

(BP)

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News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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May 8, 1992

92-80

April Cooperative Program and designated gifts down

NASHVILLE (BP)--The SBC Cooperative Program total received by the Executive Committee for April fell slightly compared to a year ago, according to Harold C. Bennett, Executive Committee president/treasurer.

The April 1992 total was \$11,588,093 compared to the same month a year ago at \$11,756,419 or a 1.43 percent drop. Designated gifts for the month also dropped, \$8,721,696 compared to April 1991 of \$9,254,213 or 5.75 percent.

After seven months of the SBC fiscal year, which is Oct. 1 to Sept. 30, the year-to-date CP total stands at \$81,788,995 compared to the similar period in the 1990-91 fiscal year of \$83,299,773. The shortfall is \$1,510,778 or 1.81 percent.

The monthly CP basic operating budget requirement for the SBC is \$11,725,856 or for the seven-month period would be \$82,080,992.

Designated gifts for the year-to-date period totaled \$89,639,875 compared to the previous year's total of \$87,475,373 or an increase of 2.47 percent.

Designated contributions include the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions, the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions, world hunger and other special gifts.

The Cooperative Program is Southern Baptists' method of supporting ministry and missions through state and regional conventions and the Southern Baptist Convention. State and regional conventions retain a percentage of Cooperative Program contributions they receive from the churches to support work in their areas and send the remaining funds to the Executive Committee for national and international ministries.

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Missionary says pain has left
in her fight against cancer

By Ferrell Foster

Baptist Press
5/8/92

HENDERSON, Ky. (BP)--God is working a miracle in the life of former missionary Kathy Lloyd, who has been diagnosed with bone cancer. Whether or not it is a miracle of healing is still unknown.

Lloyd reported last week she no longer is in pain. And she and her husband, Skip, called it a miracle.

At this stage in her treatment, doctors cannot take blood marker tests to check for cancer cells. They can only judge her condition by her symptoms, and her symptoms are good.

"I don't know if the miracle is healing or just the way (God) is working," Lloyd said in a telephone interview. "I think it can be both or either.

"He's given me so much good health at this point. ... I'm able to do things I wanted to do."

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She is back home in Henderson after 11 days of staying at her in-laws' house in Granite City, Ill., while undergoing outpatient treatment at St. Louis University Medical Center. Weeks of treatment still lie ahead.

In the meantime, telephone calls, post cards and letters are arriving at the Lloyd home telling of Southern Baptists' prayers for Kathy and her family. Her struggle with cancer has been publicized in a number of newspapers around the country.

The Lloyds were Foreign Mission Board missionaries in South Korea until the end of last year when her health problems forced them to resign. Skip is now minister of education and administration at First Baptist Church in Henderson.

Disappearance of the pain has allowed Kathy to lead a more normal life in recent days.

"You sit and work around the house and every once and a while it hits you, 'I feel good,'" she said. "Technology tells you you're dying and you don't feel that way." But despite the absence of pain, Lloyd is assuming the cancer is still in her body in order that she will continue to fight it. She said she came from a "family of fighters."

"I can't sit back and say this is going to win. ... Even if I die I don't want it to win," she said, determined to "go on and find ministry in suffering."

The prayer support she has received is providing encouragement and making a difference. After a night of specific prayer at the annual meeting of Illinois Woman's Missionary Union, Lloyd surprised doctors in St. Louis the next morning by having a blood count sufficient to allow her to return home to Kentucky.

"They were not expecting it," she recalled. "I told them it was because I had several hundred women praying for me. ... Prayer sure has worked throughout all of this."

As cards and letters arrive, Lloyd is stacking them. "It's kind of like a thermometer that I can see the prayer support coming in. ... I'm going to take it to St. Louis" for her lengthy stay in the hospital. Lloyd will be there four to six weeks for treatment. She will be in "supervised isolation" to protect her from disease in case her "immune system shuts down."

