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Somalia intervention could get  
Southern Baptist aid flowing

By Craig Bird

Baptist Press  
12/9/92

MOGADISHU, Somalia (BP)--If successful, the U.S.-led military intervention in Somalia will help Southern Baptists spend a lot of money.

If the Marines free food distribution and rehabilitation programs in Somalia from disruption by armed gangs, the \$1.4 million in relief aid sent by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board will get spent as fast as prudently possible, board officials say.

The Foreign Mission Board has appropriated \$1.25 million for hunger relief and \$95,000 for resettlement work to get rural Somali people who've fled to the capital of Mogadishu back to their home areas and self-supporting once again. Another \$115,000 has been allocated for aiding Somali refugees in neighboring Kenya and Yemen.

Relief agencies separate from the mission board are administering the aid in Somalia because of staunch resistance to allowing Christian evangelical groups to function in the Muslim country. Southern Baptist aid workers have operated for short terms in Somalia in recent months, however, including two who are there now.

Ten Southern Baptist aid workers have worked inside and outside Somalia delivering relief supplies, reported John Faulkner at the Foreign Mission Board's Dec. 9 trustee meeting in Richmond, Va. Faulkner, who lives in Nairobi, Kenya, is the area director for the board's mission work in eastern and southern Africa.

The aid workers have distributed food at two feeding locations, helped in resettling projects and aided in seed distribution. The board also needs volunteers, including medical personnel, to work in Somalia from two to six months, Faulkner said.

The Foreign Mission Board also agreed to give financial aid to a delegation of Somalis from the United States in a peace mission to clan leaders in Somalia, but chaos within the suffering country put the initiative on hold.

The success of another peace effort -- early December's United Nations-brokered peace talks among rival Somali clans in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia -- could be important to Southern Baptist relief efforts. Many think the best hope for an effective Somali government lies with growth of the seeds planted at the three-day peace conference.

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"The significance of the Addis Ababa meeting lay primarily in allowing the various clans to meet in a location where they could talk to each other without fear of violence," said a Southern Baptist observer at the Addis Ababa talks.

"They can't gather anywhere in the country because some of them would have to cross clan lines and run the very real risk of being attacked because of the age-old clan rivalries and the cycles of vengeance. But in Ethiopia they were on neutral ground and could begin negotiating -- or at least talking about negotiating."

Any progress by the group will be judged against the refusal of the three major Somali warlords to attend -- including the two who had divided Mogadishu into separate armed camps. But the rest of the country was well represented, including delegations from the north, which has declared an unrecognized separate nation of Somaliland, and the Bantu Somali clans -- darker-skinned groups related to black tribes in eastern and southern Africa and Sudan.

Despite a full complement of diplomats at the meeting, the volatile nature of the Somalis still burst forth. When a spokesman announced the gathered clans had agreed to organize and sponsor a "peace convoy" to travel throughout the country to promote unity, two clans immediately shouted objections. One man even charged the podium and briefly wrested the microphone from the designated speaker. But eventually the "peace convoy" idea was approved.

The depth of the religious problem surfaced when a paper warning of the danger of allowing Christian influence and corruption into Somalia under the guise of humanitarian aid was slipped onto the United Nations' table.

No one would admit to placing the paper there. But it reflects statements by the Muslim Brotherhood, a fundamentalist movement within Islam that is an avowed enemy of the West. It equates American culture with Christianity and fights against any tainting of Islamic cultures by contact with the West.

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Southeastern remains  
on academic probation

Baptist Press  
12/9/92

WAKE FOREST, N.C. (BP)--The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, while recognizing Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary's rapid progress, has decided the seminary will remain on probation for one more year in order to observe the completion of one entire cycle of the self-assessment and long-range planning processes which have been set in place by the seminary.

President Paige Patterson indicated his "profound disappointment" in the decision but said he was not surprised. "I regret the necessity of the additional year of probation because of the monumental efforts and sacrifices of the entire seminary family to realize this goal as quickly as possible," said Patterson. "But I am encouraged by the Association's recognition of our significant progress and their offer of further assistance."

Patterson said he could understand the desire of SACS to observe one full year of testing the new evaluative procedures. "The seminary will redouble its efforts to demonstrate the adequacy and effectiveness of our long- and short-term planning and evaluation programs."

