 of the recommendations I have used came from state executive directors," he said.

He added: "I would hope that our people would receive these people and pray for them. They are, I believe, well motivated and highly qualified and believe what we as Southern Baptists traditionally have believed."

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#### Committee On Committees Expanded To 66 Members

ST. LOUIS (BP)—The 1987 Committee on Committees appointed by Southern Baptist Convention President Adrian P. Rogers has been expanded from 54 to 66 members.

The expansion was made necessary by a revised bylaw adopted during the 1986 SBC annual meeting, increasing participation from smaller state conventions.

This year, six conventions are represented on the Committee on Committees for the first time: Alaska, Nevada, New England, New York, Pennsylvania-South Jersey and Utah-Idaho.

Four conventions among the 37 affiliated with the SBC still are not represented: Hawaii, Minnesota-Wisconsin, Northern Plains and Wyoming.

During the 1986 annual meeting, messengers approved a bylaw which sets up a tiered system which increases the participation of state conventions. Previously, a state convention had to reach 25,000 members before being represented on the boards and agencies of the convention.

The new Bylaw 31 allows any messenger to participate on the Credentials and Resolutions Committees or any other "special committee" appointed by the convention.

The new Bylaw 32 sets up the tiered representation system. Under it, conventions which have in excess of 15,000 members are granted representation on the Executive Committee, Committee on Committees and the Committee on Boards, Commissions and Standing Committees.

Conventions which reach 20,000 members qualify for the basic three groups, plus representation on the Foreign Mission Board, Home Mission Board and Sunday School Board.

Conventions with more than 25,000 members qualify for representation on all boards, commissions, institutions and committees of the convention.

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Five of the six conventions which gained representation on the Committee on Committees qualify for the basic representation: Alaska (19,142 members); Nevada (19,228); New England (16,844); Pennsylvania-South Jersey (19,368); and Utah-Idaho (17,614). One convention -- New York -- has 24,786 members and qualifies for the second tier.

Rogers named James L. Sells, chancellor of Southwest Baptist University in Bolivar, Mo. as chairman.

The Committee on Committees has as its primary responsibility the nomination of people to serve on the 1988 Committee on Boards, Commissions and Standing Committees, which, in turn, nominates people to serve as trustees of the 24 national entities affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention.

The committee is composed of two people from each qualified state convention. Nominated to the committee are:

ALABAMA — Lenny Bolton, pastor of Chisholm church, Montgomery, and Richard Lee II, a banker and member of First church, Gardendale.

ALASKA — Johnny N. McCoy, pastor of First church, North Pole, and Herbert L. Cotton, a member of Grandview church, Anchorage.

ARIZONA — Gary Ramer, pastor of First church, Bullhead City, and Joe May, a member of First Southern church, Tucson.

ARKANSAS — Mike Huckabee, pastor of Beech Street First church, Texarkana, and Jerry A. Baugh, director of laboratory services for Baptist Hospital and member of Forest Highlands church, Little Rock.

CALIFORNIA — Buddy M. Reeves, pastor of First Southern church, Hemet, and Mike Carter, a businessman and member of Bethel church, Escondido.

COLORADO — W. Michael Wilson, pastor of Aurora Central church, Aurora, and Mrs. Rebecca Henderson, a pastor's wife and member of Pleasant Valley church, Colorado Springs.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA — William L. Bort Sr., pastor of Kendall church, Washington, and Mrs. Clara Belle Moore, a homemaker and member of First church, Washington.

FLORIDA — Freddie Smith, pastor of Central church, Sanford, and Fred Greene, a businessman and member of First church, West Palm Beach.

GEORGIA — Ron Long, pastor of Glenwood Hills church, Lithonia, and Dave Hester, a businessman and member of Abilene church, Martinez.

ILLINOIS — D. Samuel Boyd, pastor of First church, Libertyville, and Richard Mason, president of Frontier College and member of First church, Fairfield.

INDIANA — Steven M. Fain, pastor of First church, Charlestown, and Ken Wring, a businessman and member of Eastlake church, Merrillville.

KANSAS/NEBRASKA — Roger D. Roberts, pastor of Metropolitan church, Wichita, Kan., and Terry E. Dick, a businessman and member of First church, Belle Plaine, Kan.

KENTUCKY — Harold Cathey, pastor of Unity church, Ashland, and Terry L. Norris, a dentist and member of Pleasant Grove church, Owensboro.