"The hard part of it all is being away from the family. I think I can handle the chemotherapy," she said.

Lloyd encouraged Southern Baptists to keep praying, "believing that God is going to use this." She asked they pray for Skip and their two daughters. And she asked them to pray for mission work in Korea, where she said new missionaries are needed.

For now, Kathy is trying to live a normal life at home. Chemotherapy has robbed Lloyd of her hair but "as long as I have the wig on I look perfectly normal," she said.

And her sense of humor has remained intact regarding her hair loss. "Trying to put on make-up is fun. You don't know where to stop."

She wears the wig to church on Sunday mornings but at other times she wears one the four "little girl's caps" she has bought. "They work really well."

Or usually they do. She walked out of Wal-Mart recently and the wind lifted the hat from her head.

"Nobody stopped to help this strange little bald woman," Lloyd recalled. "I think a year ago I would have cried but it's just part of who I am now."

Correspondence may be sent to the Lloyds at 2553 Maclerie, Henderson, KY 42420.

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Those in the St. Louis area who would like to donate blood for use in Lloyd's upcoming treatment should contact St. Louis University Medical Center's blood collection office and say they want to donate for Kathy Lloyd. Any blood type can be donated.

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Draper accepts Sloan's resignation
as commentary consulting editor

By Linda Lawson

Baptist Press
5/8/92

NASHVILLE (BP)--Southern Baptist Sunday School Board President James T. Draper Jr. has accepted the resignation of Robert Sloan as a consulting editor and writer for "The New American Commentary."

Sloan, associate professor of religion at Baylor University, was one of eight consulting editors for the 40-volume commentary being published by Broadman Press of the Sunday School Board. Three New Testament volumes have been released and two more, 1 and 2 Timothy/Titus and Matthew, are due out this month.

"You have been a special friend and co-worker for many years and I am grateful for your candor and your openness," Draper wrote in an April 30 letter accepting Sloan's resignation. "Just know that I regret very much your decision to withdraw as a consulting editor and writer/author from 'The New American Commentary.'"

In his April 28 letter of resignation, Sloan expressed concern about Draper's recent nomination of Ray Clendenen, chairman of the Old Testament and Hebrew department at Criswell College in Dallas since 1982, as general editor. Clendenen was affirmed April 23 by the board's trustee executive committee. A mail ballot of the full trustee board is scheduled for completion May 10.

If elected, Clendenen would replace David Dockery who has resigned to become dean of theology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky. Dockery will continue association with the commentary as associate general editor for New Testament.

Sloan expressed concern in his resignation letter that Clendenen's nomination would represent, "because of the political and theological associations attached to his resume and experience, a significant movement toward further polarization in the Baptist family." He emphasized his concerns about Clendenen were not personal.

A graduate of Rice University in Houston, Clendenen received a master of arts degree from Dropsie College of Hebrew and Cognate Learning in Philadelphia, a master of theology degree in semitics and Old Testament from Dallas Theological Seminary and a doctorate in humanities from the University of Texas at Arlington. He became a Christian at the age of 18 while attending Cliff Temple Baptist Church in Dallas. He presently is a member of First Baptist Church of Dallas.

In an April 13 letter to Draper and in a conference call with Draper and three other consulting editors, Sloan also expressed concerns about how Clendenen's nomination would be perceived.

An April 24 Baptist Press story reporting affirmation of Clendenen by the trustee executive committee also reported Draper said Clendenen was recommended with agreement of consulting editors. A review of the transcript of the meeting shows Draper did report concerns of consulting editors. He said:

"I also had a conference call with four of the consulting editors. There were two others that we could not get on the call because of schedule conflicts. We had corresponded with them and they raised some real concerns. They felt like that while they had no question about Dr. Clendenen, they wondered about his experience in the broader evangelical field in this area -- theological area -- and wondered if there might be some difficulty, that we might lose something that we had had with David and his broad contacts."