Asked if he believed the probationary status would impede student recruitment, Patterson said while the status "will not prevent the continuing growth of the student body, it will possibly prevent that growth from proceeding at the rate I had hoped. This, in turn, has a negative impact on the financial abilities of the school to develop new programs, unless benefactors who love and believe in this school will come to its aid."

When pressed about possible discouragement, Patterson said, "Look, when you're in a rodeo, trying to stay on the bucking back of several hundred pounds of irritated bull, which sports a healthy disdain for all human fellowship, and the pick-up men don't arrive on time, you don't just fall off and then shoot the animal. You hang on for dear life, pray God's intervention, and ride the critter until he becomes your personal buddy! That's what we'll do here."

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**Missionary Rebekah Naylor  
declaring hope in India**

By Susan Simko

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)--Rebekah Naylor first saved Rama Gowda's life when she operated on his liver in the Baptist Hospital in Bangalore, India, six years ago. The young boy heard the gospel then but he was a Hindu and would not believe.

As time passed, Rama's illness brought him back to the hospital several times, and each time he heard the gospel.

At age 19, Rama was lying near death from liver failure in the hospital's intensive care unit. Naylor, a Southern Baptist missionary surgeon, visited him there.

"I want to believe in Jesus as the only way to God," he told her. "Will you teach me how to pray?" A few hours later he died.

Naylor, the daughter of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary President Emeritus Robert Naylor and his wife, Goldia, has served as a surgeon in India 19 years. Southern Baptists have focused on India for their 1992 foreign missions study, and she spoke at Southwestern as part of the Southern Baptists' Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions Nov. 29-Dec. 5.

Naylor said many Indian people like Rama have heard the gospel through the Bangalore Baptist Hospital. Churches started by those new Christians have sprung up all around Bangalore, she said.

When Naylor first arrived in the predominately Hindu nation with a handful of other missionaries, there were only five churches around Bangalore. Although today she is the only Southern Baptist missionary left in India because of visa restrictions, the denomination's work there continues to have an impact on lives, she said.

"In southern India we now have almost 450 churches because Southern Baptists sent medical missionaries to share Jesus Christ," she said. "Medical missions was the access to vangelism and church development.

"The priority for me individually, and for our hospital, is to tell people about Jesus. That is why we are there," she said.

Raja Kandanada, an Indian student at Southwestern, said his country desperately needs the message Naylor and the Baptist Hospital proclaim.

"I think there is a lot of darkness in India," Kandanada said. "People seem to be ignorant about spiritual things. Many people have never been told about Christianity. Some of them do not even have any idea.

"Those people are dying -- I mean born and dying basically without knowing, and it's hard to think millions of people are dying every day without knowing Christ."

That same burden motivated Southern Baptists to pinpoint India this year for their foreign missions emphasis.

Naylor believes the attention given to India this year will pay countless benefits for mission work in the country.

"Inevitably, the exposure India has had in our churches in these weeks will increase the prayer support and awareness of the needs of a country that is so populous and so lost," Naylor said.

"That prayer support is important, because that is the only way that I probably survive," Naylor said. "As our Indian Christians really seek to win their country to Christ, though we perhaps cannot send missionaries because of the visas, we can just work right along side with those Indian Christians as we pray for them."

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**Annuity Board to lower  
Fixed Fund target range**

By Thomas E. Miller Jr.

Baptist Press  
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DALLAS (BP)--The Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention announced a 1993 earnings target range of 5.75 percent to 6.75 percent for its Fixed Fund, one of four investment funds offered to members.

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"Given today's markets, no one should be surprised that the target rate is below the 7.5 to 8.5 of 1992," said John R. Jones, senior vice president for investments.

A year ago the Annuity Board announced a long-term restructuring of the Fixed Fund designed to continue its safety, enhance its competitiveness and provide increased diversification.

"While this restructuring is continuing on schedule," Jones said, "the main reason for a lower target range is the dramatic drop in interest rates over the last several years. With three-year jumbo CDs at 4.25 percent and five-year CDs at 5.25 percent, no one could expect other conservative investments to continue the performance of the '80s."

The restructuring of the Fixed Fund, which began in 1991, will gradually replace insurance companies' guaranteed investment contracts with short-term maturity investments over six years. "Since the market value of the new securities changes with the general level of interest rates, account balances and the return credited to the Fixed Fund will vary some over time," Jones said.