LOUISIANA — Louis L. Morris, retired pastor of First church, Monroe, and Mrs. Grace Lee, wife of the retired Louisiana convention executive director and member of First church, Pineville.

MARYLAND/DELAWARE — Dallas W. Bumgarner, pastor of Elvaton church, Glen Burnie, Md., and Mrs. Elizabeth L. Crowley, a pastor's wife and member of Montrose church, Rockville, Md.

MICHIGAN — Damon Patterson, pastor of Monroe Missionary church, Monroe, and Clifford J. Williams, a layman and member of Immanuel church, Romeo.

MISSISSIPPI — L. Edward Gandy, pastor of First church, Kosciusco, and Carl Ford, an attorney and member of Second church, Laurel.

MISSOURI — Rick E. Ferguson, pastor of First church, DeSoto, and James L. Sells, chancellor of Southwest Baptist University and member of First church, Bolivar.

NEVADA — Robert G. Holmes, pastor of First Southern church, Henderson, and Ray Bradley, a layman and member of Twin Lake church, Las Vegas.

NEW ENGLAND — Jim Schneider, pastor of Pleasant Valley church, Groton, Conn., and Bruce Allen, pastor of First church, Shrewsbury, Mass.

NEW MEXICO — Steven R. Taylor, pastor of Sandia church, Albuquerque, and Gerald R. Farley, business manager of Hoffmantown church, Albuquerque.

NEW YORK — Harry V. Maples, pastor of Long Falls church, Carthage, and Peter W. Hoadley, a college professor and member of Emmanuel church, Pottsdam.

NORTH CAROLINA — James Johnson, pastor of West Asheville church, Asheville, and Frederick T. Corbin, a college professor and member of Hayes-Barton church, Raleigh.

NORTHWEST — Wayne McDill, pastor of Metropolitan church, Portland, Ore., and Albert C. Jones, a layman and member of Vine Street church, Roseburg, Ore.

OHIO — Glenn Davidson, pastor of Pisgah Heights church, Westchester, and Star Powley, an engineer and member of University church, Middletown.

OKLAHOMA — A. William Merrell, pastor of Country Estates church, Midwest City, and Chuck Bowman, director of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and member of Henderson Hills church, Edmond.

PENNSYLVANIA/SOUTH JERSEY — Nelson M. Burr Sr., pastor of Delvan church, Delvan, N.J., and Mrs. Sharon Davenport, the wife of an associate pastor and member of Pittsburgh church, Pittsburgh, Pa.

SOUTH CAROLINA — Donald C. Purvis, pastor of Lakeview church, Hartsville, and Bob Debenport, a businessman and member of First church, Columbia.

TENNESSEE — Jerry Sutton, pastor of Two Rivers church, Nashville, and Joseph A. Clayton, a high school principal and member of First church, Collierville.

TEXAS — George Harris, pastor of Castle Hills First church, San Antonio, and John A. Martindale, a layman and member of First church, Jasper.

UTAH/IDAHO — Charles Ray, retired pastor of First church, Kearnes, Utah, and John M. Embery, a supply preacher and member of Calvary church, Boise, Idaho.

VIRGINIA — Robert C. Jackson, director of missions of New River Baptist Association and member of First church, Galax, and Mrs. Virginia Kinzer, a homemaker and member of the Culpeper church, Culpeper.

WEST VIRGINIA — Ronald W. Skidmore, pastor of Edgemont church, Bluefield, and Floyd F. Wilmoth, a retired businessman and member of Altizer church, Huntington.

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Credentials, Tellers  
Committees Appointed

ST. LOUIS (BP) — The Credentials and Tellers Committees for the 1987 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 16-18, have been appointed by President Adrian P. Rogers.

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According to convention bylaws, the Credentials Committee reviews and rules upon any question which may arise concerning registration of messengers at the annual meeting. Also, the committee is charged with studying and reporting on "any contention arising on the floor concerning the seating of messengers."

The committee works with the convention's registration secretary in order to accomplish its work. The registration secretary is Lee Porter of Nashville.

The chairman of the 25-member committee is James W. Bryant, pastor of Grand Avenue Baptist Church, Fort Smith, Ark.