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Draper told Baptist Press May 8: "I didn't know Ray Clendenen before this process. This is not a partisan decision. His academic credentials are impeccable. While his education was not in Southern Baptist institutions, he has been active in Southern Baptist churches."

Draper said Clendenen was initially recommended as general editor by Ken Mathews, associate professor of divinity of Beeson Divinity School at Samford University in Birmingham, Ala., and a consulting editor for the commentary. Paige Patterson, president of Criswell College in Dallas, also affirmed Clendenen for the post.

However, Draper said he did not talk with Patterson until after Clendenen had been recommended to him by Dockery, Johnnie Godwin, vice president for general publishing, and other board officials.

Draper said he had not finalized a decision to nominate Clendenen when he talked by phone with Sloan and three other consulting editors -- Curtis Vaughan of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Richard Melick of Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary and Duane Garrett of Canadian Southern Baptist Seminary. Also, Draper said their concerns led to his decision to make Dockery and Mathews associate general editors.

"Their (consulting editors) comments had a great impact on us," Draper said. With Clendenen, Dockery and Mathews, "this is the strongest team we could possibly have."

Draper said Dockery is seeking a writer for Romans, the volume Sloan was to contribute to the commentary series. Since six of the 18 New Testament volumes are complete, Draper said a consulting editor replacement for Sloan likely would not be sought.

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Baptist relief worker missing
in Mexico blast aftermath

By Mary E. Speidel

Baptist Press
5/8/92

GUADALAJARA, Mexico (BP)--A Mexican Baptist is among about 100 people still missing after a series of gas explosions April 22 that killed 200 people in Guadalajara, Mexico.

Ezekiel Moran Sanchez, 24, failed to return home after spending a day clearing debris from the disaster zone, according to Judy Wise, Southern Baptist representative in Guadalajara. Moran has not been seen since.

"No one knows what happened to him," said Wise, a nurse from Houma, La.

Moran is a member of Beautiful Door Baptist Church, one of several churches located on the edge of the explosion site. No Baptist churches in the area were damaged by the blast but the area around El Shaddai Baptist Church has been evacuated as a precaution against additional explosions. Worshipers have been meeting at a church member's home.

The gas explosions, caused by a gas leak in the city's drainage system, began the morning of April 22 and continued into the night in a 20-block section of Guadalajara, Mexico's second-largest city. Some 1,000 buildings and houses were damaged in explosions that ripped up several miles of city streets. The blasts injured nearly 1,500 people and left thousands homeless.

Local Baptists and Southern Baptist representatives began relief efforts based at Bethany Baptist Church, six blocks from the disaster zone. After consulting with disaster officials, Baptists learned the greatest unmet need was feeding some of the 4,500 relief workers helping in the area.

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Baptists prepared food at Bethany church and took nearly 600 meals a day to workers who were clearing debris and searching for survivors in the area. They also provided food for some residents still in the area.

The church housed a first-aid station and a portable swimming pool used for safe drinking water since the area's water supply was cut off. The church also welcomed relief volunteers so they could rest and bathe.

Through Bethany church, Baptists also have provided packets of non-perishable food items and other supplies for survivors. Several Baptist churches near the disaster zone have been used as drop-off points for food, clothing and other supplies.

Local Baptists also have secured permission to provide counseling for displaced residents living at a shelter housed in a city stadium. They also hope to perform Christian puppet shows and do Christian clowning in the shelter. But they have not yet been admitted to the shelter to provide this ministry, Wise said.

While helping with the food distribution, Wise talked with a number of people affected by the blasts.

One man who lost a son in the explosions was looking through the rubble for possible survivors. "I've lost a family member but I need to help recover anybody else that might be here," he told Wise.

Wise gave food to an elderly couple who lived on a side street near the church. "It's going to be a long time before things are back to normal again," one of them told Wise.