The Fixed Fund target range is not guaranteed but the board believes there is a high probability of performance within the range.

"The crediting rate each month will be the actual performance of the fund, and there will be fluctuations on a month-by-month experience," Jones said. In 1992 the Fixed Fund has earned near the upper end of the 7.5 percent to 8.5 percent target range.

"If we earn more than the target range, we'll credit more to accounts. If we ever experience a loss, each member will share in proportion to his or her accumulations in the month in which the loss occurs," Jones added. The accounting of the Fixed Fund is at market value.

Most guaranteed investment contracts in the Fixed Fund are being phased out and replaced with other low-volatility fixed-income investments. These include U.S. Treasury, government agency and high-quality corporate fixed-income investments.

"Members do not see the kind of earnings fluctuation they see in the Variable or Balanced Fund," Jones noted. "Maturities of the investments are short enough to prevent this."

Members who can tolerate higher risks for more earnings potential can use the Annuity Board's Variable Fund of stocks or the Balanced Fund of stocks and bonds.

The Variable Fund is a diverse portfolio of U.S. stocks (equities) similar to the Standard & Poor's 500 Stock Index. The main objective of this fund is growth/capital appreciation rather than income. Therefore, the Variable Fund has a higher level of risk than other funds offered.

The unit value in the Variable Fund reflects ups and downs in the stock market. The value of the Variable Fund is expressed in "units" similar to the expression of "shares" in a mutual fund. The unit value is determined at the end of each month by dividing the number of outstanding units into the market value of the Variable Fund.

The Balanced Fund is a mix of stocks and high-quality bonds. The stocks are intended to produce growth/capital appreciation while the bond investment is designed to produce income and preserve capital. The stock-to-bond ratio will change periodically to meet economic challenges. The ratio normally averages approximately 45 percent and 55 percent for both stocks and bonds. This asset mix produces a moderate level of risk.

The Short-Term Fund is a diverse portfolio of short-term fixed-income securities issued by the U.S. government, U.S. government agencies and corporations. The fund's average maturity will be 12 months or less. The main objective of the Short-Term Fund is to minimize risk, providing very high security of principal.

Members can change the fund or funds to which contributions are made by notation on their monthly billings or by calling the Annuity Board's toll-free number, 1-800-262-0511.

Accumulations in funds can be moved once each month by written instruction to the Annuity Board.

Jones encouraged members to secure Annuity Board brochures describing funds and possible diversification strategies before making decisions on investment of contributions.

**Rosenbaum to direct operations  
for BSSB trade publishing division**

NASHVILLE (BP)--Richard P. "Bucky" Rosenbaum, vice president for business and finance at the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, has resigned to become the director of operations for the Sunday School Board's trade publishing division.

Rosenbaum, 38, and a former board employee, will assume the newly created position Jan. 1. He will oversee purchasing and business functions for the board's trade publishing operations which include Broadman Press, Holman Bible Publishers, Church Information System computer hardware and software and other imprints.

Rosenbaum was employed by the board 11 years before joining the Executive Committee in December 1990.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for me to return to my publishing roots," Rosenbaum said. "I've still got ink in my veins. To get back into Christian publishing is a real opportunity. I believe the Lord has now opened another door of ministry and I am compelled to walk through it."

Rosenbaum, in his letter of resignation to Morris H. Chapman, newly-elected president of the SBC Executive Committee, said "these past two years here have been the most satisfying and rewarding times of my working life."

A Tennessee native, Rosenbaum is a graduate of Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City. He has done additional study, earning certification as a purchasing manager.

Before joining the board in 1980, Rosenbaum was employed by two publishing companies. He is married to the former Joann Burnette and they are the parents of five children.

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**Baptist hospital employee  
killed in apparent robbery**

**Baptist Press  
12/9/92**

ATLANTA (BP)--Jenny Rogers, an employee of Georgia Baptist Medical Center and daughter of Georgia Baptist Convention staff member Dennis Rogers, died the evening of Dec. 6 after being shot in an apparent robbery.

Rogers, who would have turned 20 on Christmas Day, was a nursing student working as a patient care assistant at Georgia Baptist Medical Center. According to news reports, she had completed her shift at 11 p.m. Dec. 6 and told co-workers she planned to visit a friend in nearby Clarkston and possibly stop at a restaurant before going to her home in Lilburn.

