



- - BAPTIST PRESS

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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February 2, 1988

N-CO

88-17

President Reagan Invited
To Address Annual Meeting

By Dan Martin

SAN ANTONIO, Texas (BP)--President Ronald Reagan has been invited to address messengers to the 1988 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention June 14-16 in San Antonio, Texas.

The invitation has been issued by SBC President Adrian P. Rogers of Memphis, Tenn., but the White House is not expected to respond for several months. If Reagan does accept the invitation, he is scheduled to speak at noon Thursday, June 16.

If the president accepts, the June meeting will mark the first time since 1976 that a sitting president of the United States has addressed the SBC. At the 1976 annual meeting in Norfolk, Va., then-President Gerald R. Ford addressed messengers. In 1982, Vice President George Bush addressed the annual meeting of the SBC Pastors' Conference in New Orleans.

Thomas D. Elliff, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church of Del City, Okla., and chairman of the SBC Order of Business Committee, said the seven-member committee "felt it would be quite appropriate for the president of the United States to address the convention."

The theme of the convention is "Pour Out Revival" and emphasizes a call for revival, Elliff said. He added he thinks it is "appropriate that we hear the president and that he hear a statement calling for revival by the largest evangelical group in America."

He added: "There is not the slightest political intention in our invitation. If there is a good time for an incumbent president to speak to us, it is during his last year in office. He is not running for re-election, and enough time separates the election from the convention that it is not political in nature.

"We are not trying to develop a theme that addresses anything politically oriented. We believe all of us can identify with the need for revival. There is no attempt on the part of the committee to make a statement other than a statement about our responsibility before God to seek revival."

Four 20-minute theme interpretations will explore the topic of revival. Speakers each have been assigned a different aspect for their messages.

Roy Fish, professor of evangelism at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, will speak on "Pour Out Revival in My Heart"; Ruffin Snow, pastor of Eastwood Baptist Church, Tulsa, Okla., will speak on "Pour Out Revival in My Home"; O. Damon Shook, pastor of Champion Forest Baptist Church, Houston, will speak on "Pour Out Revival on the Household of Faith"; and Bobby Welch, pastor of First Baptist Church, Daytona Beach, Fla., will speak on "Pour Out Revival on My Homeland."

The committee "wanted men to speak who represent a broad spectrum of Southern Baptist life but who also, by personal experience, can speak with some authority on the issues. We feel these men embody in their lifestyles the subjects they have been assigned," Elliff said.

In keeping with the theme, Elliff said, a prayer room will be maintained in the Henry Gonzales Convention Center during the times the convention is in session. It will be fully staffed and is a cooperative effort between the SBC Sunday School Board, Home Mission Board, Foreign Mission Board, Woman's Missionary Union and Brotherhood Commission.

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Another highlight of the convention will be the evening session Wednesday, June 15, during which the Foreign Mission Board will conduct a commissioning service for new missionaries. The service will end with an invitation and altar call, Elliff said. "It will be the first time many of our people have seen a missionary commissioning service, and we believe many of our people will be called into missionary service because of this," he said.

Other items of the three-day meeting include an address by SBC President Rogers and the convention sermon by Joel Gregory, pastor of Travis Avenue Baptist Church in Fort Worth.

Elliff said "about the same amount of time" as in previous conventions has been allotted for the business of the convention, which includes this year the election of a president to succeed Rogers, who has served two terms and cannot be re-elected this year. Messengers also will elect other officers, act on recommendations from the SBC Executive Committee, deal with the report of the Committee on Nominations and act on the various motions and resolutions which are presented.

"We also will have reports from the agencies, boards, commissions and institutions. We tried to look at the time allotted to them historically, and when some agency had appeared on the program late in past years, we tried to give them an earlier time," Elliff said.

"We have spent an unusual amount of time in carefully trying to provide a beautiful balance between worship and business. We know the basic purpose of the convention is to do business, but we know there is a statement we should make to the nation about where our heart is, and we have addressed that in our call for revival."

