

- BAPTIST PRESS

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

SBC Executive Committee
901 Commerce #750
Nashville, Tennessee 37203
(615) 244-2355
Alvin C. Shackleford, Director
Dan Martin, News Editor
Mary Knox Feature Editor

NATIONAL OFFICE

BUREAUS

ATLANTA Jim Newton, Chief, 1350 Spring St., N.W., Atlanta, Ga. 30367, Telephone (404) 873-4041

DALLAS Thomas J. Brannon, Chief, 511 N. Akard, Dallas, Texas 75201, Telephone (214) 720-0550

NASHVILLE (Baptist Sunday School Board) Lloyd T. Householder, Chief, 127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn. 37234, Telephone (615) 251-2300

RICHMOND (Foreign) Robert L. Stanley, Chief, 3806 Monument Ave., Richmond, Va. 23230, Telephone (804) 353-0151

WASHINGTON Stan L. Hastey, Chief, 200 Maryland Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002, Telephone (202) 544-4226

April 11, 1988

88-60

Honduras Violence Takes Missionaries Off Street N-FMB

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras (BP)--Missionaries stayed close to home April 11 after days of scattered anti-American violence in Honduras' two largest cities.

"We had a quiet weekend," said Southern Baptist missionary Carl Rees in Tegucigalpa. "We're waiting to see if it's normalized or if it's the quiet before the storm."

The Honduran government declared a state of emergency April 8 in Tegucigalpæ and San Pedro Sula after an attack on the American embassy and a resulting fire the day before left five people dead. The next day, riot police and demonstrators fought while students and other groups vented their hostility toward the United States in connection with the extradition of a suspected major Honduran drug dealer. Two Americans were stabbed.

Rees, of Springfield, Mo., is chairman of the 41 Southern Baptist workers assigned to the country. He said no missionaries had been targeted by demonstrators, but Southern Baptists were staying off the streets.

"We've had a lot of phone calls from nationals who've told us to stay in, to be careful where we're at," Rees reported.

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Missionaries also canceled the scheduled visit of a Southern Baptist volunteer work team. The U.S. State Department warned Americans not to travel to Honduras until conditions improve.

Floridians Bumped For 'Acceptable' Nominees

By Greg Warner and Jack Brymer

Baptist Press

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (BP) -- One Florida member of the Southern Baptist Convention Committee on Nominations abandoned a "prayerful agreement" to nominate four Floridians to SBC trustee posts in favor of four nominees approved by conservative leaders, his colleague has reported.

After agreeing in January to a slate of Floridians to serve as new SBC trustees, Gene Whiddon of Fort Lauderdale broke his agreement with Jacksonville evangelist James Ponder, the other Floridian on the committee, and offered an alternate slate to the committee when it met in Nashville March 17-18.

Whiddon did not consult Ponder, who arrived late for the meeting after finishing a revival in Columbus, Ga., Ponder said.

According to several committee members, Whiddon told the committee the first slate was not acceptable to his pastor, O.S. Hawkins of First Baptist Church of Fort Lauderdale.

Among people deemed unacceptable was outgoing state convention President Bill Coffman, who was replaced as a trustee nominee of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary by another former president, Max Cadenhead of Naples.

Whiddon also replaced two Florida laymen from the agreed list with other nominees, Ponder said. The committee voted to accept those three replacements, but rejected one other Whiddon recommendation in favor of the original nominee.

All four Floridians eligible for re-election as trustees were approved. A ninth Floridian from the original list was elected without challenge from Whiddon.

The first sign of disagreement between the two Floridians on the Committee on Nominations came from Whiddon, who through his secretary released a statement about the committee's work to the Florida Baptist Witness April 1. "It is unfortunate that the two Florida representatives did not come to an agreement on the nominees for the various trustee vacancies," the statement said in part.

Ponder, however, said the two reached an agreement, and Whiddon broke it. "We prayerfully agreed to nominate the four from Florida eligible for re-election and agreed upon nominees for the four open positions and two at-large positions who were very representative," he said when contacted by the Witness, newsjournal of the Florida Baptist Convention.