Members of the Credentials Committee are:

Richard Cagle, pastor of First church, Jackson, Ala.; Mrs. Sue Brister, a pastor's wife and member of First Southern church, El Monte, Calif.; Fred H. Boehmer, pastor of First church, Brandon, Fla.; W.A. Smith, pastor of Sherwood church, Albany, Ga.; Bob Wagner, pastor of Second church, Marion, Ill.; Rudolph Yakym, a stockbroker and member of First Southern church of Mishawaka, a suburb of South Bend, Ind.;

Mark R. Patton, pastor of First Southern church, Topeka, Kan.; Bob C. Litton, pastor of Utica church, Utica, Ky.; Lawrence Hall, a layman and member of Severns Valley church, Elizabethtown, Ky.; Milton L. Williams, a layman and member of Broadmoor church, Shreveport, La.; Mrs. Jeannette Casey, a homemaker and member of Valley church, Lutherville, Md.; Gary Berry, pastor of First church, McComb, Miss.;

Charles C. Holt, a layman and member of First church, Washington, Mo.; Adrian Burk, an attorney and member of Rice Memorial church, Northboro, Mass.; Albert C. Helms Jr., pastor of Scotts Hills church, Wilmington, N.C.; Mrs. Sally Pereira, a pastor's wife and member of First church, Swannanoa, N.C.; Don Dunn, a grocer and member of First church, Chickasha, Okla.; Forrest M. Whittington, a city manager and member of Immanuel church, Florence, S.C.;

Tommy Knotts, director of missions of Aiken Baptist Association and member of First church, Belvedere, S.C.; John D. Laida, pastor of First church, Clarksville, Tenn.; Joe S. Ratliff, pastor of Brentwood church, Houston, Texas; Don Wills, a businessman and member of First church, Wichita Falls, Texas; Paul Brown, pastor of First church, Woodbridge, Va.; and Mrs. Alberta M. Pearse, a homemaker and member of Plymouth Haven church, Alexandria, Va.

The Tellers Committee, which also works with the registration secretary, is charged with tabulation of any votes taken during the committee.

Chairman of the 21-member committee is James Merritt, pastor of First Baptist Church of Snellville, Ga.

Other members include:

Wallace Edgar, pastor of Trinity church, Texarkana, Ark.; Simon Tsoi, pastor of First Chinese church, Phoenix, Ariz.; Doug Harrison, a layman and member of First Southern church, Fresno, Calif.; Doyle Carlton Jr., a businessman and member of First church, Merritt Island, Fla.; Mrs. Ruth Gleaves, a homemaker and member of First church, Atlanta; Roger Ellsworth, pastor of First church, Fairfield, Ill.;

Ron Baggett, a layman and member of Lansing Southern chapel, Tonganoxie, Kan.; Dale Moss, a layman and member of Faith church, Glen Burnie, Md.; Tommy Snyder, pastor of Calvary church, Greenville, Miss.; Miss Sue Tatum, a layperson and member of First church, Yazoo City, Miss.; Mrs. Dawn Phillips, a layperson and member of First church, St. Joseph, Mo.; Norman A. Boshoff, pastor of Hoffmantown church, Albuquerque, N.M.;

Mrs. Ellamae Elder, a pastor's wife and member of First church, Aztec, N.M.; Doyle W. Gunter, a businessman and member of Hyatts Chapel church, Whittier, N.C.; Howard Candler, a layman and member of Calvary church, West Asheville, N.C.; Ferrell Mills, pastor of Grand Avenue church, Corvallis, Ore.; Jimmie E. Harley, pastor of First church, Florence, S.C.; George Brown, a veterinarian and member of Calvary church, Knoxville, Tenn.; David Galvan, pastor of Primera Iglesia Nueva Vida, Garland, Texas; and Bob Melvin, pastor of Spottswood church, Fredericksburg, Va.

St. Louis Resolutions  
Committee Appointed

ST. LOUIS (BP)—A 10-member Resolutions Committee to serve during the 1987 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 16-18, has been appointed by President Adrian P. Rogers of Memphis, Tenn.

According to convention bylaws, the Resolutions Committee "has the duty ... to prepare and submit to the convention resolutions which the committee deems appropriate for adoption and to report on all matters submitted to it by the convention."

Rogers told Baptist Press he "hopes again this year that we will continue in a spirit of holding down volatile resolutions in order to allow us to spend a great majority of our time on the substantive issues before us — the election of the boards of trustees (for the agencies), the report of the Peace Committee and other items."