In the meantime, Baptist relief leaders are meeting regularly and staying in contact with local relief officials to "see if there's anything else we can do to help," Wise said.

In the wake of the disaster investigators brought charges of negligent homicide against Pemex, Mexico's state-owned oil company, and several city officials. Some of those arrested knew about a leaking gasoline pipe that led to the explosions, press reports said.

Before being charged, one city official had checked into the Mexican American Hospital where Wise works. The official complained of high blood pressure and heart attack symptoms but health care workers could find nothing wrong with him. Investigators took him into custody at the hospital.

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Leaders expect 18,000 for 1993
senior adult meeting in Atlanta

Baptist Press
5/8/92

NASHVILLE (BP)--Developing healthy, loving relationships and making a difference in Christ, family, church and community is the focus of a senior adult convention set for April 26-28, 1993, in Atlanta.

Registration for "Senior Adults Making A Difference" begins Sept. 1.

Leaders expect at least 18,000 to attend the second national Southern Baptist senior adult convention sponsored by the Sunday School Board's family ministry department. Fourteen thousand attended the first convention in Fort Worth, Texas, in 1987.

Television personality Art Linkletter will headline the speakers and entertainers at the event to be held in the Georgia Dome, according to Jay Johnston, senior adult consultant with the SSB's family ministry department and coordinator of the event.

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A choir of 5,000 senior adults will be among the highlights of the three-day convention, Johnston added. "That would be the largest choir of older adults ever assembled."

General session titles include senior adults making a difference through Christ, through families, through church and in communities, Johnston said.

Other keynoters include Charles Stanley, pastor of First Baptist Church of Atlanta; Frank Pollard, pastor of First Baptist Church of Jackson, Miss.; Mildred McWhorter, community specialist and SBC home missionary in Houston; and Brian Harbor, pastor of First Baptist Church of Richardson, Texas. --30--

European Baptists accept
challenge of 'new Europe'

By Stanley Crabb

Baptist Press
5/8/92

OSLO, Norway (BP)--European Baptist leaders say they have accepted the evangelistic challenges of the "new Europe."

When the European Baptist Federation Council convenes in September, its 32 member bodies from across the continent will be called upon to approve actions taken during the federation executive committee's meeting in Oslo, Norway, May 1-2.

The committee approved a feasibility study of establishing an "inner-European missionary agency." The proposal springs from awareness of a growing need for European Baptists to coordinate their effort to reach vast unevangelized areas of Europe with the message of Christ following the collapse of communism.

The committee also agreed to discuss with the German Baptist Union whether the Baptist Theological Seminary at Ruschlikon, Switzerland, might become part of a proposed educational center in Berlin.

Committee members asked the seminary's trustees to look into other possible sites for relocating the seminary, which has experienced serious financial problems in maintaining its Swiss campus. They affirmed the decision of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship to commission John David and Jo Ann Hopper as missionaries of the fellowship and contribute to the support of the Ruschlikon seminary. Hopper, president of the seminary, and his wife recently announced their resignation as Southern Baptist missionaries effective May 31.

The committee also:

-- authorized the purchase of 100,000 Russian-language Bibles because of reports Christian churches in the former Soviet Union are running out of Bibles. The purchase of Bibles from the United Bible Society will total \$300,000 if the funds can be raised.

-- appealed to the Baptist World Alliance to report threats to religious freedom being experienced by Baptists in Eastern Europe to the "highest world authorities." The situation is particularly acute in certain countries where Orthodox churches or Islam dominate religious life.

-- empowered Karl-Heinz Walter, federation general secretary, to establish an aid program for delivering food and clothing to Baptists in Croatia, torn by savage conflicts with Serbian forces as old Yugoslavia crumbles. Resources permitting, the aid may be extended to other Balkan states caught in the conflict.

-- endorsed the creation of Baptist work in Albania. The work already has been authorized by the government of the once-isolated communist nation now opening up to the world. The committee discussed the purchase of 100,000 New Testaments in the Albanian language.