The original slate of nominations was signed by Ponder and Whiddon and sent as requested to committee Chairman Joseph Knott III of Raleigh, N.C., in January.

"Late on the evening before the nominating committee meeting in March," Ponder said, "the other committee member from Florida informed me by telephone that after discussion with people both inside and outside of Florida, he had made preparations without consulting me to present a totally new group of nominees.

"Although we talked and prayed by telephone (March 16) and met during the committee meeting in Nashville, he was unwilling to work toward a joint group of nominees from Florida. I prayerfully honored the agreement we had originally made of Florida nominations."

Arriving for the second day of the committee's meeting, Ponder asked the group to replace Whiddon's four alternate nominees with four from the agreed list. The committee replaced one.

Ponder refused to name the Floridians nominated, but Whiddon listed them as recipients of carbon copies of the statement he sent to the Witness. Their identities were confirmed from committee members outside Florida.

Whiddon replaced the original nomination of Chiefland lawyer Luther Beauchamp to the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board with Danny Strickland, pastor of Parkway Baptist Church in Orlando.

The nomination of former state Sen. Ed Price of Bradenton to the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary board was replaced with Jim Ballard, a retired engineer in First Baptist Church of Merritt Island.

Whiddon's substitute nomination of Larry Adams, vice president of Florida Power and Light from Coral Gables, to the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission was unsuccessful in replacing Velma Daniels, a television show host from Winter Haven.

No challenge was offered to the previously agreed nomination of Tallahassee real estate developer J. Tee Williams Jr. to an at-large position on the SBC Public Affairs Committee.

Cadenhead, pastor of First Baptist Church of Naples, was listed in January as an at-large nominee for Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary's board. Instead he replaced Coffman, Ponder's pastor at Arlington Baptist Church in Jacksonville, as a nominee to Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary's board.

Both Whiddon, in his prepared statement, and Ponder praised all the nominees as qualified and cooperative. "It's not a question of nominees," Ponder said, "since there are a great multitude of potential nominees from Florida churches. I regret the flawed procedure that allows confusion in the nominating process."

But Whiddon reportedly told the committee that after consulting with Hawkins he realized he had not adequately investigated the Floridians before agreeing in January to nominate them. He told members the names he presented were developed without consultation with Ponder.

"If he had not made it clear I'm not sure we would have known they were different," said Jimmy Towers, a committee member. "I asked him, 'Are those your nominations or Butch (0.S.) Hawkins' nominations?' He seemed embarrassed by the question and then said they were his."

Whiddon, owner of a Fort Lauderdale lumber company, did not respond to repeated requests by the Witness to discuss the committee's work or to explain why the first nominees were unacceptable. Hawkins, a trustee of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board and a leader in the effort to move the denomination in a more conservative direction, also did not respond to telephone calls.

Committee Chairman Knott would not comment on reports he and Whiddon discussed Whiddon's plan to offer a substitute slate of Floridians. "I'll let him talk to you about that," said Knott, who formerly served in the U.S. Attorney's office in Raleigh with two other conservative leaders -- Samuel Currin, chairman of the Public Affairs Committee, and William Delahoyde, a trustee at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Whiddon's last-minute maneuver was one of several committee actions that brought protests from some members. Several told the Witness SBC politics dominated many of the committee's decisions during the March meeting, when more than 200 Southern Baptists were approved as nominees to denominational service. All nominations must be approved by the Southern Baptist Convention in June.

The Committee on Nominations, which meets only once a year, is composed of two people from each qualified state Baptist convention. They are elected to one-year terms and serve solely to nominate trustees to openings on the boards that control SBC agencies and institutions.

Most of the trustee positions are assigned to states, and nominations from individual committee members for openings in their states customarily are accepted by the full committee with little opposition.

This year, however, state representatives were asked to submit their nominations, along with biographical data on each, two months early to Knott. When the committee met in March, a handful of members then offered alternate nominees for positions in states other than their own, in what several committee sources described as an "orchestrated" effort to elect trustees committed to the conservative agenda in the denomination. Most of the challenges were approved.