He added, however, he will "give the Resolutions Committee freedom. I cannot be, nor would I be, iron-handed with them. On the other hand, I am going to encourage them to try to keep highly controversial resolutions off the floor, and I would encourage messengers to do the same thing."

In past years, resolutions presented to the annual meeting have generated considerable controversy, including differences of opinion on the weight resolutions should be accorded. Some believe agencies and employees should adhere to the spirit of the resolutions while others believe the resolutions are an expression of the opinion of those present and voting at the time the resolutions are presented.

In recent years, resolutions have addressed such issues as the role of women, the inspiration of the Scriptures and abortion.

Rogers said he will follow the practice in past years of having messengers submit their resolutions at a table to the side of the main platform during miscellaneous business sessions. The topic of the resolution and its presenter will be read into the minutes by one of the convention officers.

Rogers also asked people planning to propose resolutions to send copies of the documents to the chairman of the resolutions committee as early as possible so the committee can study them and be prepared when the convention session begins.

The 10-member committee will meet in advance of the annual meeting for orientation and to begin the process of drafting proposed resolutions.

Rogers named Tom Melzoni, pastor of Central Baptist Church in Oak Ridge, Tenn., as chairman and urged that drafts of proposed resolutions be mailed to Melzoni in care of the SBC Executive Committee, 901 Commerce, Nashville, Tenn. 37203.

The SBC bylaws specify three of the 10 members of the Resolutions Committee be members of the SBC Executive Committee. Rogers named Guy Sanders III, pastor of First church, Lake Wales, Fla.; William F. Harrell, pastor of Abilene church, Martinez, Ga.; and David T. Gray, an attorney and member of Stithton church, Radcliff, Ky., — all members of the Executive Committee — to the Resolutions Committee.

Other members include:

David Miller, director of missions of Little Red River Baptist Association and member of Southside church, Heber Springs, Ark.; John Swartz, pastor of Bethel church, Escondido, Calif.; Mrs. Rhonda H. Kelley, a homemaker and member of First Church, New Orleans;

Ernest Ferrell, pastor of Bethesda church, Durham, N.C.; Mary Kay Stelter, a homemaker and member of First church, Lubbock, Texas; and Mrs. Lorraine Simms, a homemaker and member of First church, Roanoke, Va.

Crews Affirms Bible,  
Ministry To West

MILL VALLEY, Calif. (BP)--William O. Crews Jr. affirmed the Bible as true and his school's ministry to the West during his inauguration as sixth president of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in Mill Valley, Calif., April 27.

"Golden Gate seminary will remain committed to the 1963 Baptist Faith and Message Statement, particularly the portion which says the Bible has truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter," said Crews, 51, who was elected president of the Southern Baptist seminary in December.

Scripture -- and the way it is taught in Southern Baptists' six seminaries -- has been at the center of theological/political strife within the convention for about eight years. Crews stressed that he and his seminary support the Bible as true.

He pledged his personal commitment to the October 1986 "Glorieta Statement" written by the seminary presidents two months before he was elected to lead Golden Gate seminary. The presidents' document, presented as an instrument for healing within the convention, states: "The 66 books of the Bible are not errant in any area of reality. We hold to their infallible power and binding authority."

"I am convinced that this statement, treated with integrity, could be the basis for reconciliation in our troubled denomination," Crews said during his inaugural service.

Referring to the Baptist Faith and Message Statement, Crews reminded his audience that each person on the faculty of Golden Gate is asked to sign that statement and "teach in accord with, and not contrary to, the statement."

He added, however: "I do not believe that signing this statement should ever be treated as either a means of getting or keeping one's job at Golden Gate. It should be signed with integrity or not at all."

Turning his attention to the specific needs of the California seminary, Crews noted: "We who serve here in the West can ill-afford the luxury of fighting when our assignment is fishing for the souls of men. I will say again as I have said on other occasions, we here in the West must steer our ship away from the rocky shores of debate and division."

Crews spoke of Golden Gate's past, calling the seminary a "dream, born in the heart of God ... and now realizing the establishment of an institution that over the past 43 years has graduated over 3,000 men and women engaged in ministry in the West and around the world."

He urged Golden Gate students to be "creative, competent, committed and, above all else, under a divine compulsion which would not allow you to stay where you were and will sustain you wherever you are." He also pledged to them that he would be honest, open, fair and sensitive to their needs.