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-- passed on to the full council applications from Baptists in newly independent Croatia, Moldova and Serbia for federation membership.

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European Baptists discuss
Roman Catholics and evangelism

By Wendy Ryan

Baptist Press
5/8/92

WASHINGTON (BP)--How Baptists relate to Roman Catholics, especially in Eastern Europe, was the focus of the yearly conference of European Baptist home mission secretaries in Denia, Spain.

During the conference, convened by the Institute of Missions and Evangelism at Ruschlikon, Switzerland, and organized by director Earl Martin, many reports were given about tensions with Roman Catholic leadership in Poland, Italy, Spain, France, Czechoslovakia and other places.

Tony Cupit, director of the Baptist World Alliance division of evangelism and education who attended the conference, said two points of view on the relationship to Roman Catholics were evident. Depending on the country, there was a sense that Baptists and Catholics could not work together or that they could where Catholicism was not the dominant religion.

Cupit said "some tension arose between those who have experienced a heavy-handed Catholicism in their countries and those, out of a different context, who feel that to win the world for Christ, Baptists will need to see Catholics as co-laborers."

In sharing reports of church growth during the April 23-27 meeting, Jean Pierre Dassonville, general secretary of the Federation of Evangelical Baptist Churches in France, noted a 10 percent growth in membership in 12 months, with significant church planting ministries taking place.

Dassonville stressed the importance of church planting in evangelism. He compared two churches in Paris that were begun at the same time. One that reached out and planted a number of churches itself remained a viable church and has seen those new churches grow. The other that concentrated upon itself has remained weak.

With all of the new opportunities for evangelism in Eastern Europe, European Baptists are preparing for a large conference on evangelism in Berlin in March 1993 to concentrate on renewal, mission and partnership.

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EDITORS' NOTE: In the WMU annual meeting schedule, please note the following information which was left off the Monday evening session. The special music will be presented by William R. O'Brien. Insert the following line between the special music and the invitation hymn:

Message: "Into All the World" -- R. Keith Parks, president, Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Va.

Thanks,
Baptist Press

Golden Gate Seminary hosts
SBC alumni, friends luncheon

MILL VALLEY, Calif. (BP)--Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary's annual luncheon for alumni and friends will be Wednesday, June 10, at the Embassy Suites Hotel, one block from the annual meeting site across from the state capitol.

The luncheon, in the Chancellor Room on the fifth floor of the hotel, will begin after the conclusion of the Southern Baptist Convention's Wednesday morning session. The program includes seminary updates from President William Crews, alumni, faculty and staff. Tickets are \$7 each. An award presentation to the alumni/a of the year also is slated.

In business matters, alumni association president Frank Zamora, pastor of First Baptist Church in Farmington, N.M., will introduce a new constitution and bylaws for the association. The new documents, if adopted by graduates and former students at the luncheon, will strengthen ties between the seminary and alumni.

Tickets may be purchased in advance from the Alumni Relations Office, GGBTS, Strawberry Point, Mill Valley, CA 94941 or at the seminary's booth in the SBC exhibit area. For more information, call (415) 388-8080, ext. 298.

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McDill to address
Southeastern luncheon

Baptist Press
5/8/92

WAKE FOREST, N.C. (BP)--The Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary alumni office will host its annual luncheon in Indianapolis during the 1992 Southern Baptist Convention. The luncheon, at the Hyatt Regency, Mountain Suite, third floor, will be June 10 at 1 p.m.

Speaker for the program will be Wayne McDill, Southeastern professor of preaching. Seminary Vice President L. Russ Bush also will address the alumni.

Advance tickets for \$12 per person may be obtained by writing to the Alumni Office, Attn: Sherri Carter, P.O. Box 1889, Wake Forest, NC 27588. If space permits, tickets also will be available at the Southeastern booth at the convention for \$15.