Towers, pastor of Crossroads Baptist Church in San Antonio, Texas, told the Witness about 80 percent of the committee voted to accept the alternate nominees in "almost an automatic kind of response. There were very few members that evidenced any kind of independent thinking."

By referring to a nominee's belief in inerrancy or "the cause" begun in the denomination in 1979, committee members were almost assured of a favorable vote for a nominee, Towers said.

The one exception, as Towers recalled, was the election of Daniels of Winter Haven to the Radio and Television Commission over Whiddon's nomination of Adams. "That's the only one I can remember where the committee voted any exception to the fundamentalist perspective," he said.

Church Musicians To 'Tune Hearts' NICO

SAN ANTONIO, Texas (BP)--Southern Baptist church musicians will focus on the music of their souls this summer.

"Tune Your Hearts ... That All May Hear" will be the theme for the Southern Baptist Church Music Conference at Castle Hills First Baptist Church in San Antonio, Texas, June 11-13. The event will be held immediately prior to the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in the Alamo City.

"From diverse backgrounds and contrasting concerns, we come together once a year to confer and to harmonize as we engage in fellowship and common worship of our one Lord, whom we all serve according to our particular callings and gifts," said conference President Hugh T. McElrath.

The San Antonio conference will include 10 lectures, panel discussions or seminars; eight choral performances, four instrumental performances; three sermons; two business sessions; and a choral reading, according to a program released by McElrath, professor of church music at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky.

The conference has three major purposes, he said, citing "the strengthening of membership through spiritual and musical renewal; the encouragement of Christian fellowship and the celebration of unity in diversity; the fostering of free and unbiased exchange of information and perspectives on all phases of church music ministry."

The conference's annual meeting will provide "an occasion for worship and inspiration, an arena for communication and fellowship (and) a forum for the free flow of ideas and the sharing of divergent points of view," he added.

The meeting is not to be focused on special interests within the church music field, McElrath said. For example, it is not "a gathering of teachers, ... a training event under the aegis of our denominational leaders, ... a coming together of specialists, ... a meeting of music missionaries and musical evangelists, ... a musicfest."

"Though not primarily any of these, the conference includes aspects of all these interests in its programs, and therein lies its uniqueness," he explained. The conference does not compete with special-interest meetings but is "all inclusive" for all varieties of church musicians.

Musicians who wish to join the conference should contact Mary June Tabor, the organization's secretary/treasurer, at 1141 N. Robinson, Oklahoma City, Okla. 73103.

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Baptist Press 4/11/88

SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH MUSIC CONFERENCE Castle Hills First Baptist Church San Antonio, Texas June 11-13, 1988

Theme: "Tune Your Hearts That All May Hear!"

Saturday Afternoon, June 11, 1988 -- Pre-Session Activities

1:00 Registration

2:00 Choral Readings -- Mike Wilkins, coordinator of music sales, Baptist Book Store Music Service, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville

5:00 Exhibits Open -- Hope Building Gymnasium -- Rondalla Cristiana Getsemani (Mariachi Band)
Mexican Food Fiesta -- Hope Fellowship Hall

Saturday Evening, June 11, 1988 -- Session One

Presiding: Hugh T. McElrath, SBCMC president and professor of church music, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

Coordinator: Susan Baker, associate professor of music, Southwest Baptist University, Bolivar,

- 6:46 Call to Order -- Hugh McElrath
 Welcome to Castle Hills First Baptist -- George H. Harris, pastor
 Welcome to Texas -- Sam Prestidge, director, church music department, Baptist General
 Convention of Texas, Dallas
- 7:07 Conference Hymn: "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"
- 7:10 Rondalla Cristiana Getsemani -- Beaumont Baptist Church, McAllen, Texas
- 7:13 Commissioned Anthem: "The Light of Men," -- Anna Laura Page, composer/clinician/performer, Clarksville, Tenn.
- 7:16 Hardin-Simmons Concert Choir
- 7:51 Worship in Beauty and Holiness: "Tune Your Hearts..."
 Worship Coordinator -- Loyd Landrum, minister of music, Vineville Baptist Church, Macon,
 Ga.
- 8:39 Baylor A Cappella Choir
- 9:14 Benediction -- Ervin Keathley, retired church music secretary, Arkansas Baptist Convention, Little Rock
- 9:21 After-Conference Fellowship -- Hope Fellowship Hall
 "Showtime!" -- Baylor University Group
 Exhibits Open