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Baptist Press
2/2/88

SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION
Henry Gonzales Convention Center
San Antonio, Texas
June 14-16, 1988

Theme: "Pour Out Revival"

Scripture: "O Lord, revive Thy work" -- Habakkuk 3:2

Tuesday Morning, June 14, 1988

- 8:30 Music for Inspiration, Bellevue Baptist Church Choir and Orchestra, Memphis, Tenn.; Jim Whitmire, director
- 8:50 Call to Order
Congregational Singing, John McKay, convention music director, Keller, Texas
- 8:55 Prayer, Terry W. Arnold, pastor, First Baptist Church, Carson City, Nev.
- 9:00 Registration Report and Constitution of Convention, Lee Porter, registration secretary; design editor, Sunday school department, Sunday School Board, Nashville
- 9:05 Committee on Order of Business
- 9:10 Welcome, Mayor Henry Cisneros of San Antonio
- 9:15 Response, Rudy Hernandez, pastor, Metro Baptist Church, San Antonio
- 9:20 Announcement of Committee on Committees, Credentials, Resolutions and Tellers
- 9:25 Theme Interpretation, "Pour Out Revival in My Heart," Roy Fish, professor, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas
- 9:45 Executive Committee Report (Part 1), Harold C. Bennett, president and treasurer, Nashville
- 10:45 Introduction of Business and Resolutions
- 11:15 Congregational Singing, John McKay
- 11:20 Music, Bellevue Baptist Church Choir and Orchestra
- 11:25 President's Address, Adrian P. Rogers, pastor, Bellevue Baptist Church
- 12:00 Benediction, David C. Brown, pastor, Desert Hills Baptist Church, Las Vegas, Nev.

Tuesday Afternoon, June 14

- 1:00 Evangelistic Singers, Pat Roper, music evangelist, Greenville, S.C., presiding
- 2:00 Congregational Singing, Pat Roper
- 2:05 Prayer, David Doyel, pastor, Twin Lakes Baptist Church, Las Vegas

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- 2:10 Messenger Information Survey, Martin B. Bradley, recording secretary; director, research services department, Sunday School Board, Nashville
- 2:20 Introduction of Business and Resolutions
- 2:30 Election of Officers (First)
- 2:45 Committee on Nominations Report, Joe Knott III, chairman, Raleigh, N.C.
- 3:00 Congregational Singing, Paul Paschal, minister of music, North Richland Hills Baptist Church, Fort Worth
- 3:05 Executive Committee Report (Part 2), Harold C. Bennett
- 4:00 Congregational Singing
- 4:05 Business -- Committee on Committees Report, Introduction of Business and Resolutions, Miscellaneous Business
- 4:45 Election of Officers (Second)
- 5:00 Benediction, Neal J. Myers, director of missions, Sierra Baptist Association, Reno, Nev.

Tuesday Evening, June 14

- 6:30 Music for Inspiration, Sagemont Baptist Church Choir and Orchestra, Houston; Bill Cole, director
- 7:00 Congregational Singing, John McKay
- 7:05 Prayer, Johnny Jackson, executive director, Paul Jackson Evangelist Association, Little Rock, Ark.
- 7:10 Election of Officers (Third)
- 7:20 Theme Interpretation, "Pour Out Revival in My Home," Ruffin Snow, pastor, Eastwood Baptist Church, Tulsa, Okla.
- 7:40 Bold Mission Thrust Report, Harold C. Bennett
- 7:50 Woman's Missionary Union Report, Carolyn Weatherford, executive director, Birmingham, Ala.
- 8:05 Peace Committee Report, Charles G. Fuller, chairman; pastor, First Baptist Church, Roanoke, Va.
- 8:35 Congregational Singing, Sam Prestidge, director of church music, Baptist General Convention of Texas, Dallas
- 8:40 Home Mission Board Report, Larry L. Lewis, president, Atlanta
- 9:40 Benediction, Jon L. Sapp, missionary to Chipata, Zambia, furloughing in Topeka, Kan.