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Southern luncheon to honor
4 distinguished alumni

Baptist Press
5/8/92

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (B)--Four graduates of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary have been named distinguished alumni by the Louisville, Ky., school's national alumni association.

This year's honorees are Lloyd T. Householder Jr., retired assistant vice president for communications at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville; Verlin C. Kruschwitz, retired pastor of Severns Valley Baptist Church in Elizabethtown, Ky., and professor at Southern's Boyce Bible School; Cecil J. Osborne, executive director of Yokefellows Inc. in Millbrae, Calif., and a former American Baptist pastor; and Marjean Patterson, executive director-treasurer of the Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union.

The four will be recognized at Southern's Alumni and Friends Reunion June 10 at the Hilton-at-the-Circle in Indianapolis during the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention. Tickets for the 1 p.m. luncheon are \$14.50 each and may be ordered by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Alumni Relations, Southern Seminary, 2825 Lexington Road, Louisville, KY 40280. After June 1, tickets will be \$18 each.

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Midwestern Seminary's
annual luncheon set

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP)--The Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary alumni association will meet June 10 for its annual luncheon in Indianapolis during the Southern Baptist Convention June 9-11. The luncheon will be at 12:15 p.m. at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 110 W. Washington St., near the Hoosier Dome, site of the SBC annual meeting.

Alumni and friends of the Kansas City, Mo.,-based seminary will hear an update by MBTS President Milton Ferguson. In addition, alumni of the year and honorary alumni awards will be presented.

Advance tickets for the luncheon are \$13 per person. During the convention tickets may be purchased at the seminary booth in the exhibit hall for \$17.

Luncheon tickets may be ordered by writing to the Alumni Office, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, 5001 N. Oak Trafficway, Kansas City, MO 64118 or by calling (816) 453-4600.

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3 to receive distinguished alumni
award from Southwestern seminary

Baptist Press
5/8/92

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)--Three former students at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, will receive the distinguished alumni award from the school during the Southern Baptist Convention June 10 in Indianapolis.

Receiving the award for 1992 are Molly Wong, retired editor of Hong Kong Baptist Press; Gerald Ray, minister of music at First Baptist Church in Houston; and Louie Wilkinson, retired senior design editor for the Baptist Sunday School Board and former editor of the devotional guide "Open Windows."

The three will be honored during the seminary's National Alumni and Friends Luncheon at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in downtown Indianapolis.

Born in Shanghai, China, in 1920, Wong received a bachelor's degree from the University of Shanghai and graduated from Hong Kong Baptist Theological Seminary before studying at Southwestern. Her book, "They Changed My China," was published in 1970 by Broadman Press and tells her story of fleeing from the communist takeover.

Ray has led music at the Houston church since 1970. He previously served at Sagamore Hill Baptist Church in Fort Worth. His work in Houston includes giving direction to the entire music program of the 20,000-member congregation. The church's Christmas pageant draws more than 50,000 people annually.

Wilkinson retired from the SSB in 1991 after 18 years of service. During that time he was editor of "Open Windows" and was an editor for Convention Press. He also was editor of "Adult Leadership" magazine. Wilkinson served churches in Texas, Florida and Oklahoma and was director of activities at Howard College (now Samford University) before joining the SSB staff.

Tickets to the Southwestern Seminary luncheon are \$15 prior to the SBC and are available by contacting the Office of Institutional Advancement, P.O. Box 22000, Fort Worth, TX 76122 or by calling (817) 923-1921, ext. 2350. Tickets will also be sold at the SBC for \$17 each.

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Alumni luncheon set for
New Orleans Seminary

By Debbie Moore

NEW ORLEANS (BP)--Three men representing long-term seminary service, academic and pastoral leadership, and professional service for the Southern Baptist Convention will be honored as distinguished alumni of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary during this year's annual alumni meeting and luncheon in Indianapolis.