Sunday Afternoon, June 12, 1988 -- Session Two

1:01 Exhibits Open -- Registration Open

Presiding: Hugh McElrath

Coordinator: Mark Lawson, minister of music, Kirkwood Baptist Church, St. Louis

- 1:29 Baylor Handbell Choir
- 1:49 Hymn on our Mission: "We Have a Gospel to Proclaim"
- 1:52 Music and Missions -- T.W. Hunt, Life consultant on prayer, church training department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville
- 2:29 Exhibit Break
- 3:09 Panel Discussion -- "Contrasting Perspectives on Music Ministry"
- 4:14 Simultaneous Interest Sessions
 - 1. 20/20: A choral reading of 20 anthems published in the last 20 years that have proven to be functional for worship
 - 2. Tintinabulations: Handbell materials and techniques department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville
 - 4. The Annuity Board and the Church Musician
- 5:24 Adjournment Exhibit Open

Sunday Evening, June 12, 1988 -- Session Three

Presiding: Don McCall, consultant, church music department, Baptist General Convention of Texas,
Dallas

Coordinator: Jack Gantt, minister of music, Tabernacle Baptist Church, Carrollton, Ga.

- 7:00 Evening Worship
- 8:30 Southwestern (Baptist Theological) Singers
- 9:15 Benediction -- Dean Gray, minister of music, Hartford Baptist Church, Hartford, Ky.
- 9:20 Reception -- hosted by church music department, Baptist General Convention of Texas

Monday Morning, June 13, 1988 -- Session Four

Presiding: Joe King, associate professor of church music, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas

Coordinator: Paul Hammond, dean, college of fine arts, Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, Okla.

- 8:31 Exhibits and Registration Desk Open
- 9:01 Mini-Concert -- Christine Anderson, solo bell ringer, First Baptist Church, Houston; Don Looser, pianist, vice president for academic affairs, Houston Baptist University
- 9:11 Hymn on our Mission: "Tell It Out with Gladness"
- 9:14 Music and Missions -- T.W. Hunt
- 9:44 Mini-Concert -- Christine Anderson and Don Looser
- 9:49 Annual Business Session
 - 1. Secretary-Treasurer's Report
 - 2. Constitution Changes
 - 3. Rippon Tomb Restoration Report

- 4. Resolutions Committee Report
- 5. Presentation of Honorary Memberships
- 6. Presentation of Hines Sims Award
- 7. In Memoriam
- 10:29 Exhibit Break
- 11:09 Divisional Meetings: Local Church, Denomination, Education
- 12:14 Adjournment

Monday Afternoon, June 13, 1988 -- Session Five

Presiding: Nancy Jane Blair, organist and assistant minister of music, Briarlake Baptist Church, Decatur, Ga.

Coordinator: Ken Ragsdale, minister of music, Ellisville Baptist Church, Ellisville, Mo.

- 1:01 Exhibits and Registration Desk Open
- 1:24 Mini-Concert -- Stacy Blair, trumpet player, concert artist, Garland, Texas; Owen Griffin, accompanist, organist, Hyde Park Baptist Church, Austin, Texas
- 1:47 President's Address: "With One Voice" -- Hugh McElrath
- 2:14 Boys and Girls Chorus -- First Baptist Church, Richardson, Texas
- 2:39 Worship in Beauty and Holiness: "That All May Hear" -- Loyd Landrum; Charles Page, preacher, pastor, First Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn.; Anna Laura Page
- 3:24 Exhibit Break
- 4:04 Glory Choir -- First Baptist Church, San Angelo, Texas
- 4:29 Simultaneous Interest Sessions
 - 1. Rehersal Techniques for Adult Choirs

 - The Child Voice: Its Care and Potential
 The Aging Voice: What Makes Us Wobble and Squeak?
 - 4. Panel Discussion: Sunday Night Styles

5:31 Adjournment

Monday, June 13, 1988 -- Session Six

Presiding: Hugh McElrath

Coordinator: Clark Measels, assistant professor of music, Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, Tenn.