At 11:41, police received the call that shots had been fired. Her body was found in the driveway of a storage warehouse complex between the midtown Atlanta hospital and Clarkston.

The next afternoon, police arrested Larry T. Malone in Gaithersburg, Md., and charged him with murder in the case. Rogers' car was found outside the apartment where he was arrested. Police did not know when or where she was abducted.

Her father, Dennis Rogers, is a youth consultant with the Georgia Baptist Convention. He has been with the convention since 1987.

The funeral was scheduled Dec. 9 at Briarlake Baptist Church in Decatur.

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**Willis J. Ray, dead at 96, was  
Baptist pioneer in the West**

**By Elizabeth Young**

**Baptist Press  
12/9/92**

YOUNGTOWN, Ariz. (BP)--Willis J. Ray, a pioneer in Southern Baptist work in the West, died Dec. 6 in Youngtown, Ariz. He was 96.

Ray was executive secretary-treasurer of the Baptist General Convention of Arizona (now Arizona Southern Baptist Convention) from 1944-56. In the early years, he also served as editor of the Baptist Beacon, newsjournal of the state convention.

Ray left a post as superintendent of rural evangelism and assistant to the executive secretary of the Texas convention to move to the Arizona convention, comprised of 25 churches in 1944.

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During his tenure in the state, Southern Baptist work related to the Arizona convention grew to encompass nine other states stretching from Mexico to Canada. The number of churches grew to more than 200 and church membership grew sevenfold. States with churches related to the Arizona convention were Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North and South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming.

"We didn't have much choice but to come to Arizona when God laid it on our hearts," he once said. "(In state after state) from one church to another, the doors just opened as fast as we could go to them."

While serving as executive secretary, Ray headed a campaign to raise funds to start a Baptist college in Arizona. When Grand Canyon College opened in 1949, he became founding president while still serving as executive secretary.

Ray saw his primary tasks as starting churches and evangelism, both of which he approached in innovative ways.

Shortly after joining the Arizona convention, Ray established a trust and memorial fund to acquire new church sites and construct church buildings. Four years after its establishment, it had assets of more than \$100,000 and loans had been made to 35 churches.

Before the Home Mission Board established a program for church pastoral assistance in Arizona, Ray was concerned that churches in the convention needed financial assistance to attract quality pastors. Early during Ray's tenure, Texas Woman's Missionary Union sent Arizona funds to supplement pastors' salaries, later channeling the gifts through the Home Mission Board.

In 1956 Ray became the first executive secretary-treasurer of the newly-formed Baptist General Convention of Colorado, which encompassed four states. He held that post until his retirement in 1962, when he returned to Arizona. During much of his tenure in Colorado, he also served as editor of the Rocky Mountain Baptist, newsjournal of the state convention.

Ray, a Kansas native, began his denominational career in Texas. Under the state convention's new district missions program, which divided the state into 13 districts, he was the first district missionary appointed in District 8, which included Big Spring. Later, he was missionary for the San Antonio district, which included 165 churches in seven associations.

While in San Antonio, Ray pioneered what was to become "The Invincibles" student summer missions program in Texas. He requested that the state convention's Sunday school department send 20 college or seminary students to work for seven weeks during the summer. Assigned to specific churches for a week at a time, teams of two students each led morning Vacation Bible Schools, conducted an afternoon census and taught how to build a Sunday school at night. In an interview on the occasion of his 90th birthday, Ray told the Baptist Beacon that preaching was his favorite activity through the years.

While in college, he was pastor of quarter- and half-time churches in Texas. After graduation from Wayland University (then a junior college) in Plainview, Texas, and Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, Texas, he went on to full-time pastorates in Petersburg, Lockney and Littlefield, Texas.

In retirement he continued to serve as interim pastor of Arizona churches and, as recently as about 10 years ago, he helped start a new church in the state.

"I never pastored a church but what I asked that the church give 20 percent to missions and pay that check before we issued any other," he once said. "Christ died for the world, not just the local field. Every place I've been, I've asked the church or the convention to see the whole world."

He is survived by his wife, Aurelia, whom he married after the death of his first wife, Ida; a daughter, Phon Drake; one grandson and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be Dec. 10 at First Southern Baptist Church in Payson, Ariz. A memorial service is scheduled Dec. 17 at First Southern Baptist Church in Phoenix.