Faculty members received his promise that he would be available and careful to communicate with them and that he would give administrative leadership to the seminary. He will take "adequate time for study and reflection on the work of the seminary" before taking any administrative actions to "facilitate an orderly operation of seminary business," he said.

Crews pledged to the Southern Baptist Convention to "give our best in training and equipping leaders for dynamic, growing churches, both in the West and around the world. We will do that with a program of leadership development ... 'that trains the head, the heart and the hand.'"

About 500 people, including representatives from educational institutions, churches, Southern Baptist agencies and the seminary community, attended the inaugural ceremony.

Randall Lolley, president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C., brought greetings on behalf of the Southern Baptist seminary presidents. He was joined by Wesley Brown, president of American Baptist Seminary of the West, a sister institution in the San Francisco Bay area, and Russell Tuck, president of California Baptist College in Riverside.

Bill O'Brien, executive vice president of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, gave Crews his summons to the task, claiming Golden Gate has the most unique laboratory among Southern Baptist institutions. "You must be firmly rooted for the purpose of training leaders to share the gospel with the world," he said.

Board of trustees Chairman O.Q. Quick presented Crews with the traditional presidential medallion and defined the new president's task as "serving God and seminary well." Harold K. Graves, Golden Gate president emeritus, gave the inauguration prayer and benediction.

Prior to his election as seminary president, Crews was pastor of Magnolia Avenue Baptist Church in Riverside, Calif., for eight years and was a Golden Gate trustee when he was elected. He also is a member of the SBC Peace Committee, charged with seeking a resolution to the conflict within the denomination.

For the past 20 years, Crews has held pastorates in the West and also was editor of the Northwest Baptist Witness, newsjournal of the Northwest Baptist Convention. He was pastor of five churches in Texas for a total of 14 years. He is a graduate of Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, Texas, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

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Information for this article was provided by Herb Hollinger, editor of the California Southern Baptist, and Eddy Oliver, public relations director at Golden Gate seminary.

Golden Gate Trustees OK  
Budget, 2 Faculty Members

Baptist Press  
5/1/87

MILL VALLEY, Calif. (BP)--Trustees of Golden Baptist Theological Seminary adopted a \$5.7 million budget for 1987-88 and elected two faculty members during their spring meeting in Mill Valley, Calif.

The budget is a 9.1 percent increase over the current budget, President William O. Crews Jr. said. Basic funding of the seminary's budget will come from gifts of Southern Baptist churches through the denomination's Cooperative Program unified budget.

For 1987-88, Cooperative Program gifts should total more than \$2.5 million, representing only 44 percent of the budget, Crews noted. The balance will be met through fees and income from other sources. In addition, \$1.2 million is expected to be raised through the seminary's annual fund toward support of the budget.

The current financial status of the seminary was pictured as having suffered from the transition of administrations during the past year. Frank Pollard resigned as seminary president in March of 1986, and Crews was elected to succeed him in December. The seminary is short \$657,000 in income from its annual fund for the year, which ends July 31.

As a result, the trustees voted to refinance an off-campus 32-unit apartment complex, which trustees were told could bring about \$1 million in equity to be put into an emergency operating general fund. The complex, appraised at more than \$2 million, is expected to be collateral for a \$1.2 million loan.

In other action, trustees unanimously elected Leroy Gainey and Barry A. Stricker to the faculty.

Gainey was named associate professor of religious education. He is the first black trustee-elected, full-time faculty member of a Southern Baptist seminary. Currently he is senior pastor of Central Baptist Church in Syracuse, N.Y.

Stricker will be associate professor of theology and Christian philosophy. Presently he is an instructor at Golden Gate and was manager of the seminary Baptist Book Store from 1983 to 1986.

Trustees also:

-- Authorized Crews to appoint a long-range planning committee to formulate goals and strategies for the seminary's future.

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- Adopted a proposal relating to requirements for student residence in campus housing.
- Recommended Ron Hornecker, supervised ministry associate, become associate professor of supervised ministry.
- Unanimously elected new trustee officers for 1987-88: Clark Johnson, pastor in Phoenix, Ariz., chairman; Herman Wooten, director of associational missions in Vallejo, Calif., vice chairman; and Mal Utleye, pastor of Lexington Park Baptist Church, California, Md., secretary.
- Endorsed the six Southern Baptist seminary presidents' October 1986 "Glorieta Statement" on the Bible.