- 6:31 Registration Desk Opens
- 6:41 Southwestern (Baptist Theological) Seminary Wind Ensemble
- 7:06 Sociedad Coral Bautista Hispana -- Broadway Baptist Church, Houston
- 7:29 Worship in Beauty and Holiness -- Loyd Landrum, worship leader
- 7:30 Baptist Hymnal Update -- Wes Forbis, director, church music department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.
- 8:31 Singing Men of Texas
- 9:26 Benediction -- Mary June Tabor

HMB President Lewis Featured At New Work Fellowship Meeting N- Texas

Baptist Press 4/11/88

DALLAS (BP) -- Southern Baptist Home Mission Board President Larry Lewis will be the featured banquet speaker at the third annual meeting of the Southern Baptist New Work Fellowship June 13 in San Antonio, Texas.

"Church Starting Through Telemarketing" and "Models and Testimonies for Church Starting" will be the dual themes of the conference at the Hyatt Regency Riverwalk prior to the annual session of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 14-16. The conference will begin at 2 p.m. and conclude at 5:30 p.m., with the banquet following at 6 p.m.

Keynote speakers at the meeting include Norman Whan of the California-based "Technigrowth" organization; Richard Lopez, bivocational pastor from San Antonio, and Omar Pachecano, associate director of missions of El Paso (Texas) Baptist Association.

Membership in the New Work Fellowship is open to any Southern Baptist agency or associational employee, mission or church worker or volunteer engaged in starting a new church and to any student whose vocational plans involve starting new churches.



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- 6:46 Call to Order -- Hugh McElrath Welcome to Castle Hills First Baptist -- George H. Harris, pastor Welcome to Texas -- Sam Prestidge, director, church music department, Baptist General Convention of Texas, Dallas
- 7:07 Conference Hymn: "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"
- 7:10 Rondalla Cristiana Getsemani -- Beaumont Baptist Church, McAllen, Texas
- 7:13 Commissioned Anthem: "The Light of Men," -- Anna Laura Page, composer/clinician/performer, Clarksville, Tenn.
- 7:16 Hardin-Simmons Concert Choir
- 7:51 Worship in Beauty and Holiness: "Tune Your Hearts..." Worship Coordinator -- Loyd Landrum, minister of music, Vineville Baptist Church, Macon,
- 8:39 Baylor A Cappella Choir
- 9:14 Benediction -- Ervin Keathley, retired church music secretary, Arkansas Baptist Convention, Little Rock
- 9:21 After-Conference Fellowship -- Hope Fellowship Hall "Showtime!" -- Baylor University Group Exhibits Open

Sunday Afternoon, June 12, 1988 -- Session Two

1:01 Exhibits Open -- Registration Open

Presiding: Hugh McElrath

Coordinator: Mark Lawson, minister of music, Kirkwood Baptist Church, St. Louis

- 1:29 Baylor Handbell Choir
- 1:49 Hymn on our Mission: "We Have a Gospel to Proclaim"
- 1:52 Music and Missions -- T.W. Hunt, Life consultant on prayer, church training department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville
- 2:29 Exhibit Break
- 3:09 Panel Discussion -- "Contrasting Perspectives on Music Ministry"
- 4:14 Simultaneous Interest Sessions
 - 1. 20/20: A choral reading of 20 anthems published in the last 20 years that have proven to be functional for worship
 - 2. Tintinabulations: Handbell materials and techniques department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville
 - 4. The Annuity Board and the Church Musician
- 5:24 Adjournment Exhibit Open

Sunday Evening, June 12, 1988 -- Session Three

Presiding: Don McCall, consultant, church music department, Baptist General Convention of Texas,

Coordinator: Jack Gantt, minister of music, Tabernacle Baptist Church, Carrollton, Ga.