Memorial gifts may be given to the Willis J. Ray and Ida Ray Presidential Scholarship Fund at Grand Canyon University.

Court refuses abortion cases,  
leaves Casey in control

By Tom Strode

WASHINGTON (BP)--The Supreme Court's recent refusal to hear two abortion cases signaled inaction rather than reinforcement of its crucial decision in Planned Parenthood v. Casey earlier this year, a Southern Baptist lawyer said.

The court announced Dec. 7 it would not hear an appeal of a lower court decision upholding a Mississippi law requiring a 24-hour waiting period and informed consent for women seeking abortions.

A week before, the court had announced in a 6-3 vote it would not accept the appeal of a ruling striking down a Guam statute prohibiting most abortions. Four votes are required for the court to hear a case.

"The legal effect of a refusal to hear an appeal is much different from an affirmance of the lower court," said Michael Whitehead, the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission's general counsel. "These cases do not amount to legal precedent upholding the decisions of the lower courts. A denial of the appeal is merely a decision to take no further action on the case.

"Casey is left as the controlling precedent. The court is likely to continue to avoid the abortion controversy for a while, letting Casey percolate through the lower courts and legislatures."

The court's June opinion in Casey upheld restrictions adopted by Pennsylvania, which included parental consent for minors, informed consent and a 24-hour waiting period, but it reaffirmed as law the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision declaring abortion a woman's right.

The Mississippi law is nearly identical to the Pennsylvania statute's sections on a waiting period and informed consent. The Mississippi Informed Consent to Abortion Act requires a woman to receive from a physician or physician's agent information on the medical risks of abortion, risks of childbirth, gestational age of the unborn child and services available if she chooses not to abort. The requirements are waived if the physician determines a medical emergency exists.

In August, the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled the act is constitutional and vacated a district court's injunction halting enforcement of the law. The Fifth Circuit based its opinion on the Supreme Court's decision in Casey.

The Guam law prohibited all abortions in the United States territory except those when the mother's life is threatened, when her health is seriously impaired or in the case of an ectopic pregnancy. A federal judge had ruled the law unconstitutional, a decision upheld by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

In the wake of Casey, there was little question the Supreme Court would either uphold the lower courts' rulings or refuse to accept an appeal in the Guam case.

The three justices who voted to hear the appeal, Chief Justice William Rehnquist, Antonin Scalia and Byron White, also were members of the minority who supported reversing Roe v. Wade in the Casey opinion. Clarence Thomas, the other justice who voted to overturn Roe in Casey, voted not to accept the case.

It is possible Thomas voted not to hear the case in order to avoid an affirmation of Casey by the majority, Whitehead said.

The Guam case was *Ada v. Guam Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists*. The Mississippi case was *Barnes v. Moore*.

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Actor, playwright Ragan Courtney  
to lead BSSB worship drama focus

By Charles Willis

Baptist Press  
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NASHVILLE (BP)--Ragan Courtney, free-lance actor, producer, playwright and lyricist, will join the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's church music ministries department Feb. 1 in the newly created position of worship drama consultant.

The focus on worship drama is a part of an expanded concept for church music ministries and is separate from drama skills offered through the board's church recreation program.

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"We have had lots of musical drama over the years," said Wesley Forbis, director of the church music ministries department, "but in the future I see more drama with music, as well as growth in drama in worship."

A long-time Southern Baptist Christian artist, Courtney, 51, is known for his performances in theater as well as his drama workshops. He has been a conference leader at Ridgecrest (N.C.) and Glorieta (N.M.) Baptist Conference Centers for more than two decades.

"Ragan's responsibilities will revolve around the drama of worship and drama in worship," said Terry York, manager of the department's field services section. "His move to a national position will make worship drama consultation available to a wider range of church sizes, expanding opportunities to include help for smaller churches."

The Louisiana native is a graduate of Louisiana College and of The Neighborhood Playhouse School of the Theatre in New York City. He has been writer, narrator and actor for the live telecast of the Houston Christmas Pageant for 16 years. For five years he was associate professor of church drama at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky. His works include numerous recordings and musical and book publications. Courtney gained early Southern Baptist recognition as lyricist for the 1971 pulpit drama "Celebrate Life!"