Wednesday Morning, June 15

- 8:30 Music for Inspiration, Travis Avenue Baptist Church Choir and Orchestra, Fort Worth; Bill Pearson, director
- 8:50 Congregational Singing, Monte Nichols, minister of music, Peachtree Baptist Church, Atlanta
- 8:55 Prayer, Robert G. Holmes, pastor, First Southern Baptist Church, Henderson, Nev.
- 9:00 Election of Officers (Fourth)
- 9:15 Theme Interpretation, "Pour Out Revival on the Household of Faith," O.D. Shook, Champion Forest Baptist Church, Houston
- 9:35 Congregational Singing, Sonny Stroud, minister of music, Calvary Baptist Temple, Savannah, Ga.
- 9:40 Sunday School Board Report, Lloyd Elder, president, Nashville
- 10:15 Commission on American Baptist Theological Seminary Report, Arthur L. Walker Jr., secretary-treasurer, Nashville
- 10:25 Historical Commission Report, Lynn E. May Jr., executive director-treasurer, Nashville
- 10:35 Radio and Television Commission Report, Jimmy R. Allen, president, Fort Worth
- 10:45 "Here's Hope. Jesus Cares For You. A Message of Life from Southern Baptists for Las Vegas & Nevada, 1989," Larry L. Lewis
- 10:55 Report of Southern Baptist Convention Canada Planning Group, Larry L. Lewis
- 11:05 Congregational Singing, Pat Roper
- 11:10 Election of Officers (Fifth)
- 11:25 Business -- Committee on Resolutions (First Report), Miscellaneous Business
- 11:55 Congregational Singing, John McKay
- 12:00 Special Music, Travis Avenue Baptist Church Choir and Orchestra
Convention Sermon, Joel Gregory, pastor, Travis Avenue Baptist Church
- 12:30 Benediction, Stanley D. Unruh, retired minister, Sunrise Baptist Church, Las Vegas

NO WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Wednesday Evening, June 15

- 6:30 Music for Inspiration, Cathedral Quartet, Nashville
- 6:55 Congregational Singing, John McKay
- 7:00 Prayer, Jim McLeroy, pastor, First Southern Baptist Church, Las Vegas
- 7:05 Theme Interpretation, "Pour Out Revival on My Homeland," Bobby Welch, pastor, First Baptist Church, Daytona Beach, Fla.
- 7:25 Business -- Election of Convention Sermon Preacher and Alternate and Music Director, 1989
- 7:30 Introduction of Local Arrangements Committee
- 7:35 Presentation of Past Presidents
- 7:45 Presentation of Newly Elected SBC Officers
- 7:50 Planned Growth in Giving Report, Cecil E. Ray, national director, Georgetown, Texas
- 8:00 Congregational Singing, Rod Salmon, minister of music, First Baptist Church, Moore, Okla.
- 8:05 Foreign Mission Board Report, R. Keith Parks, president, Richmond, Va.
- 9:35 Benediction, Patrick McCurdy, pastor, Shearer Hills Baptist Church, San Antonio

Thursday Morning, June 16

- 8:30 Music for Inspiration, First Baptist Church Choir and Orchestra, Euless, Texas; Robert Wagoner, director
- 8:50 Congregational Singing, John McKay
- 8:55 Prayer, James Carey, pastor, Lackland Baptist Church, San Antonio
- 9:00 Business -- Committee on Resolutions (Final Report)
- 10:00 Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary Report, Milton Ferguson, president, Kansas City, Mo.
- 10:10 Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary Report, W. Randall Lolley, president, Wake Forest, N.C.
- 10:20 Stewardship Commission Report, A.R. Fagan, president, Nashville
- 10:30 Congregational Singing, Mike Speck, music evangelist, Tulsa
- 10:35 Southern Baptist Foundation Report, Hollis E. Johnson III, executive director, Nashville
- 10:45 Christian Life Commission Report, N. Larry Baker, executive director, Nashville
- 10:55 Brotherhood Commission Report, James H. Smith, president, Memphis
- 11:05 Education Commission Report, Arthur L. Walker Jr., executive director, Nashville
- 11:15 Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary Report, William Crews, president, Mill Valley, Calif.
- 11:25 Annuity Board Report, Darold H. Morgan, president, Dallas
- 11:35 New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Report, Landrum P. Leavell II, president, New Orleans
- 11:45 Recognition of Outgoing Officers
- 11:50 Congregational Singing, John McKay
- 12:00 Address by President Ronald Reagan, Invited Guest Speaker
- 12:20 Benediction, Jack Schmid, pastor, Village Parkway Baptist Church, San Antonio