- 7:00 Evening Worship
- 8:30 Southwestern (Baptist Theological) Singers
- 9:15 Benediction -- Dean Gray, minister of music, Hartford Baptist Church, Hartford, Ky.
- 9:20 Reception -- hosted by church music department, Baptist General Convention of Texas

Monday Morning, June 13, 1988 -- Session Four

Presiding: Joe King, associate professor of church music, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas

Coordinator: Paul Hammond, dean, college of fine arts, Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, Okla.

- 8:31 Exhibits and Registration Desk Open
- 9:01 Mini-Concert -- Christine Anderson, solo bell ringer, First Baptist Church. Houston: Don Looser, pianist, vice president for academic affairs, Houston Baptist University
- 9:11 Hymn on our Mission: "Tell It Out with Gladness" 9:14 Music and Missions -- T.W. Hunt
- 9:44 Mini-Concert -- Christine Anderson and Don Looser
- 9:49 Annual Business Session
 - 1. Secretary-Treasurer's Report
 - 2. Constitution Changes
 - 3. Rippon Tomb Restoration Report

- 4. Resolutions Committee Report
- 5. Presentation of Honorary Memberships
- 6. Presentation of Hines Sims Award
- 7. In Memoriam
- 10:29 Exhibit Break
- 11:09 Divisional Meetings: Local Church, Denomination, Education
- 12:14 Adjournment

Monday Afternoon, June 13, 1988 -- Session Five

Presiding: Nancy Jane Blair, organist and assistant minister of music, Briarlake Baptist Church, Decatur, Ga.

Coordinator: Ken Ragsdale, minister of music, Ellisville Baptist Church, Ellisville, Mo.

- 1:01 Exhibits and Registration Desk Open
- 1:24 Mini-Concert -- Stacy Blair, trumpet player, concert artist, Garland, Texas; Owen Griffin, accompanist, organist, Hyde Park Baptist Church, Austin, Texas
- 1:47 President's Address: "With One Voice" -- Hugh McElrath
- 2:14 Boys and Girls Chorus -- First Baptist Church, Richardson, Texas
- 2:39 Worship in Beauty and Holiness: "That All May Hear" -- Loyd Landrum; Charles Page, preacher, pastor, First Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn.; Anna Laura Page
- 3:24 Exhibit Break
- 4:04 Glory Choir -- First Baptist Church, San Angelo, Texas
- 4:29 Simultaneous Interest Sessions
 - 1. Rehersal Techniques for Adult Choirs
 - 2. The Child Voice: Its Care and Potential
 - 3. The Aging Voice: What Makes Us Wobble and Squeak?
 - 4. Panel Discussion: Sunday Night Styles
- 5:31 Adjournment

Monday, June 13, 1988 -- Session Six

Presiding: Hugh McElrath

Coordinator: Clark Measels, assistant professor of music, Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, Tenn.

- 6:31 Registration Desk Opens
- 6:41 Southwestern (Baptist Theological) Seminary Wind Ensemble
- 7:06 Sociedad Coral Bautista Hispana -- Broadway Baptist Church, Houston
- 7:29 Worship in Beauty and Holiness -- Loyd Landrum, worship leader
- 7:30 Baptist Hymnal Update -- Wes Forbis, director, church music department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.
- 8:31 Singing Men of Texas
- 9:26 Benediction -- Mary June Tabor

HMB President Lewis Featured At New Work Fellowship Meeting Baptist Press 4/11/88

DALLAS (BP)--Southern Baptist Home Mission Board President Larry Lewis will be the featured banquet speaker at the third annual meeting of the Southern Baptist New Work Fellowship June 13 in San Antonio, Texas.

"Church Starting Through Telemarketing" and "Models and Testimonies for Church Starting" will be the dual themes of the conference at the Hyatt Regency Riverwalk prior to the annual session of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 14-16. The conference will begin at 2 p.m. and conclude at 5:30 p.m., with the banquet following at 6 p.m.

Keynote speakers at the meeting include Norman Whan of the California-based "Technigrowth" organization; Richard Lopez, bivocational pastor from San Antonio, and Omar Pachecano, associate director of missions of El Paso (Texas) Baptist Association.

Membership in the New Work Fellowship is open to any Southern Baptist agency or associational employee, mission or church worker or volunteer engaged in starting a new church and to any student whose vocational plans involve starting new churches.

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