Courtney will be joined in Nashville by his wife, recording artist Cynthia Clawson, after their son, William, and daughter, Lily, complete the school year in San Antonio, Texas.

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

Hemphill stresses need  
for lay involvement

By Pat Cole

Baptist Press  
12/9/92

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)--An involved and motivated laity is crucial to building a growing church, emphasized Southern Baptist church growth specialist Kenneth Hemphill.

Most church members "desperately want to do something meaningful for God," said Hemphill, director of the Southern Baptist Center for Church Growth sponsored by the Baptist Sunday School and Home Mission boards. Yet lay persons hesitate to take leadership positions because they sense they are unworthy or incapable, noted Hemphill during a church growth conference at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky.

"Somehow we have given the people the impression that to serve God you have to be perfect," Hemphill said. Pastors, he added, "wouldn't be willing to climb into the pulpit many Sunday mornings if it were based on worthiness in terms of perfections."

In typical churches, 20 percent of the members do 80 percent of the work and giving, Hemphill said. Such a ratio disheartens churches when they consider facilitating growth by expanding ministries and creating new Sunday school classes, he said.

Hemphill, former pastor of First Baptist Church of Norfolk, Va., warned that guilt is not an effective motivator for church service. Instead, he said, lay people should be encouraged to discover and exercise their spiritual gifts.

A good way to introduce people to spiritual gifts is to emphasize the importance of strong self-esteem, Hemphill said. "Our self is found in Christ. It is not egocentric. It is related to our created purpose. You have to be what God created you to be."

Hemphill stressed the Bible teaches all Christians have spiritual gifts. For a Christian to deny he or she has a spiritual gift is saying "that God is a liar," he said.

Christians should trust the Holy Spirit to empower them to do the work of the church, Hemphill said. "Most people, when they hear a nominating committee coming, say, 'I can't do that.' I say, 'Good, we wouldn't have wanted you to do it; if you could have done that in natural power it's not the work of the Holy Spirit.'"

Some church members wrongly think their spiritual gift lies outside their proven talents and aptitudes, said Hemphill, emphasizing that all giftedness comes from God. God often reveals to lay persons that a talent they regarded as a "natural ability" is actually their spiritual gift for ministry, he said.

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Churches meeting family needs  
will reap growth, Edgemon says

By Linda Lawson

NASHVILLE (BP)--Churches that take seriously their responsibility to minister to family members experiencing abuse, broken relationships and addictions will be the churches that grow, Roy Edgemon told state convention family ministry consultants at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board for annual planning meetings Dec. 3-5.

"Through these ministries, we are going to be doing a lot to help the heartache, pain and suffering our people have to deal with," said Edgemon, director of the discipleship and family development division. "I believe the churches that minister to these needs will be the churches that grow."

Edgemon and other division personnel highlighted upcoming emphases, events and materials including a new Christian sex education series, plans for increased focus on the needs of single parents and enlarged ministries to senior adults.

Scheduled for release in April 1993, the Christian sex education series includes books for young children, middle-aged children, pre-adolescents, adolescents, married couples and leaders.

Jimmy Hester, design editor of undated materials, said more than 2,000 people have been involved in the research, field testing and development of the series.

"We need to help parents accept their responsibility to teach their children about sex," Hester said. "These are resources for parents to use in the home."

Citing the need for enlarged ministries with single parents, Tim Cleary, single adult specialist, said 37 percent of adults in Southern Baptist churches are single and, of that number, 53 percent are single parents.

He said ministries with single parents should have four goals: 1) empower Christian single parents to reach unchurched single parents; 2) enable single parents to experience changed lives and growing relationships; 3) help churches become more accepting of single-parent ministry; and 4) help single parents discover they are loved by God and church families.

Jay Johnston, senior adult specialist, reviewed plans for the National Senior Adult Convention scheduled April 26-28, 1993, in Atlanta.

He said senior adult choir registration for the convention recently was cut off at 7,000, including choirs from Bermuda and Puerto Rico. The goal for participation is 20,000-25,000 seniors.

Johnston said plans are under way for enlarging the scope and services of the National Association of Baptist Senior Adults.

Selma Wilson, women's enrichment event specialist, said a major research project to identify needs for women's ministries in Southern Baptist churches is in process.

Sara Maddox, co-chair of the women's ministry study group appointed by Southern Baptist Convention President Ed Young, said her group will draw from the research in their task of studying women's programs in Southern Baptist churches and gaining input about needs.