Thursday Afternoon, June 16

- 2:00 Music for Inspiration, New Song, Atlanta
- 2:25 Congregational Singing, Pat Roper
- 2:30 Prayer, Ruben Hernandez, international evangelist and staff evangelist, Metro Baptist Church, San Antonio
- 2:35 Introduction of Fraternal Representatives
- 2:40 Committee on Denominational Calendar Report, James A. Green Jr., chairman, Jal, N.M.
- 2:50 Public Affairs Committee Report, Samuel Currin, chairman, Raleigh
- 3:00 Denominational Press Report, Alvin C. Shackelford, vice president for public relations, SBC Executive Committee, Nashville
- 3:10 Southern Baptist Theological Seminary Report, Roy L. Honeycutt, president, Louisville, Ky.
- 3:20 Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary Report, Russell H. Dilday Jr., president, Fort Worth
- 3:30 Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs Report, James M. Dunn, executive director, Washington
- 3:40 Baptist World Alliance Report, Gerhard Claas, general secretary, McLean, Va.
- 3:50 American Bible Society Report, John D. Erickson, general secretary, New York
- 4:00 Business
- 4:30 Adjournment
- Benediction, Ronnie W. Floyd, pastor, First Baptist Church, Springdale, Ark.

Convention Officers

Adrian P. Rogers, president; pastor, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis
 Jack Stanton, first vice president; director, institute of evangelism, Southwest Baptist University, Bolivar, Mo.
 Victor M. Kaneubbe, second vice president; retired pastor, Phoenix, Ariz.
 Martin B. Bradley, recording secretary; manager, research services department, Sunday School Board, Nashville
 Lee Porter, registration secretary; design editor, Sunday school department, Sunday School Board, Nashville.
 Harold C. Bennett, treasurer; president, Executive Committee, Nashville
 Alvin C. Shackelford, press representative; vice president for public relations, Executive Committee, Nashville
 John McKay, music director; music evangelist, Fort Worth

Committee On Order Of Business

Thomas D. Elliff, chairman; pastor, First Southern Baptist Church, Del City, Okla.
 Reed Larson, organization executive, Annandale, Va.
 Reuel May Jr., dentist, Jackson, Miss.
 W.A. (Pat) Patterson, savings and loan officer, Overland Park, Kan.
 Dwight Reighard, pastor, New Hope Baptist Church, Fayetteville, Ga.
 Adrian P. Rogers, SBC president; pastor, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis
 John B. Wright, pastor, First Baptist Church, Little Rock, Ark.

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Houston Church Scores
 With Football Service

By Ken Camp

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Baptist Press
 2/2/88

DALLAS (BP)--It was Super Bowl Sunday at Second Baptist Church in Houston.

Pastor Ed Young knew attendance at the evening worship service would be down. He was set for a low turnout. But with just seconds left on the clock he decided to hut the ball to two other team members, asking them to find a way to offset low attendance.

They took the idea and ran with it.

Associate Pastor Ed Young Jr. and Family Life Minister Lee Maxey decided they shouldn't penalize church members by asking them to miss the game or watch it on taped delay. Instead, they chose to show the game live on a 20- by 15-foot television screen and to incorporate their evening worship service into the halftime break.

"If sports bars can do it, the church should do it and put the gospel into it," said Associate Pastor Young.

He and Maxey converted the church's family life center into a football stadium for the evening, complete with banners, bands, cheers led by the married-adult minister, and nachos, peanuts and popcorn peddled by the associate deacons.

"We thought it would be enjoyable to have a time when families and the church family could watch the Super Bowl together, and we wanted to do something that would attract those people who wouldn't come to a traditional worship service," said Associate Pastor Young.

During the halftime worship service, he brought an evangelistic message urging listeners to accept the Bible as their "playbook."

Although the Sunday evening crowd of 1,200 was less than the usual attendance of about 3,500, the unusual approach did prove to be an effective vehicle for outreach. "It brought in so many prospects," he said, pointing to more than 200 visitors' cards that were completed. "We reached out to a lot of non-Christian folks."

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