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Information for this story was provided by Eddy Oliver, Golden Gate public relations director, and Herb Hollinger, editor of the California Southern Baptist, newsjournal of the California Baptist Convention.

Brotherhood Commission Trustees  
OK Interim Restructure, Set Budget

Baptist Press  
5/1/87

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP)—Trustees of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission voted to approve a restructure of the commission staff on an interim basis and approved an operating budget of almost \$3.3 million for 1987-88 during their spring meeting in Memphis, Tenn., April 24-25.

The restructure will reduce the agency's major sections of work from three to two. Business services and support services will merge into one section which will retain the name of support services. The other section will remain program services.

While trustees expressed their confidence in the make-up of the new structure, they recommended that it be set up on an interim basis with the commission executive committee to review it during their meeting in St. Louis in June. The executive committee will then take a final recommendation to the full board of trustees in October for its evaluation.

Since the Brotherhood Commission's 1987-88 budget goes into effect Oct. 1, three weeks before the full board meets, trustees approved the 1987-88 operating budget under the new structure.

Brotherhood Commission President James H. Smith said: "We proposed the restructure of our staff in the interest of efficiency, economy and effectiveness. We are grateful that the trustees have given us the green light to pursue it while exercising our responsibility in asking us to proceed on an interim plan which provides time for review and correction if needed."

Program services, under the leadership of Norman Godfrey, houses the children and youth department, adult department, church relations department, world missions conferences and associational relationships and graphics services.

Support services, directed by Jack Childs, includes marketing services, computer services, accounting services, customer services, purchasing, in-house printing and shipping and receiving.

Godfrey, 51, has completed 26 years of service at the commission, and Childs, 50, has completed 25.

In reference to sweeping changes in the Brotherhood curriculum effective this fall, Godfrey reported that 812 people have been trained in the new program materials during seven Brotherhood regional skills conferences conducted throughout the United States.

Trustees also heard reports on the Brotherhood Commission's involvement in funding a professor on laymen's work at the Korean Baptist Seminary in Taejon on the National Fellowship of Baptist Men and on staff participation in the 1987 Baptist World Alliance world congress in Cardiff, Wales.

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Successful Senior Adult Event  
Brings Annual Gathering Requests

By Terri Lackey

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)—The final day of the first Southern Baptist Senior Adult Convention left participants wanting more, while sponsors could not promise when a second convention would be held.

"About 10,000 of you have asked us where next year's senior adult convention will be held," Bill Howse, a senior adult consultant in the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board family ministry department, told the group that swelled to about 14,000 by the third and final day of the event.

"We can offer you annual senior adult chautauquas and cruises, but it will be awhile before we can assemble this many again. Now I just hope security will unlock a back door for me so I can get out," Howse quipped.

The senior adults, whose combined ages exceeded one million years, not only survived the three-day event with relatively few mishaps but also arrived early to get good seats for each of the four sessions.

A nurse located at the convention center emergency first aid station said several came in just to sit and rest, "but they were mostly the younger people."

The convention was highlighted with music, inspirational sermons, reports from seven SBC agencies, a western-style barbecue attended by more than 6,000 people and a special appearance by Christian entertainer Jerry Clower, who praised the optimism of the senior adults attending the event.

"Just seeing you here lets me know you're stamping out negativism," Clower told the group. "Some of y'all have come a far piece, and you've done filled this cotton-pickin' place slap dab up."

Horace Kerr, manager of the family ministry department's senior adult section and final speaker, told conventioners they are "pioneers in the field of senior adult ministry."

After naming significant changes seniors have seen in transportation, industry, communications and medicine, Kerr said senior adults are also seeing changes in religion as churches step up their ministries with older adults.

Because people are living longer than ever before, Kerr said, present-day senior adults must set an example in lifestyle: "There is no social structure out there. You are pioneers in social values and retirement. You are teaching us how to live in retirement, and you're succeeding."

Kerr said an average 65-year-old male can expect to live another 15 years, while a female of the same age can expect to live an additional 18 years.

"Your task has little direction; you must invent the ways," Kerr said of senior adults who are guiding future generations in religious values and social ideals.

Earlier in the week, Jess Moody, pastor of First Baptist Church of Van Nuys, Calif., told participants "the spiritual Holy Spirit power of senior citizens will bring a revival in this country that will blow the socks off the devil."

"You're the people who put the moral spine in this country," he continued. "Sixty percent of all the moral power in America is in the people who are 60 years of age and older."

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