Wilson reviewed plans for the March 5-7, 1993, National Women's Enrichment Conference to be held in San Antonio, Texas. The conference is being co-developed by the board and Woman's Missionary Union.

Plans also were announced for major improvements in Home Life magazine to be introduced in October 1993. Research into needs and desires for the magazine has been conducted. Improvements will focus on both visuals and content, including uplifting the biblical idea for families and promoting healthy families, maintaining an intentional, visible biblical presence, adding color throughout and adding features.

Edgemon told family ministry consultants the recent reorganization of the division, which includes the former discipleship training, family ministry, student ministry and Centrifuge/Crosspoint programs will not diminish family ministry.

"Under this new organization, family ministry is not diminished. It is enhanced. We are going to be its greatest champions," Edgemon said.

**Music leaders list issues  
for remainder of century**

By Charles Willis

NASHVILLE (BP)--Worship, leadership training and spiritual renewal are top concerns for the remainder of the 20th century, among others listed by Southern Baptist state church music leaders in annual planning meetings Dec. 1-4.

The listing is an initial step in work with the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's church music ministries department on plans for music services and materials to be offered to churches from 1995 to 2000.

State leaders identified nine issues and concerns. In order of priority ranking, they are worship, leadership training, spiritual renewal, communication, new work/small church focus, associational emphasis, language missions, realities and year-round schools.

In the area of worship, leaders cited the need for materials for worship planning teams, the broadened understanding of worship practices and resources, the need to promote understanding of the value of music's role in worship and the need for products combining drama, music and sermon material focused for weekly worship use.

Leadership needs included a course of study for volunteer music leaders with course credit, basic training for volunteer and bivocational music leaders and accompanists, easy music materials for non-music-reading members and leaders, training for leaders of small-church music programs and development of relational and ministerial skills among music leaders.

Spiritual renewal among church musicians, they said, is a new concern high on the list, along with the traditional issues of worship and leadership training.

Communicating the power of music as a teaching tool for theology was cited as a concern, including one-on-one training and the need for communication among churches, regardless of worship styles or size.

An emphasis on new work/smaller churches would meet needs for state and regional training of music specialists. The emphasis could be scheduled among emerging state conventions to provide staff and resources during a specified year.

In the area of associational emphasis, promotional materials were suggested to encourage state and associational leadership to fund programs.

The need to identify qualified ethnic conference leaders and the need for multilingual training for ministers of music were specified under the language missions category.

Creative ways to work with existing equipment, budget and personnel were among specific subjects listed as the challenges of "realities."

More than one-third of state leaders said they are facing the real possibility of year-round schools. The effect of decreased school vacations on music camps and other music ministry events was cited as a concern.

Wesley Forbis, director of the Sunday School Board's music ministries department, said the process of listing and prioritizing concerns is "an attempt to put the reality of where the churches are and what the churches have expressed as critical needs into planning for 1995-2000."

He said the results of state leaders' work will be discussed in regional meetings with a wide range of music leaders, including part-time and full-time leaders from varying sizes of churches. When details have been added to concerns by church leaders, state directors will have opportunities to add specific, year-by-year actions.

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**Prison ministry results in  
messenger to state convention**

By R.G. Puckett

Baptist Press  
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WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. (BP)--Among the 4,000-plus messengers at the 162nd annual session of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina in November, there was Dan T. Brown, a Mississippi native who has lived in North Carolina 19 of his 34 years.

Sixteen of those years he has been incarcerated for a drug-related offense.

Brown was permitted to leave the Sandy Ridge Correctional Center, a state minimum custody unit, for nine hours to attend the Baptist convention in Winston-Salem. And he was a messenger from his church, Union Grove Baptist in Pilot Mountain Baptist Association in the Winston-Salem area.

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His uniqueness as a messenger is paralleled by a story of witness, ministry and services involving numerous others.

Baptist Men at Union Grove started a Yokefellow Prison Ministry to the inmates at Sandy Ridge, which meets each Tuesday night at the correctional center. Its purpose is in its name: "To yoke up with the inmates" for worship services, Bible study and drug and alcohol rehabilitation sessions.