The 1992 distinguished alumni award recipients are Oscar K. Bozeman Jr. from Alexandria, La., Jachin Y. Chan from Kowloon, Hong Kong and Terry W. York from Nashville.

The awards, given annually by the seminary's faculty, will be presented Wednesday, June 10, during the NOBTS alumni luncheon in the White River Ballroom in the Indiana Convention Center and Hoosier Dome, 100 S. Capitol Ave., immediately following the conclusion of morning session of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Bozeman, a native of Baton Rouge, La., is a Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board missionary emeritus, having served more than 30 years in Korea. His responsibilities in Korea included serving as church planter/evangelist in Seoul, coordinating partnership evangelism projects and working as business manager for the Korea Baptist Mission. He received the master of religious education degree from New Orleans Seminary in 1971.

Chan, born in Kwangtung, China, is vice president of the Baptist World Alliance through 1995. A registered pharmacist in Hong Kong and the United States, he has been pastor of various Chinese churches in the United States and interim pastor of many Baptist churches in Hong Kong for nearly 40 years. He currently is president of the Hong Kong Bible Language Centre in Kowloon. Chan received bachelor of divinity and master of theology degrees from New Orleans Seminary in 1958 and 1960, respectively.

York, born in Atchison, Kan., is manager of field services for the church music department of the Baptist Sunday School Board. He coordinated the 1991 Baptist Hymnal project. York received his master of church music and doctor of musical arts degrees from New Orleans Seminary in 1975 and 1984, respectively.

The alumni luncheon also will feature New Orleans Seminary's kickoff for its 75th anniversary celebration and a report by seminary President Landrum Leavell II.

Tickets for the luncheon are \$12 each and are available by mailing that amount to Office of Alumni, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, 3939 Gentilly Blvd., New Orleans, LA, 70126-4858.

Tickets purchased from the office after May 29 may be picked up at the seminary's booth at the Southern Baptist Convention. Tickets purchased at the seminary's booth will be \$15. For more information, call (504) 282-4455, ext. 3291.

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New England fall tours to combine
sight seeing and missions education

Baptist Press
5/8/92

ATLANTA (BP)--Fall foliage, shopping and a taste of home missions are all part of New England ministry awareness tours offered this fall.

"We really believe that we're in the initial stages of a great spiritual awakening," said Mary Beth Caffey, education consultant for the Upper New England Baptist Association in Auburn, Maine.

"God's really doing something up here, and we want people to experience the excitement of these ministries. If they can do that in the most beautiful time of the year in the most beautiful corner of the country, all the better."

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Caffey is a Mission Service Corps volunteer who also operates VPS Tours, the travel agency planning the tours. The trips are jointly sponsored by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board and the Baptist Convention of New England.

The six, week-long trips are scheduled Sept. 12, Sept. 19, Sept. 26, Oct. 3, Oct. 10 and Oct. 17.

A lighthouse on the Maine coast, a lobster dinner in Maine, the ski resort village of Stowe, Vt., shopping at L.L. Bean in Freeport, Maine, and a Christmas tree farm in Springfield, Vt., are part of the agenda.

Tours also will include a visit to the oldest Baptist church in America, First Baptist Church of Providence, R.I., and the home site of Luther Rice. Each evening concludes with a missions dinner when participants will hear reports of ministries in the six states of the Baptist Convention of New England.

In addition to seeing where God is working, participants will be confronted with the demands of working in a pioneer area for Southern Baptists. Caffey said the most common response from participants of previous tours she has conducted is, "I had no idea the needs were so great."

The tour cost is \$824 per person with double occupancy. The package includes seven nights lodging, 11 meals and transportation in New England but does not include transportation to New England. For information or to make reservations, contact VPS Tours at P.O. Box 1366, Auburn, ME 04211 or 1-800-446-4627.

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For more information contact David Haywood
at CompuServe ID 70007,5000 or phone 615-251-2895