Hillus Conrad, one of the team leaders from Union Grove, invited Brown to attend the church services and secured permission to take Brown "out of the unit" for six hours on Sundays. In time, Brown made a profession of faith in Christ and was baptized at Union Grove last Easter.

"These two Conrads (Hillus and his wife, Peggy) are not your average, garden-variety Christians," Brown said during an interview during the North Carolina convention.

"They are happy people whose lives touch others, in prison as well as outside, and bring happiness to them."

"This guy knows more about Southern Baptists than most typical Baptists," Peggy Conrad injected. "He has learned through study, listening to others and sharing in Baptist meetings. He saw the reality of people who are genuine Christians. Dan did not find a perfect church but he found God's grace through his people."

Peggy Conrad has just completed two years as moderator of the Pilot Mountain association. In some of her engagements with churches as moderator, her husband and Brown accompanied her, which let the prisoner see firsthand the Baptist way of doing things.

Brown also is part of the "Think Smart" program in which he speaks in schools, kindergarten to college, about the importance of young people staying away from drugs. Speaking as a Christian but avoiding stereotyped phrases, Brown stresses the necessity of drug control in society and abstention from drugs by young people.

Brown was impressed with the Baptist State Convention meeting, with the democratic process at work in the churches and the denomination.

"In Baptist life, everyone has a voice," Brown said. "God's will prevails through the voice of the people."

Brown said his greatest goal in life now is to help others who are incarcerated. He feels his experiences give him an insight into the needs of others who have low self-esteem, hostility and a sense of futility.

"It takes a lot of time to work out the hostility," Brown said. "The Lord has helped me, these two Conrads have helped me. They have been good instruments of the Lord."

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Pastor hopes his experiences  
will help in teaching others

By Mark Christie

Baptist Press  
12/9/92

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)--When Warren Hultgren smiles, 35 years of ministry shine in his eyes.

It was those years of experience, along with respect for the retired Tulsa pastor, that prompted friends of Hultgren to fund the Warren C. Hultgren Chair of Ministerial Counseling at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

"When I walked into the classroom, I thought to myself that the accumulation of all those years of pastoral ministry had now become a resource to share with others who are trying to be of service," Hultgren said. "I thoroughly enjoyed it."

Hultgren, a graduate of Southwestern and former vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention, was appointed to the seminary's faculty this fall as an adjunct teacher. Hultgren retired from First Baptist Church in Tulsa last April. In October he taught pastoral church leadership, a course designed to prepare students for church ministerial leadership.

But instruction is only a part of the Hultgren Chair's purpose. The chair's name comes from a desire to provide Baptist pastors "a place of refreshment, rehabilitation and the opportunity for development," according to the chair's statement of purpose. The position provides both prevention and recovery for troubled pastors throughout the SBC.

"It is my hope that this chair, when fully funded, will provide the kind of positive pastoral, professional leadership that will create a spiritual resource for the walking wounded in the army of God," Hultgren said.

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Such a program for pastors may be timely in an age of forced terminations in Baptist churches. A recent survey by the Baptist Sunday School Board reported 116 cases per month of pastors who were forced to resign their churches.

"When someone has had an unfortunate and traumatic severance from service, that person needs acceptance, encouragement and positive redirection," Hultgren said.

"What I'm doing now is preventive maintenance. Students are exposed in a practical way to the problems to which a pastor/staff member is exposed."

With more than 35 years of pastoral experience, Hultgren brings a practical perspective to the classroom. He has served churches in Texas, Oklahoma and Louisiana. In his 40-plus years of ministry, Hultgren has served with the SBC Executive Committee, as a trustee of the BSSB and Southwestern Seminary and on other state and national boards. It was Hultgren who presented the Missions Challenge Committee report which launched the SBC's Bold Mission Thrust movement.

Hultgren hopes to warn others about common misconceptions of ministry life.

"The single most important thing I've learned in my years of ministry is no one ever has it made. Everyone is wrestling at one level or another with some problem, frustration or aspiration. Everyone is hurting down deep inside.

"I've learned life is a growing, maturing experience. We will never really have it made until we stand before Christ complete," he said.

Hultgren's burden to see "a place of refuge" for pastors is now a reality at Southwestern.

"The people who continue to make this chair possible through the endowment will reap a harvest in a unique and relatively untouched area of Christian life," he said.

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(BP) photo mailed to state Baptist newspapers by Southwestern Seminary.